

Whatcom County Council Public Works & Health Committee

**COUNTY COURTHOUSE
311 Grand Avenue, Ste #105
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
(360) 778-5010**



Committee Minutes - Draft Minutes

**Tuesday, May 23, 2023
1 PM
Hybrid Meeting**

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 1:25 P.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE
REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR
CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Carol Frazey
Kaylee Galloway
Kathy Kershner

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Kathy Kershner called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. in a hybrid meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Carol Frazey, Kaylee Galloway, and Kathy Kershner

Also Present: Todd Donovan and Ben Elenbaas

Announcements

Special Presentation

1. [AB2023-338](#) Report from the Public Works Department

Elizabeth Kosa, Public Works Department Director, stated County Engineer Jim Karcher is retiring and Doug Ranney (also Public Works) has accepted the position.

Jim Karcher, Public Works Department, officially handed off his duties to Ranney with a presentation to him.

Kosa updated the Councilmembers on each Public Works division, workforce development and recruitment for the department, and communications.

She answered how long the Lake Whatcom bridge project will be postponed and stated it will be a year. She answered what "PDR" means and stated it means public disclosure requests. Those have almost tripled over the last year.

Galloway stated she supports any budget requests for increasing wages as a way to appreciate staff and help with recruitment and retention, and Kershner agreed.

Kershner thanked Kosa for the update, welcomed Ranney to his new position, and thanked Karcher.

This agenda item was REPORTED.

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Kathy Kershner, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription