### WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL **Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee**

June 18, 2019

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

# **ROLL CALL**

Present: Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, and Carol Frazey

Absent:

None Barbara Brenner, Rud Browne, Satpal Sidhu and Todd Donovan

#### **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

Also Present:

AB2019-337 ANNUAL REPORT FROM WHATCOM COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

This item was held in committee.

2. AB2019-325 ANNUAL REPORT FROM WHATCOM COUNTY SHERIFF BILL ELFO

Bill Elfo, County Sheriff, reported on the impact to the law enforcement system from individuals with mental health issues and the department's efforts to respond to those issues, including increased crisis intervention training for officers, taking advantages of community resources. He also reported on how the crisis stabilization facility being developed must be an alternative to incarceration; medication assisted treatment (MAT) and other programs now available to jail inmates and at the work center; neighborhood deputy program; a law enforcement assisted diversion (LEAD) program; emergency operations center disaster drills with other jurisdictions; electronic home monitoring for certain pretrial defendants; jail alternatives; use of the Yakima jail; and problems with failing infrastructure and with having adequate space in the jail.

41 42

He answered questions on the possibility of building a jail in the downtown area, the MAT program lawsuit, the emergency operation center incident response, how mental health issues are identified, and public disclosure of deputy body cam recordings.

46 47

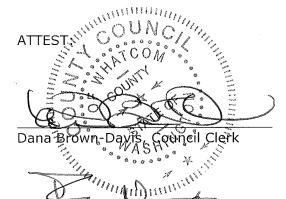
#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

48 49 50

51 52 There was no other business.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.



Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Barry Buchanan, Committee Chair