# WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee

July 23, 2019

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

# **ROLL CALL**

Present:

Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, and Carol Frazey

Absent:

None

Also Present:

Barbara Brenner, Rud Browne, Satpal Sidhu and Todd Donovan

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

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

Mike Hilley, Executive's Office, read from a presentation and answered questions on the fund balance and revenue, plans for the fifth medic unit, keeping track of medications given in the field during medic treatment, and locations of homeless camps.

## 2. AB2019-395 REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

Starck Follis, Public Defender, gave a staff report and answered questions on a new case management system for the Public Defender's Office, trends in current caseloads, the Washington State criminal code regarding felony laws compared to other states, staff training, and problems with having department administrators carry a full caseload.

#### 3. AB2019-397 REPORT FROM JUVENILE COURT

Dave Reynolds, Juvenile Court Administrator, submitted handouts, read from a presentation, and answered questions on increasing juvenile population in the county versus a decrease in juvenile court filings; and pretrial release of juveniles.

#### COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

1. AB2019-389 ORDINANCE AMENDING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE 2.46.020 AND 2.46.030 TO REVISE THE WHATCOM COUNTY INCARCERATION PREVENTION AND REDUCTION TASK FORCE PURPOSE AND FUNCTION

**Buchanan** gave a staff report and **moved** to recommend adoption to the full Council.

Byrd moved to amend item G, "Practice evidence-based and/or other strategies...."

Councilmembers discussed allowing the Task Force to consider the possibility of new and innovative programs.

The motion to amend carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Buchanan, Byrd, and Frazey (3)

Nays: None (0)

The motion to recommend approval as amended carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Buchanan, Byrd, and Frazey (3)

Nays: None (0)

# **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

## **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

COUNTY COUNTY

Dana Brown Davis, Council Clerk

Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Barry Buchanan, Committee Chair