

**Whatcom County
Council Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee**

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



Committee Minutes - Draft Minutes

**Tuesday, November 9, 2021
10:10 AM
Virtual Meeting**

**VIRTUAL MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 10:30 A.M. (TO PARTICIPATE, SEE
INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil OR CALL
360.778.5010); AGENDA REVISED 11.8.2021**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Carol Frazey

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. in a virtual meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, and Carol Frazey

Absent: None

Also Present: Rud Browne, Todd Donovan, and Ben Elenbaas

Announcements

Special Presentation

1. [AB2021-624](#) Report from the Prosecuting Attorney's Office
Eric Richey, Whatcom County Prosecuting Attorney, reported and answered which staff position posting received 17 applicants, whether trial dates are increasing or whether there are still bottlenecks for trial dates due to COVID-19, and whether drug court numbers may be down due to a lack of support groups because of the pandemic.

This agenda item was REPORTED.

Items Added by Revision

1. [AB2021-668](#) Discussion and request for motion regarding the Justice Project (Public Health, Safety, and Justice Facility Needs Assessment)
Buchanan briefed the Councilmembers and stated the Stakeholder Advisory Committee is ready to meet again and they need to reconfirm a Council representative for the Committee.

Councilmembers discussed whether it would make sense to appoint a Councilmember as part of the regular Council reorganization in January, and getting a list of currently unfilled positions on the committee.

Frazey moved to recommend to the full Council that they appoint Buchanan to serve on the Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Frazey, Byrd, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

Buchanan stated that the Executive is working on a contract to help facilitate the group, and Councilmembers discussed utilizing the Incarceration Prevention Reduction Task Force (IPRTF) (as opposed to outside consulting) to provide policy steering and needs assessment, and whether this item could come back with more formal information about what positions are filled or need to be filled and a proposed contract amount.

Motion approved to recommend to the full Council that they appoint Buchanan to serve on the Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Barry Buchanan, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription