

Whatcom County Council Water Work Session

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



Minutes - Final

VIRTUAL MEETING - VIEW ONLINE

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

10:30 AM

Virtual Meeting

COUNCILMEMBERS

Rud Browne
Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Carol Frazey
Kathy Kershner

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Council Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. in a virtual meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Rud Browne, Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, Carol Frazey and Kathy Kershner

Absent: None

Water Resources Update

Gary Stoyka, Public Works Department, updated the Councilmembers on the following and answered questions:

- The adjudication and water settlement process: It was discussed at the December 17, 2020 Watershed Management Board meeting but a decision was not made to proceed with developing a framework for settlement. It will be discussed again at the February 18, 2021 meeting. The County Executive made a request to the Governor for \$400,000 to help with settlement-related talks and the Governor put \$250,000 in his budget to go along with \$1 million requested by the Department of Ecology. The Executive has been talking to water attorneys to possibly help with water settlement discussions and pre-settlement-discussion work.
- Projects currently underway, including the work on the regional water supply planning process, the Drainage Base Management project, the peer review of the groundwater model, and the Whatcom Conservation District's domestic water use efficiency program for which a contract will be coming to the Council.
- Upcoming meetings of the Watershed Management Board, Planning Unit, and Lake Whatcom Policy Group

Lake Whatcom Monitoring and Modeling Update

Cathy Craver, Public Works Department, gave a presentation and answered questions.

Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Farm Incentives and Cost Share Program

The following people briefed the Councilmembers, presented on the Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Program, and answered questions:

- Erika Douglas, Public Works Department

- Corina Cheever, Whatcom Conservation District
- Aneka Sweeney, Whatcom Conservation District

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

The County Council approved these minutes on February 9, 2021.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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