

Whatcom County Council Public Works & Health Committee

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



Committee Minutes - Final

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

2 PM

Hybrid Meeting

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 2:30 P.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON OR
SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil
OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barry Buchanan
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 2 p.m. in a hybrid meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Barry Buchanan, Kaylee Galloway, and Kathy Kershner

Absent: None

Also Present: Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, and Carol Frazey

Announcements

Special Presentation

1. [AB2022-257](#) Update on the programs and activities of the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization

Joe Valentine, North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (BH-ASO) Executive Director, presented and answered what the logic is for having the BH-ASO cover the costs for involuntary commitment court hearings and what percentage of their general fund budget is going to that, how moving the Medicaid dollars to managed care organizations has impacted mental health services, how one gets referred to services that are provided by the North Sound BH-ASO, whether he has any statistics for suicides now compared to pre-Covid-19 and whether there is any correlation between suicides and the pandemic, whether services provided to jail inmates overlap with services provided by Northwest Regional Council, and whether there is anything they need from the Council.

Perry Mowery, Health Department, stated he would send more information to the Council regarding suicide statistics from the State Department of Health and he answered the question about jail services.

This agenda item was PRESENTED.

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

Kershner stated that the Public Works Department is going to be giving their quarterly update soon and has requested topics of interest from the committee members. She asked that they pass those to the Council Clerk.

Elenbaas stated he would like more information on the plan to fix rural roads.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Kathy Kershner-via email 5/24/2022

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Kathy Kershner, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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