

Whatcom County Council Public Works & Health Committee

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



Committee Minutes - Draft Minutes

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

1:30 PM

Hybrid Meeting

**HYBRID MEETING- ADJOURNS BY 2:25 P.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, 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 1:30 p.m. in a hybrid meeting.

Roll Call

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

Absent: None

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

Announcements

Special Presentation

1. [AB2022-105](#) Presentation of final report for the COVID-19 Pandemic Response Review project
Cathy Halka, Council Legislative Analyst, introduced the item and the following people presented:

- Brian Murphy, BERK
- Katherine Goetz, BERK

The speakers answered what they meant by the question “Can Board positions be consistently filled?” under the Health Board recommendation criteria on page 16 of the presentation (“AB2022-105 - Whatcom County Sept CC Presentation”) slides, whether (reading from page 15 of the Final Report) they received all the documents they requested from Whatcom County and whether getting one or two examples rather than a wider breadth of reports hindered their ability to process the information they were trying to process.

Kershner stated the next step is to present this to the Executive and the Sheriff.

Buchanan moved to forward the report to the Executive's Office and the Sheriff's Office.

The motion carried by the following vote (and will be forwarded to Council):

Aye: 3 - Buchanan, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

This agenda item was FORWARDED TO COUNCIL WITH

RECOMMENDED MOTION(S).

Motion approved to forward the report to the Executive's Office and the Sheriff's Office.

2. [AB2022-468](#) Report from the Public Works Department

Jon Hutchings, Public Works Department Director, spoke about the following topics:

- Flood recovery and preparedness
- Flood budget
- Challenges with service to Point Roberts
- The apprenticeship program Ordinance and why AB2022-379 was withdrawn from the agenda tonight

He answered whether they are considering things like notification of the communities effected in a flood event to give as much time as possible to evacuate, whether flood gates going up on various roads would impede rescues, whether channel scalping would flood farmlands and what the plan is in that regard to then remove the water, whether he has had any conversations with our Congressional Delegation about working with the Canadian government on exemptions for crossing the border to get to Point Roberts, whether Public Works is still using the ferry to get up to Point Roberts, whether Full Time Equivalent (FTEs) to manage the apprenticeship program will be in the budget, what our forthcoming Public Works projects are that would require the utilization requirements, and whether he has had the opportunity to connect with Snohomish County officials and learn from them what some of their best practices are for implementing these requirements.

This agenda item was REPORTED.

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Kathy Kershner, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription