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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
**Regular County Council**

May 8, 2007

Council Chair Carl Weimer called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

Present:

Barbara Brenner  
Dan McShane  
Sam Crawford  
Seth Fleetwood  
Laurie Caskey-Schreiber  
L. Ward Nelson

Absent:

None

**FLAG SALUTE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Weimer announced that there was **discussion and possible action on filling the Council's vacant Planning and Policy Analyst position (AB2007-018)** in executive session during the Committee of the Whole meeting.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

**2. EXECUTIVE KREMEN TO PRESENT PLAQUES WITH MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION TO THE SHORELINE/CRITICAL AREAS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS (AB2007-017)**

Pete Kremen, County Executive, read the names of the participants of the Citizens Advisory Committee. He thanked them for their involvement and their collective effort, which has been recognized statewide. The members have put many hours into this committee.

Dick Gilda, Shoreline/Critical Areas Citizens Advisory Committee, stated the administration and Council deserves as much respect for this as the committee members. Executive Kremen's efforts trickle-down all the way to the staff that worked with the committee. They went out of their way to include the public into the process. Give the staff as much credit as the committee members.

Unidentified committee member stated the process was long, but very good. They had very different interests. It was amazing to see what they could do when working together.

Cathy Berg, Shoreline/Critical Areas Citizens Advisory Committee, stated she thanks the staff and co-members for the education she gained. It was fun working with knowledgeable people coming together on a good product.

1 Unidentified committee member stated a key to success was all the compromise  
2 from everyone to ensure that Whatcom County continues to be an economically productive  
3 community.  
4

5 Aubrey Stargell, Shoreline/Critical Areas Citizens Advisory Committee, stated this  
6 was a good opportunity to have influence on how they manage resources in the county.  
7 The group was diverse. Staff did a good job organizing and mediating the committee. It  
8 was a worthwhile effort.  
9

10 Unidentified committee member stated she compliments the County on the process.  
11 It was very worthwhile.  
12

13 Weimer thanked the committee members for their efforts. Around the state, others  
14 are amazed at their product. He also thanked Jeff Chalfant, the staff person who led this  
15 effort.  
16

17 Kremen stated they have avoided litigation because of this process. The product has  
18 been held as the model statewide. He also thanks Mr. Chalfant, who made a monumental  
19 effort also. He is very proud of Mr. Chalfant, and is an asset to this county. Unfortunately,  
20 he will leave the County's employ next month. He is grateful for Mr. Chalfant. The people  
21 of Whatcom County owe Mr. Chalfant a debt of gratitude.  
22

23 McShane stated the Geologic Society of America recently referenced how well  
24 Whatcom County did with volcanic hazards, of which this group was a part.  
25

26 **1. EXECUTIVE KREMEN TO READ THE PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL**  
27 **CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK (AB2007-017)**  
28

29 Pete Kremen, County Executive, stated he presents a proclamation to Teamsters  
30 Local 231 Secretary/Treasurer Chuck Egert. He read the proclamation into the record. He  
31 also presented a proclamation to Chief of Corrections Wendy Jones, on behalf of her entire  
32 staff. What they do is very important, and unrecognized.  
33

34 **4. EXECUTIVE KREMEN TO READ A PROCLAMATION FOR FOSTER CARE MONTH**  
35 **(AB2007-017)**  
36

37 Pete Kremen, County Executive, read the proclamation into the record.  
38

39 **3. EXECUTIVE KREMEN TO PRESENT THE BUDGET PREPARATION AWARD**  
40 **PLAQUES (AB2007-017)**  
41

42 This presentation is postponed for two weeks.  
43  
44

45 **MINUTES CONSENT**  
46

47 ***McShane moved*** to approve the Minutes Consent items.  
48

49 ***Motion carried unanimously.***  
50

51 **1. SPECIAL COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MARCH 20, 2007**  
52

53 **2. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FOR APRIL 24, 2007**

1  
2 **3. REGULAR COUNTY COUNCIL FOR APRIL 24, 2007**  
3  
4

5 **OPEN SESSION**  
6

7 The following people spoke:  
8

9 Johnnie Grames, 1506 E. Maplewood Avenue, stated information on the upcoming  
10 campaign is obtained through advertising and television. People only hear one side of the  
11 story, and the news is not balanced. People don't get both sides of the story. People get  
12 turned off by double-speak, so they don't vote. The person with the most money gets  
13 elected or gets an issue forward. The media is considered the fourth branch of government.  
14 It should look more closely at the justice system. They are putting a lot of people in jail.  
15 It's less expensive to educate these people. A healthy family results in a healthy nation.  
16 They are taking families apart in the court system.  
17

18 Dave Pros, 1466 Roy Road, Bellingham, stated infrastructure needs to happen at the  
19 same time as development, through concurrency. They need 50- to 100-year planning.  
20 They need education. The first job of a County planner should be to contact citizens,  
21 present a vision for the future, gather their input, and bring that input to the Council.  
22

23 Bob Hollingsworth, 1877 Academy Road, Squalicum Valley Group and Academy Road  
24 Group, stated lake quality is declining. He submitted photographs (*on file*). The impacts at  
25 Squalicum Mountain are adversely affecting the lake. They need to come up with a long-  
26 term permanent moratorium on Squalicum Mountain. He asked how City water got up  
27 there. No one is taking responsibility. He asked who is allocating the permits for this work.  
28

29 Hal Hart, Planning and Development Services Director, stated he is signing a letter  
30 tonight, on behalf of the County and Executive Kremen, that states building permits were  
31 issued under an invalid water certificate, and those not already hooked up are suspended.  
32 He read the letter. There will be a meeting on Friday May 15, 2007. Construction will stop  
33 effective this evening. There was a pre-existing agreement between the City and District 7  
34 that allowed the district to provide water service to the community. They were relying on  
35 the information provided by the district on a water verification form, but that form doesn't  
36 meet the intent of the agreement.  
37

38 Crawford asked if the issue is between the City and the Water District, because of  
39 the agreement. Hart stated that is one set of issues. The alternative for people to get  
40 water is a well.  
41

42 Jackie Hollingsworth, 1877 Academy Road, stated she is disappointed in the  
43 communication among everyone. Lay people in Squalicum Valley are doing the ground  
44 work for the City and County. That is unacceptable.  
45

46 Francine Kincaid, 2015 - 24th Street, Bellingham, stated Project Lifesaver is a time  
47 tested, national program to help people who have a propensity to wander, so they are  
48 returned safely to their loved ones. The program supplies a bracelet that has a radio  
49 transmitter. The transmitter sends a signal that can be picked up by emergency personnel.  
50 Bellingham Harborview Lions Club is having a fund raiser for this program at 7 p.m. on June  
51 6, 2007 at the Uptown Theater. Everyone is welcome to buy tickets.  
52

1 Dennis Jones, 1487 Sudden Valley, stated a logger made a new slash above Lake  
2 Samish. That is an example of how to do it wrong. There are good examples of forestry in  
3 the Lake Samish and Lake Whatcom watersheds.  
4

5 They have a policy of Lake Whatcom cooperative management to support practices  
6 that prevent further erosion of water quality within the Lake Whatcom watershed.  
7 Unfortunately, the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) also has a policy to  
8 maximize income production on logging. There are ways to preserve water quality and  
9 logging. Preserve the Chuckanut buffer zone using the Chuckanut Mountains Park District.  
10 It will save them money in the long run.  
11

12 Gwen Hunter, 2540 Applejack Lane, Bellingham, stated she approves of the letter  
13 from the County to the developers on Squalicum Mountain. The aquifer is one of only two  
14 clean recharge sources for the Lake Whatcom reservoir. The mountain is a major public  
15 resource. It is under attack by developers who are trying to attract high-end buyers to a  
16 gated community. The developers promise to do the right thing, but take advantage of the  
17 lack of official oversight and choose to do the wrong thing. The water in the watershed  
18 belongs to the City. It's the sole source of drinking water. It needs to be protected. The  
19 City, County, and water districts must work together.  
20

21 Marian Beddill, 3600 Seeley Street, Bellingham, stated she wears funeral clothes on  
22 behalf of Lake Whatcom. Stop the development in the Lake Whatcom watershed. They  
23 must protect the drinking water supply.  
24

25 *(Clerk's Note: End of tape one, side A.)*  
26

27 Beddill continued to state that the citizens have election power, community  
28 involvement power, and lobbying power. Do everything they can, including influence the  
29 administration to save Lake Whatcom.  
30

31 Virginia Watson, 2729 Jensen Road, Bellingham, stated she would like a  
32 councilmember to propose an emergency ordinance tonight to stop development on  
33 Squalicum Mountain.  
34  
35

## 36 **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

37

### 38 **1. ORDINANCE AMENDING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE 16.32, REGULATIONS** 39 **FOR FERTILIZER APPLICATION ON RESIDENTIAL LAWNS AND PUBLIC** 40 **PROPERTIES WITHIN THE LAKE WHATCOM AND LAKE SAMISH WATERSHEDS** 41 **(AB2007-196)** 42

43 Weimer opened the public hearing and the following people spoke:  
44

45 Steven Harper, 121 Bear Creek Lane, Bellingham, stated he is in favor of the  
46 ordinance. He is a member of the Concerned Neighbors of Lake Samish and the Lake  
47 Samish Watershed Management Advisory Board. Phosphorus, mainly from residential  
48 fertilizer, is a key element that affects growth of algae and eutrophic conditions in lakes.  
49 Lake Samish is a drinking water source for the residents surrounding the lake. It is also an  
50 important recreational lake. They are starting to see toxic algae blooms in the lake.  
51 Oxygen is disappearing in the bottom part of the lake, which means more phosphorus is  
52 released.  
53

1 Jim Malin, 244 Summerland Road, Bellingham, stated he supports the ordinance.  
2 Don't put any more chemicals in the water.  
3

4 Joan Ellsworth, 156 Shallow Shore Road, Lake Samish Association President, stated  
5 her Board of Directors voted to support the ordinance. They must develop strategies for  
6 controlling external phosphorus loading.  
7

8 Mark Herrenkohl, 321 Summerland Road, Bellingham, stated he supports the  
9 ordinance. He thanks the Council, specifically Councilmember Caskey-Schreiber. He is a  
10 member of the Concerned Neighbors of Lake Samish and of the Lake Samish Water  
11 Advisory Group. They supported and worked on monitoring Lake Samish water quality over  
12 the last couple of years, in coordination with Dr. Robin Matthews. The high levels of  
13 phosphorus in Lake Samish is responsible for eutrophication and decreased oxygen. In  
14 some places, 120 feet of water is dead, largely due to phosphorus. There have been  
15 increases in algae blooms in the last few years. This is one small step to deal with external  
16 loading of phosphorus into the lake. Other external loading is from all the clearing and  
17 development that has occurred around Lake Samish. He will continue to fight against major  
18 development around Lake Samish and continue to protect the water quality in this  
19 watershed.  
20

21 McShane asked if they have monitored sediment from Barns Creek or off drainages  
22 due to recent logging road construction. Herrenkohl, stated they've done inflow water  
23 sampling, but not sediment sampling. They've discussed sediment sampling for the inflows  
24 and also in the lake itself, because of mercury levels.  
25

26 Fleetwood asked if there has been substantial recent developments. Herrenkohl  
27 stated there has not. The rezone was a great help. They continue to fight the Sleepy  
28 Hollow project of more than 45 homes.  
29

30 Dennis Jones, 1486 Sudden Valley, stated there is a plan with action plans for Lake  
31 Whatcom. He asked why they are not doing the actions in the plan. Get the money for it  
32 and do it. Consider the watershed as a whole.  
33

34 Dave Pros, 1466 Roy Road, Bellingham, stated he thanks the Council for the  
35 downzone a few years ago. He thanks the County Executive for not vetoing the downzone.  
36 He supports this ordinance. Don't expand the Lake Padden and Lake Samish areas into the  
37 urban growth area in the future. Correcting the problems are more costly.  
38

39 Hearing no one else, Weimer closed the public hearing.  
40

41 **Caskey-Schreiber moved** to adopt the ordinance. She brought this forward on  
42 behalf of the community. She doesn't intend it to be the only solution. Officially, she has  
43 never applied fertilizer on her lawn. Her husband does that, but he buys phosphorus-free  
44 fertilizer. Those in marine areas should get nitrogen-free fertilizer, because phosphorus is  
45 not their problem.  
46

47 Crawford stated he supports the ordinance. A ban is more effective over a broader  
48 area. The State finds that phosphorus is in lakes, rivers, and wetlands. It may be  
49 beneficial to do a ban throughout Whatcom County. However, there may be a downside.  
50 Phosphorus improves root strength in the turf. Poor turf grass health can result in  
51 increased soil erosion and nutrient runoff into the surface water. Look at it as a more global  
52 issue. Solicit the opinions of those who are expert in lawn care and that sort of thing to talk  
53 about the erosion issue.

1  
2 Caskey-Schreiber stated they should consider a broader area. However, do that at  
3 another time. Don't put this off tonight. If they apply something countywide, different  
4 jurisdictions will need education.  
5

6 Brenner stated plants other than lawn turf do well with low amounts of phosphorus.  
7 They should support the types of plants that do better in that kind of an environment.  
8

9 Caskey-Schreiber stated the ordinance provides an exemption from the ban on a  
10 newly established lawn or turf in the first growing season.  
11

12 McShane stated this ban will help. Tree clearing could be another source of  
13 problems for the lake.  
14

15 ***Motion to adopt the ordinance carried unanimously.***  
16

17  
18 **CONSENT AGENDA**  
19

20 ***Crawford*** reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and  
21 ***moved*** to approve Consent Agenda items one through five and seven through 12. The  
22 administration withdrew item six.  
23

24 Weimer withdrew item twelve.  
25

26 ***Motion to approve Consent Agenda items one through five and seven***  
27 ***through eleven carried unanimously.***  
28

- 29 **1. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A HIDTA**  
30 **AWARD COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE**  
31 **EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG**  
32 **CONTROL POLICY TO SUPPORT THE NORTHWEST HIDTA BORDER TASK**  
33 **FORCE PROSECUTION INITIATIVE AT THE NORTHWEST HIGH INTENSITY**  
34 **DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA (FUNDING AMOUNT IS \$166,271) (AB2007-213)**  
35  
36 **2. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**  
37 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE BELLINGHAM HERALD,**  
38 **TO PRINT REQUIRED PUBLICATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11.89 FOR A**  
39 **SINGLE COLUMN, PER COLUMN ONE-INCH FIRST INSERTION, AND \$10.99**  
40 **PER COLUMN INCH FOR THE SECOND AND ALL SUBSEQUENT INSERTIONS**  
41 **(AB2007-214)**  
42  
43 **3. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**  
44 **CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND KRAZAN &**  
45 **ASSOCIATES, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$94,440 FOR CONSULTING SERVICES**  
46 **FOR WHATCOM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, PHASE I CONDITION SURVEY**  
47 **(AB2007-215)**  
48  
49 **4. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**  
50 **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE UNITED**  
51 **STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, MT. BAKER-SNOQUALMIE**  
52 **NATIONAL FOREST, TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR A DEPUTY TO PATROL THE MT.**

1 **BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,000**  
2 **(AB2007-216)**

3  
4 **5. RESOLUTION TO SET HEARING TO SELL TAX-TITLE PROPERTY BY PUBLIC**  
5 **AUCTION REG. #TR2007-01 (AB2007-217)**

6  
7 **6. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO AN**  
8 **INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE CITY OF**  
9 **BELLINGHAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF ANNEXATION AND DEVELOPMENT**  
10 **WITHIN THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM FOR APPROXIMATELY 125 ACRES IN**  
11 **THE VICINITY OF ALDRICH ROAD AND HORTON ROAD (AB2007-218)**

12  
13 **7. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO AWARD BID #07-47 TO**  
14 **LOW BIDDER, JESSEE ENGINEERING FOR THE FABRICATION OF BRIDGE**  
15 **BEARINGS TO BE USED ON THE LUMMI ISLAND FERRY TERMINAL IN THE**  
16 **AMOUNT OF \$38,732.80 (AB2007-219)**

17  
18 **8. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A LEASE**  
19 **WITH WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #21, LAUREL FIRE**  
20 **STATION, FOR OFFICE SPACE FOR THE WHATCOM COUNTY SHERIFF'S**  
21 **OFFICE, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (AB2007-220)**

22  
23 **9. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO AN**  
24 **AGREEMENT WITH FCS GROUP TO ASSIST WITH ESTABLISHING A FUNDING**  
25 **MECHANISM FOR THE BIRCH BAY COMPREHENSIVE STORMWATER PLAN IN**  
26 **THE AMOUNT OF \$84,645 (AB2007-221)**

27  
28 **10. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**  
29 **CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH WILSON ENGINEERING, LLC TO PERFORM**  
30 **ADDITIONAL WORK RELATED TO THE LUMMI ISLAND PARKING LOT**  
31 **PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$38,449 FOR A TOTAL AMENDED AMOUNT OF**  
32 **\$143,303 (AB2007-222)**

33  
34 **11. REQUEST RATIFICATION OF THE 2007-2009 SHERIFF'S SUPPORT STAFF**  
35 **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT (AB2007-223)**

36  
37 **12. RESOLUTION TO SET HEARING TO DECLARE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2158**  
38 **SOUTH NUGENT ROAD, LUMMI ISLAND, WA AS SURPLUS (AB2007-153)**

39  
40 Caskey-Schreiber spoke against selling this property. They still need to figure out  
41 some things. There was a promise made to the Lummi Island Land Trust, and they should  
42 honor it.

43  
44 Brenner stated there is no promise to the Lummi Island Land Trust. When this was  
45 going on, the Land Trust hoped the County would buy the property.

46  
47 Crawford stated this discussion is not about the real estate. It is surplus property.  
48 This discussion is whether or not the Council should schedule a hearing.

49  
50 Weimer stated the Council had talked about putting this in the Public Works  
51 Committee for clarification. They haven't done that. He is concerned about the prospect of  
52 scheduling this before all questions have been answered. Solving complicated issues  
53 shouldn't be done after the public hearing, because then they'll have to have another public

1 hearing. Issues have to do with road funds, Parks Department plans, plans to remove the  
2 current waiting area and bathrooms.

3  
4 **Crawford moved** to approve the resolution.

5  
6 Weimer stated the Council has already approved a motion to put the issue in the  
7 Public Works Committee.

8  
9 Brenner stated she did her due diligence on the issue. She has researched all the  
10 questions that have come back. The Public Works Department has answered questions that  
11 the councilmembers posed.

12  
13 Weimer stated there are other members of the Public Works Committee besides  
14 Councilmember Brenner. He thought there was going to be a process to involve the public  
15 to address those questions. That's what the Council said it would do.

16  
17 Brenner stated she recalled that it was held in the committee so the councilmembers  
18 could get answers.

19  
20 Weimer stated they've waited a year and a half without getting answers to these  
21 questions after the Council voted unanimously to allow the Land Trust the opportunity to  
22 come forward with a proposal. He still has questions.

23  
24 Caskey-Schreiber stated it was held in committee on March 27, 2007. She would  
25 like to hold it in committee and ask for a recommendation from Prosecutor Royce  
26 Buckingham.

27  
28 There was discussion about scheduling this item in the Public Works Committee.

29  
30 Brenner stated she will schedule this item in the Public Works Committee on May 22,  
31 2007.

32  
33 **Motion carried 5-2 with Caskey-Schreiber and Weimer opposed.**

34  
35  
36 **OTHER ITEMS**

37  
38 **1. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DRAYTON HARBOR SHELLFISH PROTECTION**  
39 **DISTRICT RECOVERY PLAN 2007 UPDATE (AB2007-230)**

40  
41 *(Clerk's Note: End of tape one, side B.)*

42  
43 **McShane** reported for the Natural Resources Committee and **moved** to approve the  
44 substitute version.

45  
46 Brenner stated they are taking more away from the administration. During the last  
47 budget cycle, the Council budgeted money for the Drayton Harbor watershed. In addition,  
48 the Council approved the onsite sewage regulations that they have yet to develop. The  
49 State mandate refers specifically to marine recovery areas, of which Drayton Harbor is one.  
50 Now, the Health Department says this will be for the entire county. They recommend that  
51 the entire county be an area of special significance, which isn't appropriate. Make sure the  
52 administration pays attention to the money the Council budgets. The Council should  
53 continue to budget for these kinds of things. The Council should coordinate through the

1 onsite sewage (OSS) regulations. Otherwise, they are heaping more fees upon people for  
2 duplication of efforts. She doesn't like the substitute version.  
3

4 Caskey-Schreiber stated she is in favor of the substitute resolution. She is  
5 impressed with their goals. This is the reason they went through the water resource  
6 inventory area (WRIA) process. Councilmember Nelson said the Council needs to look at  
7 this kind of concept for each watershed, then give them the taxing money to implement  
8 efforts. That's what this is. This is exactly like what the Council did for Lake Samish. It is  
9 probably what they're going to have to do for Lake Whatcom, Birch Bay, and Drayton  
10 Harbor. The County won't ever afford to do it. The County must give the community the  
11 tools and resources to do implementation. Developing a taxing district is the only way to do  
12 that. She is in favor of the resolution. If there is a duplication of fees, it will be brought to  
13 the Council's attention to resolve. In the meantime, go forward. The only way to recover  
14 Puget Sound is drainage-by-drainage.  
15

16 Nelson stated these early developmental years will be frustrating. Now that they've  
17 developed programs, they have to pay for them. All programs will be expensive. This is a  
18 resolution that says the Council will work toward that goal. They have to be aware that  
19 many entities and groups can be impacted by the Council's decisions. Be aware of the  
20 taxing measures and funding mechanisms already in place. The County must coordinate  
21 those efforts. Get a process in place so citizen groups know the County supports all their  
22 efforts. Get a process in place to identify revenue sources and how they help each other.  
23

24 Brenner stated she agrees with their efforts. However, they must also protect from  
25 the possibility of duplicating efforts. Some of their actions are the exact same things that  
26 the Health Department is supposed to do, regarding onsite sewage.  
27

28 ***Brenner suggested a friendly amendment*** to add to the last language, "Be It  
29 Further Resolved, that the Whatcom County Council will begin exploration...or other  
30 appropriate district without duplication of efforts and costs."  
31

32 ***McShane*** read the first recommendation in the plan regarding securing funds for the  
33 Shellfish Protection District authority. All this resolution does is emphasis that there may be  
34 other means to collect funds. Coordinating those programs is important. A dedicated  
35 funding source is also important for these programs to continue predictably. They need to  
36 emphasis that they are committed to follow-through to make sure that funding source is  
37 there, from wherever it comes. The district has had concerns about ongoing funding for a  
38 long time. They are susceptible to the changes and whims of the Council and  
39 administration. He ***accepted*** the friendly amendment.  
40

41 Weimer stated he supports the resolution, which he brought forward. It highlights  
42 the district's number one priority. It's good to call it out and say the Council will move  
43 forward on it.  
44

45 McShane stated he thanks Councilmember Weimer for bringing this forward.  
46

47 Brenner stated she thanks Councilmember Weimer also.  
48

49 ***Motion carried unanimously.***  
50

- 51 **2. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**  
52 **CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND GALLATIN**  
53 **GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$95,000 TO AID THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE WITH**

1           **INTERGOVERNMENTAL ADVOCACY SERVICES AT BOTH THE STATE AND**  
2           **NATIONAL LEVEL (AB2007-199)**

3  
4           **Crawford** reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and  
5 **moved** to approve the request.

6  
7           Brenner stated she is against the request. The County should work directly with the  
8 legislative staff. The community votes for those people, and their jobs depend on keeping  
9 track of the local issues.

10  
11           Caskey-Schreiber stated lobbyist are an unfortunate necessity in the governmental  
12 process. This contractor won't have a conflict with any of their other clients. The County is  
13 also paying for their connections. People can work better with people with whom they feel  
14 comfortable. That's not the councilmembers. The councilmembers don't hang out in  
15 Washington D.C. or Olympia. The County needs a presence in both areas to represent  
16 Whatcom County causes.

17  
18           Crawford stated he supports the request. The contractor specialty is at the federal  
19 level. The top two priorities on the list are Homeland Security and impacts from the 2010  
20 Olympics. It is not about getting a bigger slice of the pie. It is about making sure that  
21 Whatcom County's extraordinary costs, which are due to their geographic position in the  
22 country and based on federal actions, comes back to Whatcom County. He asked that, over  
23 time, they receive a financial analysis on the results of this contract.

24  
25           Nelson stated he supports the request. This contractor has experience with other  
26 municipalities and counties. Many councilmembers have been to Washington D.C. It is a  
27 daunting task. Lobbyists are an essential part of the government system. They provide  
28 information to the legislators.

29  
30           Brenner stated the administration is supposed to stay in touch with what's going on.  
31 The Sheriff and Prosecuting Attorney have both lobbied in Washington D.C. Whatcom  
32 County is already doing a good job covering the issues. The County may receive funding  
33 without the help of the lobbyists.

34  
35           Weimer stated he is in favor of the request. He is convinced that it makes a  
36 difference to have people lobbying in Washington D.C. When things happen there, they  
37 happen fast. Having the right person there at the right time can make a big difference. The  
38 County can't track those things here.

39  
40           ***Motion carried 6-1 with Brenner opposed.***

41  
42           **3. COUNTY EXECUTIVE KREMEN REQUESTS CONFIRMATION OF HIS**  
43 **APPOINTMENT OF SUSAN BURKE TO THE MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**  
44 **(MRC) (AB2007-224)**

45  
46           ***Brenner moved*** to confirm the appointment.

47  
48           ***Motion carried unanimously.***

49  
50           **4. COUNTY EXECUTIVE KREMEN REQUESTS CONFIRMATION OF HIS**  
51 **APPOINTMENT OF GREG HINTON TO THE COUNTY APPEALS BOARD (WCAB)**  
52 **(AB2007-225)**

1 **Caskey-Schreiber moved** to confirm the appointment.  
2

3 **Motion carried unanimously.**  
4

- 5 **5. COUNTY EXECUTIVE KREMEN REQUESTS CONFIRMATION OF HIS**  
6 **APPOINTMENT OF CHARLES ALBERTSON TO THE WHATCOM COUNTY**  
7 **MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD (AB2007-226)**  
8

9 **Brenner moved** to confirm the appointment. He has served on the board before.  
10 She appreciates that he reapplied.

11 **Motion carried unanimously.**  
12

- 13 **6. RESOLUTION HONORING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE YWCA AND URGING**  
14 **SUPPORT FOR ITS MISSION (AB2007-233)**  
15

16 **Brenner moved** to approve the resolution. She read the resolution.  
17

18 **Motion carried unanimously.**  
19  
20  
21

## 22 INTRODUCTION ITEMS

23 **Brenner moved** to accept the Introduction Items, including a substitute version of  
24 Introduction Item five.  
25

26 **Motion carried unanimously.**  
27

- 28 **1. RESOLUTION TO SELL TAX TITLE PROPERTY BY PUBLIC AUCTION REG.**  
29 **#TR2007-01 (AB2007-217A)**  
30  
31 **2. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2007 WHATCOM COUNTY BUDGET, FIFTH**  
32 **REQUEST, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$373,771 (AB2007-227)**  
33  
34 **3. ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2007-023 TO REMOVE AN ADDITIONAL**  
35 **STOP SIGN AND CLARIFY EXISTING TEMPORARY ONE-WAY DETOURS**  
36 **RELATED TO THE CABLE STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT (AB2007-**  
37 **169B)**  
38  
39 **4. ORDINANCE REMOVING, ON AN INTERIM BASIS, THE LOT**  
40 **CLUSTERING PROVISION FROM WHATCOM COUNTY CODE 20.42,**  
41 **RURAL FORESTRY DISTRICT (AB2007-229)**  
42  
43 **5. RESOLUTION TO SELL SURPLUS PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2158 SOUTH**  
44 **NUGENT ROAD, LUMMI ISLAND, WA (AB2007-153A)**  
45  
46  
47

## 48 OTHER BUSINESS

49 There was no other business.  
50  
51  
52

1 **REPORTS AND OTHER ITEMS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS**

2  
3 Crawford stated a local group is forming that will ask the Council to put on the  
4 November ballot a proposition to add .01 percent sales tax for substance abuse funding.

5  
6 McShane stated the Geologic Society of America Cordilleran took a field trip to Swift  
7 Creek. They found another landslide that has begun to move again, and has big  
8 implications for Canyon Creek. The geologists were impressed by the scale of the Swift  
9 Creek landslide. They are seeing only about one-fifth of the entire landslide. It clearly  
10 moves significantly farther down the valley. The upper part is really starting to move.

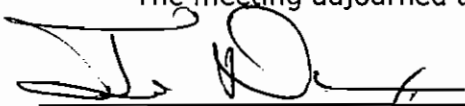
11  
12 Weimer, stated he attended the Birch Bay community kick-off for the neighborhood  
13 deputy.

14  
15 Brenner stated she thanks Executive Kremen for the Emergency Management  
16 Workshop for Senior Officials. She learned many things. It would be nice to have a  
17 summary of the workshop for those who couldn't attend.

18  
19 Caskey-Schreiber stated she attended the Foothills Subarea Plan meeting. They  
20 would love to have a facilitator. She would like to have a meeting on what's next for the  
21 project.

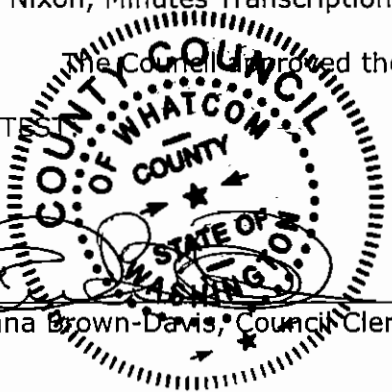
22  
23  
24 **ADJOURN**

25  
26 The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

27   
28  
29  
30 Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription

31  
32 The Council approved these minutes on June 5, 2007.

33  
34 ATTACHED



35  
36  
37  
38  
39 Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

34 WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
35 WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

36  
37   
38  
39  
40 Carl Weimer, Council Chair