

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
CONFERENCE ROOM/WEBEX  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**FRIDAY**

**1:30 P.M.**

**MARCH 18, 2022**

Board members present: Chairman Laura Osiadacz, Vice-Chair Cory Wright; and Commissioner Brett Wachsmith.

Others: Kristine Foreman, Human Resource Director; Brian Carlson, Budget & Finance Director; Heather Ryan, Records Deputy; Krista Wallace, Deputy Clerk; Dennis Robinson, Deputy Clerk; Jan McElroy, Legal Process Assistant III; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; Candace Hooper, Superior Court Judge; Jodi Hammond, Chief Criminal Deputy; Darryl Ellis, Upper District Court Judge; Mike Hougardy, Assessor; Jim Goeben, IT Director; Taylor Crouch, Administrative Assistant; Edna Allphin, Personal Property - Levy Specialist; Ken Blanford, Attorney; and approximately 15 members of the public.

Applicants for appointment of County Clerk: Karen Bowen, Brian Cullinane, and Deana (DJ) Hoffman.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY CLERK**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At 1:30 p.m. Chairman Osiadacz called a Special Meeting to order to consider recommendations from the Republican Party for appointment of the County Clerk. She reviewed the meeting process and introductions were made of the interview panel consisting of Darryl Ellis, Upper District Court Judge; Jodi Hammond, Chief Criminal Deputy; Ken Blanford, Attorney; and the Board of County Commissioners.

Candidates for consideration of appointment to the vacant County Clerk position included Karen Bowen, Deana (DJ) Hoffman, and Brian Cullinane. They were provided an opportunity for timed opening statements, questions, and answers, as well as closing statements.

At 2:08 p.m. Chairman Osiadacz announced the Board would recess into Executive Session for 10 minutes with Darryl Ellis, Upper District Court Judge; Jodi Hammond, Chief Criminal Deputy; Ken Blanford, Attorney, to evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office. However, any interview of such candidate and final action appointing a candidate to elective office shall be in a meeting open to the public action anticipated.

At 2:18 p.m. the Board reconvened out of Executive Session. No action was taken.

**APPROVED**  
4/15/22

At 2:20 p.m. Chairman Osiadacz announced the Board would recess back into Executive Session with just themselves for 10 minutes to evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office. However, any interview of such candidate and final action appointing a candidate to elective office shall be in a meeting open to the public

At 2:30 p.m. the Board reconvened out of Executive Session.

Commissioner Wright moved to appoint Karen Bowen, to serve as Interim County Clerk, for the remaining portion of the term, until certification of the November General Election. Commissioner Wachsmith seconded.

The Board of County Commissioners expressed their appreciation for all 3 applicants for their interest in serving, their time, and willingness to put themselves forward.

Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

  
Julie Kjorsvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Laura Osiadacz, Chairman