

**KITTITAS COUNTY
EC STUDY SESSION MINUTES
BOCC CONFERENCE ROOM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 108 - ELLENSBURG
Special Meeting**

TUESDAY	11:00 AM	June 25, 2024
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Board members present: Vice-Chairman Laura Osiadacz (Webex), Commissioner Cory Wright

Others: Kady Porterfield, CFE (Event Center Director), Lacie Dawson (Program Manager), Bob Eddings (Fair Board President)

1. Call to Order 11:00am

2. Citizen Comments (1 min. time limit) None

3. Request Approval of PSA with Baxter Construction LLC

South Grandstands need to be repainted (paint coming off). Baxter Construction came in under budget and was the only bid received. Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve PSA with Baxter Construction, Vice-Chairman Osiadacz seconded. Motion passes 2-0.

4. Event Insurance Updates Porterfield has been working with Chris Horner on insurance issues for the concert. In prior years, liquor liability insurance was approximately \$1200, this year the initial quote came back at \$7500. Through the risk pool they were able to acquire insurance for Patriot Night for \$3000. The main issue was due to camping, which stemmed from the shooting incident at the Gorge last year.

5. Friends of Fair Foundation PSA Status Update: At the Fair Board meeting, McDowell gave the Friends of the Fair (FOF) report. They do not want to make any changes to the PSA for this year. FOF wants to make changes to their bylaws, they will look into that after fair. The auction contract is in place for this year. FOF will handle the sale of the second animals only for this year. All have agreed that FOF taking the auction back over after fair would be best.

6. Kittitas County Fair Planning and Operations Report: There were 5 applicants (1 dropped out) for the Fair Board, Porterfield is not sure if they will be placing one or two directors after interviews.

The sheep/goat director had complaints that the past auctioneer was upset and that the County should have contacted him. Porterfield reminded the Fair Board that they are the ones that voted to proceed with a contract with Yarbrow Auctions and those duties are still the

responsibility of Fair Board Directors. The past auctioneer was contacted and given the opportunity to submit a proposal to manage the sale, but they didn't submit a bid. When FOF takes the sale back, they will be able to use him again.

There were questions about livestock drug testing from a parent in attendance at the Fair Board meeting. Porterfield has a list of drug categories to be tested (not specific names) and will share that with any exhibitor or parent that requests it. Cziske is working on cash handling policies for admissions and parking. Some fair board meetings will be shorter so they can do work parties.

7. Rodeo Contract Status Update: Porterfield and Carl Jensvold have had a lengthy discussion on contract changes. Brian Twardowski & Carl would like to meet with Commissioner Wright, discussion of who should meet with them followed. Porterfield and Commissioner Wright will meet with them. Commissioner Wright stated there were problems with the last contract and it would be a benefit for the relationship to correct that. Vice-Chair Osiadacz stated that we all need to be thinking of the big picture and that the community is changing.

8. Rodeo Grandstands Project Update: Porterfield met with Carl Jensvold (Rodeo), Brock Alderman (Rodeo), Patti Stacey (Project Manager), and ALSC Architects to discuss design and flow, as well as cost cutting strategies. Things are moving in a great direction, hopefully designs will be done by July. There will need to be a historical preservation review as part of the state funding process.

9. Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(b) To consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price.:

Entered into session at 11:30am for 10 mins (Dawson and Eddings exit meeting).

Back out of session at 11:40am.

Entered into session at 11:40 for 2 mins.

Exited session at 11:42.

10. Other Business - No Action to be taken: Patriot Night ticket sales are slow. Website traffic is up 75% and ads are being played on the radio as well as featured in the Daily Record. Legend's Casino ticket sales are also down for their concerts from what Porterfield has heard. Discussion about ticket pricing; the BOCC would like to allow children 10 and

under in for free (if accompanied by an adult). This will help enhance the family experience and we already do free child admission for the fair as well.

Meeting concluded at 11:55am.


Kady Porterfield, CFE

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Brett Wachsmith, Chairman