



*To Protect and Promote the Health and the Environment of the People of Kittitas County*

Public Health Study Session  
September 25 2024, at 10:00 am  
Commissioners' Conference Room  
Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:**

Brett Wachsmith, Cory Wright, Chelsey Loeffers, Candi Blackford, Erin Moore, Kate Johnson, Mark Larson

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

**Citizen Comment (1 minute time limit)**

There were no members of the public present.

**Department Business**

Request BOCC Signature on HopeSource Pathways Project Compliance Letter and Certification Form

Chelsey Loeffers presented an amended Letter of Commitment from HopeSource that amends the letter to state "It creates 78 units of Affordable Housing". The original letter did not state specific units created.

09.01: Cory moved to approve the HopeSource Pathways Project compliance letter with amendments. Brett Wachsmith second. All approved. Motion 09.01 carried to approve the HopeSource Pathways Project compliance letter with amendments.

In addition, a request for approval on a Certification of Consistency with Plan to End Homelessness for HopeSource.

09.02: Cory Wright moved to approve the Certification of Consistency with Plan to End Homelessness for HopeSource. Brett Wachsmith second. All approved. Motion 09.02 carried to approve the HopeSource Certification of Consistency with Plan to End Homelessness.

Approve Resolution to fund the Kittitas County Jail through the Kittitas County Mental Health Tax

Erin Moore Discussed the funding of the Kittitas County Jail through the Kittitas County Mental Health Tax.

09.03: Cory Wright moved to approve Resolution 2024-171 to Fund the Kittitas County Jail through the Kittitas County Mental Health Tax. Brett Wachsmith second. All approved. Motion 09.03 carried to approve Resolution 2024-171 to Fund the Kittitas County Jail through the Kittitas County Mental Health Tax.

APPROVED

11-5-24



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#### Harm Reduction discussion

Kate Johnson informed the commissioners about the push to distribute safer drug smoking supplies such as pipes and glass stems at exchanges. Mrs. Johnson informed the commissioners that there has been discussion, but locally we are not distributing safer smoking supplies. The purpose of harm reduction is to decrease blood borne pathogens by providing clean needles and clean injection kits.

#### 1/10<sup>th</sup> Funding for Public Schools Update

Erin Moore informed the commissioners that she is working with Stephanie Hartung to change the ordinance that allows funding of entities outside of the RFP process. They are hoping to include all the entities encompassed in this process in the ordinance.

With the deadline of October 1, 2024, for the school districts to respond for intent to utilize funding form 1/10<sup>th</sup> there are two school districts that have not responded. Ellensburg School District and Kittitas School District have not yet responded. Brett Wachsmith will contact Ellensburg and Cory Wright will contact Kittitas.

#### Human Service RFP Update

Chelsey Loeffers noted that the RFP for 1/10<sup>th</sup> will close today at 5:00 pm. They predict about 10 applications to be turned in.

Mrs. Loeffers met with Brett Wachsmith a couple of weeks ago and discussed the basic budget of the two funds after the two HopeSource proposals are funded there is not enough funding left over available in the Homelessness fund. Discussed the possibility of RFP for the Low-Income Housing fund. The plan is to discuss this at the next HAHC meeting and will report back to the board.

#### Health Officer Update

Mark Larson M.D discussed school vaccination rates and that the schools are behind on compliance with state law. Dr. Larson is meeting with local superintendents and having the discussion about how to get the students in compliance and time needed to get this done.

Dr. Larson also discussed long term facilities and the vaccination rates within those facilities. He also noted the importance of vaccinations for staff as they are the ones taking care of those at risk.

#### **Other Business**

None

Concluded at 10:33 am



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A blue ink signature of Brett Wachsmith, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

Brett Wachsmith, BOCC Chair

A blue ink signature of Candi Blackford, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

Candi Blackford, Clerk