

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
REGULAR MEETING**

**MONDAY**

**9:00 A.M.**

**OCTOBER 7, 2024**

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

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Office Administrator; Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Shelise Smithgall, Administrative Assistant; Ben Kokjer, Chief Deputy; Josh Fredrickson, Public Works Director and one member of the public.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**OFFICE STAFF MEETING**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At 9:00 a.m. Chairman Wachsmith opened the Office Administration meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE.**

**CALENDAR**

**WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed their weekly calendar.

**PAF/VOUCHERS**

**REVIEW OF PAF'S & VOUCHERS**

**COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of County Commissioners approved and signed County Employee Personnel Action forms and vouchers.

**CORRESPONDENCE LOG**

**REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE LOG**

**COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed the weekly Correspondence Log, a listing of all incoming mail and correspondence for the week ending October 4, 2024.

**RESOLUTION 2024-178**

**CAUSE NO. 24-2-00156-19**

**PROSECUTOR**

Vice-Chairman Osiadacz moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-178, a Resolution Approving Kittitas County Code Chapter 2.73 Requests for Legal Defense in Yakima County Superior Court Cause No.24-2-00156-19. Commissioner Wright seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**UPDATE**

**WSDOT I-90**

**COMMISSIONERS**

Director Fredrickson gave an update to the Board on the traffic impacts due to the Vantage Bridge construction project. He discussed with the Board options being considered to mitigate the increase in

traffic some of which involve closures and signage. He stated WSDOT has some trial options they are considering implementing. Chief Deputy Kokjer stated the options presented he is not in favor of and has been attending meetings with Director Fredrickson. He stated that the Upper County traffic issues have to be addressed, and we can't address Lower County issues when the Upper County traffic impacts have been ignored for years. Director Fredrickson suggested that we offer WSDOT to address both Upper County and Lower County at the same time. Commissioner Wright stated he would like to see the relationship repaired between the County and WSDOT. The Board agreed they would only support both Upper County and Lower County traffic impacts be fixed by WSDOT at the same time, or they can close their ramps and manage them on their own. The Board asked that Public Works and the Sheriff continue to meet and work through options while keeping the Board in the loop.

## **DISCUSSION**

## **COUNTY FACEBOOK**

## **COMMISSIONERS**

The Board determined that for the week of October 7, 2024, they would post the following on their Facebook page: STEER I-90 Stakeholder Meeting on 10/10/2024; Announcement of new parking lot by the jail open for use; Kittitas County Search and Rescue NAMED FINALIST IN the Search and Rescue Category for the 2024 "DEFENDER SERVICE AWARDS" KCSR was nominated for the "2024 Defender Service Award" by Motion State voting from 10/2/2024 - 10/17/2024.

## **UPDATE**

## **BOCC/ DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

## **COMMISSIONERS**

Each Commissioner was assigned three different Department Heads to meet with on a weekly basis for the year. The assignments for 2024 were determined at the Board of County Commissioners Office Admin meeting earlier on and they will continue to provide updates at future meetings.

Each Commissioner reviewed discussions held with their respective departments and exchanged details of those meetings.

## **OTHER BUSINESS/GENERAL UPDATES**

There were general updates on meetings & conversations that the Board participated in, individually over the past week.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

## **COMMISSIONERS**

At 9:51 a.m. Chairman Wachsmith announced the Board would recess into a Collective Bargaining - Closed Session with just the Board - Pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b), the OPMA does not apply to that portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional

negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress.

At 9:55 a.m. the Board reconvened out of a Closed Bargaining Session. No Action taken.

Meeting concluded at 9:55 a.m.

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**



**Mandy Buchholz**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



**Brett Wachsmith, Chairman**