

**KITTITAS COUNTY
BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
BOCC AUDITORIUM ROOM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 215 - ELLENSBURG
SPECIAL MEETING**

Monday	11:00AM	November 18, 2024
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Board members present: Brett Wachsmith, Cory Wright, Laura Osiadacz

Staff: Brian Carlson, Budget and Finance Director, Bryan Elliott, Auditor, Zack DeHaven, Andrew Yoder, Sue Patterson, Jeanne Kilgore, Amy Cziske, Treasurer, Nancy Shaff, Barb Demory, Maria Gomez Rios, Mike Hougardy, Assessor, Josh Fredrickson, Reid Burbank, Kady Porterfield, Kylee Wuesthoff, Lisa Murray, Katrina Mankus, Elishia Harvill, Greg Zempel, Prosecuting Attorney.

Members of Public: Pat Kelleher

1. Call to order: 11:00am

2. Citizen Comments (1 min. time limit): Pat Kelleher

Pat Kelleher (Citizen) requested \$100 K of Reet 2 funding for Capital improvements the Yakima River access, noting that there is also potential to work with Bureau of Land Management. Mr. Kelleher noted that this request would be a one-time expense and not continuing support.

3. 2025 Budget Updates-Summaries- Unfinished business

Mr. Carlson updated the Board on the current state of General Fund 2025 budget. Following the presentation Commissioner Wright expressed that he would like to see the Sheriff's office reduce their expenses by \$377 K noting the cuts made by the other general fund departments to their 2025 budget. This was instructed to be finalized prior to adoption of the 2025 budget on Dec 3, 2025.

The Board unanimously supported this direction

Josh Fredrickson (Public Works) stated that the Levy Lid Lift was unsuccessful. Mr. Fredrickson proceeded to outline the ramifications of the reduction in funding. The ER&R fund will likely see a reduction in expense budget of \$2 MM. Public Works will freeze a current vacancy in effort to further reduce expenses. Overall, there will be a reduction in services provided including maintenance and construction of county roadways. Another cost saving measure being considered is a change in location for the lower county maintenance shop, and moving the potential building site to county owned land to forego a land purchase.

4. Request to Approve a Service Agreement between Kittitas County and Mission Square Retirement

Jeanne Kilgore (Human Resources) discussed a professional service agreement with Mission Square regarding the management of the county deferred compensation plan. This agreement was reviewed by Finance and Legal prior to presentation.

Commissioner Osiadacz made a motion to approve the PSA between Kittitas County and Mission Square. Commissioner Wachsmith seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Collective Bargaining- Union Negotiations- Closed Session

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

The Board entered closed session to discuss collective bargaining. The Board exited closed session with no action taken.

6. Other Business- None

7. Concluded 11:28am



Sue Patterson, Accounting Assistant II

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Brett Wachsmith, Chairman