

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
AUDITORIUM  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**MONDAY**

**10:00 A.M.**

**DECEMBER 2, 2024**

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Mandy Buchholz, Office Administrator; Chad Bala, CDS Director; Elisha Harvill, Chief Administrator; Chelsey Loeffers, Public Health Director; Patti Stacey, Facilities Director; Pat Gigstead, Chief Probation Officer; Eileen Murphy, Public Defense Director; Josh Fredrickson, Public Works Director; Lisa Murray, Chief Administrator; Amy Cziske, Treasurer; Bryan Elliott, Auditor; Andrew Yoder, Finance Manager; Katrina Mankus, Juvenile Court Administrator; Zack DeHaven, Assistant Finance Director; Doug Fessler, IT Director; Reid Burbank, Finance Manager; and 2 members of the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**AUDITOR**

At 10:00 a.m. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** opened a Public Hearing to consider proposed amendments to the 2024 County Budget.

**BRIAN CARLSON, BUDGET & FINANCE DIRECTOR**, reviewed proposed amendments to the 2024 budget and said the Board has reviewed the items previously. He noted there was an additional \$400,000.00 for abatement costs which had not been budgeted for and was in the proposed amendments. He said there is a reimbursement process for the taxpayers, but it could be up to 3-years to obtain those funds.

**THERE BEING NO PUBLIC REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**RESOLUTION 2024-199**

**2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**AUDITOR**

**VICE-CHAIRMAN OSIADACZ** moved to approve Resolution 2024-199, Amending the 2024 County Budget. **COMMISSIONER WRIGHT** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**2025 BUDGET**

**AUDITOR**

At approximately 10:04 a.m. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** opened a Public Hearing to consider adopting the 2025 County Budget.

**BRIAN CARLSON, BUDGET & FINANCE DIRECTOR**, said the 2025 budget had been prepared and they intend on having quarterly amendments next

year. He explained the deficit going into 2025, and how today's numbers show for a formality, and does show the transfers out.

**VICE-CHAIRMAN OSIADACZ** explained the County's path moving forward to get ahead of this in the future. **MR. CARLSON** explained how they may always be behind the curve on different things including maintenance, and how they need to go where the money is including personnel and asset management.

**BRYAN ELLIOTT, AUDITOR**, thanked the Finance Team and Management Team for their work on next year's budget. He felt they had meaningful discussions to help resolve problems and looked forward to continuing working together in the future.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: PAT KELLEHER** said he reserved comments on Springwood until more data has become available. He asked for support of \$500,000.00 from REET 2 funding and said the Bureau of Land Management could manage recreational activities under Kittitas County ownership. He encouraged the Chairman to exercise his leadership and responsibilities and to reach out to the Bureau of Land Management to further develop relationships to reserve public access to the Yakima River Canyon for his grandchildren. **THERE BEING NO OTHERS REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**RESOLUTION 2024-200**

**ADOPT 2025 BUDGET**

**AUDITOR**

**VICE-CHAIRMAN OSIADACZ** moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-200, Adopting the Budget for Kittitas County for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2025. **COMMISSIONER WRIGHT** seconded.

**COMMISSIONER WRIGHT** reviewed the budget with consideration of the current economy, inflation, and how trend analysis has been needed for a while now in Kittitas County. He said there were headlines about the County not filling vacancies, a possible hiring freeze, etc. and that it would be an absolute last-ditch effort. He said Kittitas County government continues to be a government that's effective.


Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting concluded at 10:26 a.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

  
Julie Kiorvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
Brett Wachsmith, Chairman