

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
CONFERENCE ROOM
SPECIAL MEETING**

TUESDAY

1:30 P.M.

APRIL 22, 2025

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

Others: Shelise Smithgall, Administrative Assistant; Amy McGuffin, Chief Executive Officer - Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce.

SPECIAL MEETING

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

COMMISSIONERS

At 1:30 p.m. Chairman Osiadacz opened a Special Meeting to receive a quarterly update from the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce CEO/ADO.

Amy McGuffin, Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Officer, provided and reviewed a handout consisting of the Q1 2025 Washington SBDC & ADO Partnership County Activity & Impact Report for Kittitas County.

Ms. McGuffin reviewed what the Chamber has been working on as the County's ADO. She mentioned that as the County's ADO, a lot of projects are put on the Chamber's plate, and that they have staffing and resourcing/funding challenges regarding accomplishing those tasks. She said she would like the expectations of the ADO for the next two years to be very clear: what they will and will not be expected to do. She said she would like the opportunity to ask for personnel funding because she needs more resources to achieve the things the Chamber has been asked to do. Ms. McGuffin said they were able to hire two consultants who are helping with branding, communication of economic development and agritourism, but they also need additional administrative personnel.

Ms. McGuffin stated that the Chamber is launching microgrant programs and is continuing to work on their 10-year strategic plan.

Ms. McGuffin explained that the role of the ADO is economic development and discussed the upcoming Economic Task Force meeting.

The Board and Ms. McGuffin discussed businesses in Ellensburg, including future possibilities. Ms. McGuffin recommended they take a tour of the Tenino Agricultural Park to get an idea of what it looks like and how it works. She suggested that the Chamber of Commerce could help implement the public side of a program like that in Ellensburg.

Ms. McGuffin discussed the Regional Economic Development Partnership and the Chamber's role in that as the ADO. She passed out hand-outs with information regarding Kittitas County's Economic Development Goals and survey results analyzing what the exact definition of Economic Development should be. She explained that after all the entities that are helping with this process agree on the final definition, the Chamber will create a website and dashboard where that definition will be available so that they are all using the same language when they apply for grants, etc.

Ms. McGuffin concluded the meeting by mentioning that the ADO Grant Writing program is going well and that good projects have come about through this program for Kittitas County.

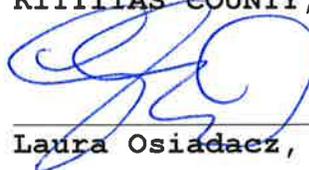
The meeting concluded at 2:38 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



Shelise Smithgall

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Laura Osiadacz, Chairman