



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

Public Health Study Session
April 23, 2025
at 10:00 am
Commissioners' Conference Room
Meeting Minutes

Present: Brett Wachsmith, Laura Osiadacz

Absent: Cory Wright

Public Health: Chelsey Loeffers, Candi Blackford, Kasey Knutson

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 by Laura Osiadacz.

Citizen Comment (1 minute time limit)-None

Department Business

1/10th definitions, purpose statement/goals/priorities

Kasey Knutson briefly reviewed WAC 246-341-0200, Behavioral Health Definitions and RCW 82.14.460, and provided the recommendation from DPA Hartung that the WAC be used in addition to the RCW to define the eligible programs and services for 1/10th of 1% Mental Health and Chemical Dependency funding. Ms. Knutson also shared that DPA Hartung recommended developing a purpose and goals to further narrow the scope locally for the RFPs. Ms. Knutson also discussed using the Community Health Assessment, the Community Health Improvement Plan and the preliminary Behavioral Health Needs Assessment as resources when determining a purpose and goals for the tax funds. The group had good discussions about the purpose and came to the conclusion that the purpose should include access to mental health and substance use programs and services as well as include prevention. The group also talked about goals that align with the purpose and liked the goals presented but would like to see a few other specifics called out in the goals. Kasey Knutson will take this information back and incorporate edits. Chelsey Loeffers will then bring this information back to the board for approval at a Monday morning Admin meeting.

Provide direction regarding Opioid Settlement community input

Kasey Knutson reviewed with the board that the opioid settlement funds have requirements of each participating local governments and one of the requirements is to ensure that there is opportunity for community-based input on priorities for Opioid Fund programs and services. The county has already developed a Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Ms. Knutson noted that the Kittitas County Public Health Department has the foundation in place to complete the required actions by utilizing the Community Health Assessment and the Community Health Improvement Plan to provide community-identified needs. It satisfies the requirements of community input and narrows the focus for the RFP process without utilizing an existing community advisory board or creating a new advisory board. Both members of the board agreed.

Commissioner Osiadacz and Commissioner Wachsmith asked about total funds for the program. Mrs. Loeffers noted that she is working with the Auditors' office to better forecast total funding for opioid settlement since some are one-time funds and or limited funds. Mrs. Loeffers will continue to update the board at future meetings.

APPROVED

5-20-25



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Meeting concluded at 10:34am

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Laura Osiadacz".

Laura Osiadacz, BOCC Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Candi Blackford".

Candi Blackford, Clerk