



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

Public Health Study Session
June 24, 2025
at 10:00 am
Commissioners' Conference Room
Meeting Minutes

Approved
two times
by glitch
on 7/15 & 8/5

Present: Brett Wachsmith, Cory Wright

Absent: Laura Osiadacz

Public Health: Chelsey Loeffers, Candi Blackford, Kasey Knutson, Jesse Cox, Mark Larson MD

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 by Cory Wright.

Citizen Comment (1 minute time limit)-None

Department Business

Opioid crosswalk results/next steps with eligible activities

Kasey Knutson discussed with the board that per the MOU for the opioid settlement funds, Kittitas County must develop a methodology for obtaining proposals for use of funds, ensure opportunity for community-based input, receive and review proposals, approve or deny proposals, receive funds and distribute to approved recipients, and provide reporting to the Opioid Abatement Council. Ms. Knutson noted utilizing the crosswalk analysis tool, that included the most recent Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and opioid abatement strategies for the Opioid Settlement MOU to determine what strategies to prioritize in the request for proposals.

The use of the CHIP provides the required documentation of community-based input on the priorities and there are eleven pages of opioid abatement strategies to choose from. Utilizing the crosswalk analysis tool with the CHIP and the Opioid Settlement MOU strategies narrows the focus for funding projects in Kittitas County while satisfying the requirements of community input.

Board discussed additional funding and making sure the city of Ellensburg, who also has opioid settlement funding was on board with this direction.

Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder 1/10th Funding

Kasey Knutson noted that staff have received legal clarification of RCW 81.14.460 #4 providing new or expanded programs and services for mental health and substance use disorder 1/10th funding. Ms. Knutson worked with DPA Hartung and clarified new proposed projects and the expansion of current projects being eligible for future funding opportunities.

Quick overview of new DOE PPA program

APPROVED
07/15/2025



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

Jesse Cox gave a quick overview of the Pollution Prevention Assistance Contract for 2025-2027. This contract will allow the county to partner with local businesses to provide technical assistance to small quantity generators of hazardous waste and small businesses with potential stormwater pollution risks. It is voluntary and designed to help businesses reduce pollution, protect public health, and maintain regulatory compliance without inspections or penalties. The hope is to create positive relationships with local businesses, emphasize education, early intervention, and support. Mr. Cox noted how the health department staff will engage with local partners and how the program will work.

County Partnership in Ellensburg Temporary Cold Weather Shelter Discussion/Decision

Kasey Knutson updated the board that the City of Ellensburg has requested that Kittitas County partner on the planning and operations of the temporary Cold Weather Shelter for the 25-26 and 26-27 seasons. The city has been connected with a local church who is interested in hosting the shelter. Currently there is no commitment of funds and will present funding proposals and documents for consideration at a future meeting.

Motion 06.01: Motion to approve partnership with the City of Ellensburg for temporary cold weather shelter. Brett Wachsmith moved to approve a partnership with the City of Ellensburg for temporary cold weather shelter. Cory Wright second. Motion carried to approve a partnership with the City of Ellensburg for temporary cold weather shelter.

Request to approve resolution authorizing KCPHD office closure for 10/24/2025 for annual drive thru flu clinic

Chelsey Loeffers requested the office closure for the departments annual flu clinic on October 24, 2025. Motion 06.02: Motion to approve BOCC Resolution 2025-128 authorizing the closure of the Kittitas County Public Health Department on October 24, 2025. Brett Wachsmith moved to approve BOCC Resolution 2025-128 authorizing the closure of the Kittitas County Public Health Department on October 24, 2025. Cory Wright second. Motion 06.2 carried to approve BOCC Resolution 2025-128 authorizing the closure of the Kittitas County Public Health Department on October 24, 2025.

Health Officer Update

Mark Larson M.D. reported the following:

- Will attend the Vaccine Advisory Committee meeting Thursday and Friday. Dr. Larson discussed impacts of decreased funding and vaccine coverage by insurance companies.
- Still seeing covid and discussed impacts of covid on local nursing home facilities.
- Despite there being lots of ticks out there has not been any local documentation of Lyme disease in Kittitas County.

Meeting concluded at 10:35 am



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

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

Laura Osjadacz, BOCC Chair

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

Candi Blackford, Clerk



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Quick overview of new DOE PPA program

APPROVED
8-5-2025



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Laura Osiadacz, BOCC Chair

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Candi Blackford, Clerk