

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

MONDAY

2:30 P.M.

AUGUST 4, 2025

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

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Office Administrator; Curtis Bryan, Field Manager for the Bureau of Land Management (Webex); Josh Fredrickson, Public Works Director; Chad Bala, CDS Director; Jamey Ayling, Planning Official; Brad Gasawski, Planner I; Ben Kokjer, Chief Deputy.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Osiadacz noted that the Board had received two separate comments from Pat Kelleher dated for June 17th, 2025 at 12:12 p.m., titled Recreation Funding Request and 12:16 p.m., titled Yakima RV Park.

UPDATE

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Osiadacz opened a Special Meeting to receive updates from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Curtis Bryan, Field Manager for the BLM, gave an overview on the general management of the Yakima River Canyon Recreation Site Management Plan. He shared that they are understaffed and have been unable to hire any seasonal help this year. He gave updates on the acquired properties at Bighorn and Lower Umtanum. He stated that the Umtanum site is limited to walk-in access only and the Big Horn Site has had staffing changes and is day use only this year. He reported that the changes have been met with minimal upset from users and they were pleasantly surprised by this. Commissioner Wright questioned boat usage at the site, and Mr. Bryan stated it's been anecdotal. Commissioner Wright questioned BLM's progress on the undesignated launch sites, and Mr. Bryan stated that they are working on developing safe access. Mr. Bryan gave a preliminary update on BLM's Recreation Management Plan for the Yakima River Canyon. He stated that they have focus groups that are tackling plans for integration and use for the fall - winter but the focus groups will help to determine where BLM's energy and effort is best spent. Mr. Bryan

updated the Board on BLM's preparation for Wildfires. He stated that going into the season they were very concerned about staffing as they have gaps in suppression resources but this years weather has been encouraging however, they have plenty of the season left. He stated that for now they are staying on top of it and BLM has good relationships with their partner agencies that they can lean on in areas they are spread thin.

OTHER BUSINESS

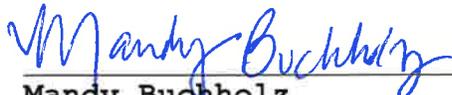
Mr. Bryan updated the Board on the Recreation program in the Canyon. He stated that for guide services, they have a permit most users obtain however, the Evening Hatch has not and they have reached out and encouraged them obtain one as well since they have been opposed to get a permit in the past but are working on regular outreach.

Commissioner Osiadacz questioned how things in Liberty are going this year. Mr. Bryan stated that traffic has been very typical and they have respectful users of the site that are very quiet and just good to work with.

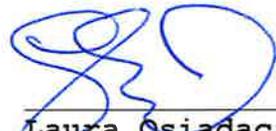
The Board thanked Mr. Bryan for the updates.

The meeting was concluded at 3:05 p.m.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR


Mandy Buchholz

KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Laura Osiadacz, Chairman