

KITTITAS COUNTY
FINANCE STUDY SESSION MINUTES
BOCC CONFERENCE ROOM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 108 - ELLENSBURG

THURSDAY	1:30 PM	SEPT 18, 2025
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Board members present: Chairman Laura Osiadacz, Commissioner Brett Wachsmith

Staff Present: Budget and Finance Director, Zack DeHaven, Auditor, Bryan Elliott, Treasurer, Amy Cziske, Lisa Murray, Andrew Yoder, Sue Patterson, Patti Stacey

Others: Pat Kelleher

1. **Call to Order: 1:30pm**
2. **Citizen Comments – None**
3. **Preliminary Budget Review (Information Only)**

Zack DeHaven reviews the preliminary 2026 Budget. The most up to date version of the working preliminary budget was distributed. The General Fund deficit is currently estimated at \$6.3M. Zack provided an overview of countywide financial activity, including both expenses and revenues. He highlighted the top five categories in each area to illustrate key drivers of the county's financial position.

A review of non-departmental county contracts was discussed and decided upon.

Yakima Humane Society was **approved**.

Kittitas County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) was **approved**

Upper Kittitas County Transportation Services agreement between Hopesource and Kittitas County **approved**.

Upper Kittitas County Senior Center is being **continued**.

Kittitas County Regional Library Board is being **continued**.

4. **Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) Current Usage and Changes (Information Only)**

Zack DeHaven discusses the new changes with REET 1 and REET 2 funding. House Bill 1791 went into effect and any revenues raised under REET 1 may now be eligible for REET 2 and vice versa. This brings more flexibility for upcoming projects. A joint meeting with Public Works is requested to review projects and their funding.

APPROVED

10/21/25

5. 2nd Round of 2025 Budget Amendments (Discussion)

Zack DeHaven reviews the proposed amendments to the 2025 budget. Typically, three resolutions annually happen May, October and Dec. Discussion was had to change to a twice a year process. Commissioners agree with no concerns.

6. Central Services Committee (CSC) 2nd Quarter Report (Discussion)

2nd quarter report for the CSC is out for review and can be located on the Camas page under Committees.

7. State Financial Audit Update (Discussion)

Zack DeHaven reported that the State Auditors are still in the process of completing the county's audit and it is unlikely to be finalized by the September 30 deadline. He noted that the county will not receive a finding related to the State's delay, provided that all required county documentation is submitted by September 30.

8. Other Business

Zack DeHaven discusses CDS is leasing 3 vehicles with Enterprise and selling 8 Vehicles. Zack DeHaven will sign the agreement with Enterprise. **All 2 board members agree.**

Patti Stacey informs the Board that the EOC/SAR project bids are in, and the lowest bid is \$2.9M. This bid does not include tax.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM



Sue Patterson

Accountant Assistant III

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Laura Osładacz, Chairman