



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

Public Health Study Session  
November 26, 2025  
at 10:00 am  
Commissioners' Conference Room  
Meeting Minutes

Present: Laura Osiadacz (chair), Cory Wright

Absent: Brett Wachsmith

Others: Chelsey Loeffers, Candi Blackford, Erin Moore, Kasey Knutson, Mark Larson MD, Bryan Elliott (Kittitas County Auditor's Office), Zach DeHaven (Kittitas County Auditor's Office)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Laura Osiadacz

**Citizen Comment:** None

**Department Business**

**Agenda Item Addition**

Chelsey Loeffers added an agenda item:

- Health Officer Update

**Request to Approve Kittitas County Public Health Department Closure for Annual Archiving Day.**

The Kittitas County Public Health Department closes one day annually for archiving.

11.01: Motion to approve Resolution 2025-232 to approve the closure of the Public Health Department on December 12, 2025, for its annual archiving day. Cory Wright moved to approve Resolution 2025-232 to approve the closure of the Public Health Department on December 12, 2025, for its annual archiving day. Laura Osiadacz second. All approved. Motion carried to approve Resolution 2025-232 to approve the closure of the Public Health Department on December 12, 2025, for its annual archiving day.

**HopeSource Invoicing and Fiscal Procedures Discussion**

Chelsey Loeffers informed the board that HopeSource was transitioning to a "Whole Person Care" model. Bryan Elliott, Zach DeHaven, and Katie Odiaga met with HopeSource to discuss what their needs were. HopeSource is trying to figure out how to be able to bill for the new "Whole Person Care" model and utilize more resources. This would require them to do more specific itemize billing with staff time allocations. The county has requested a policy noting cost allocation and metric data. HopeSource was

APPROVED

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meeting to discuss this today and hoping to have communication from them soon in response to the counties' request.

Chelsey Loeffers also inquired about how to move forward with HopeSource in regard to the 1/10<sup>th</sup> Behavioral Health Contract that is currently in place and the ask to shift funds around. The purpose of the shift is not clear, and the commissioners would like further clarification. After discussing the program and shift in funds the board decided that they would like to meet with HopeSource. They would like to meet with them to get a better understanding of what those funds would be used for since it is a big shift in funds. The board directed the health department to set up a special meeting in December.

#### Health Officer Report

Dr. Mark Larson discussed future communication outreach the department will be doing to get the message out that vaccines are still safe despite what people may be reading on the internet. Vaccine rates in Kittitas County are down. Dr. Larson discussed the potential of a measles outbreak happening in 2026 due to low vaccination rates. The group discussed concerns about low vaccine rates and populations/professions that are at more risk than others.

#### Other

Cory Wright asked what happened to the Hearings Examiner appeal. Mrs. Loeffers noted that after distributing documents to the Hearings Examiner and Attorney Jeff Slothower, Mr. Slothower withdrew the waiver appeal. Mrs. Loeffers noted that there would likely be another application for the waiver in the future.

Meeting concluded at 10:56am

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura Osiadacz", written over a horizontal line.

Laura Osiadacz, BOCC Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Candi Blackford", written over a horizontal line.

Candi Blackford, Clerk