

**KITTITAS COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS STUDY SESSION MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109**

MONDAY

1:30 PM

JUNE 08, 2026

Board members present: Vice-Chairman Brett Wachsmith and Commissioner Laura Osiadacz.

Others: Joshua Fredrickson, Arden Thomas, Lisa Godden, Public Works; Stephanie Hartung, Kittitas County Prosecutor's Office; No member of the public.

At 1:30 PM Vice-Chairman Brett Wachsmith opened the Public Works Study Session.

NO CITIZEN COMMENTS

APPROVE LETTERS REGARDING BROADBAND PROJECT PERMITTING SUPPORT

Joshua Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the County's rural broadband expansion work and the current construction issues affecting the Edgemont and Thorp-area of the project. Joshua Fredrickson reported that BNSF-related permitting invoices presented to the service provider increased from approximately \$50,000 to approximately \$450,000 without supporting explanation.

Joshua Fredrickson advised that additional documentation is needed to support any reimbursable grant expense and that, if the issue is not resolved, approximately 60 parcels may not be served under the project. Joshua Fredrickson requested Board support to send letters seeking assistance in facilitating discussions regarding the permitting issue.

Commissioner Laura Osiadacz motioned to approve the letters seeking assistance, Vice Chairman Brett Wachsmith seconded the Motion.

Motion passed.

2026 RURAL AREA DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Arden Thomas briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the 2026 Rural Area Drought Management Program. Staff reported that this is the fourth consecutive drought year and that proratable users are expected to receive a reduced water supply, with irrigation deliveries anticipated to end earlier than in a normal year.

2026-06-08 MINUTES

APPROVED

June 11, 2026

Staff reviewed the County's drought-notification obligations under the settlement agreement and outlined proposed outreach measures, including website updates, a press release, Board of County Commissioners' Facebook posts, a water-efficiency brochure, and postcards to mitigation package holders with indoor-only packages reminding them to use their irrigation source rather than exempt wells for outdoor watering.

The Board discussed how best to reach renters and occupants who may not receive mailed notice, including use of the physical site address and additional clarifying language in public materials.

Staff was directed to proceed with the outreach effort, to evaluate use of physical-site mailing addresses where appropriate, and to update messaging so renters may contact the office with questions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 1:47 PM the Board of County Commissioners announced they would recess into Executive Session for 5 minutes with Joshua Fredrickson and Stephanie Hartung per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b), to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price. Possible Action.

At 1:52 PM the Board of County Commissioners reconvened out of Executive Session requesting an additional 10 minutes for further discussion.

At 2:02 PM the Board of County Commissioners reconvened out of Executive Session.

No Action Taken.

NO OTHER BUSINESS

Meeting concluded at 2:02 PM

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER:
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Lisa Godden,

Administrative Assistant



Brett Wachsmith,

Vice-Chairman