

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
REGULAR MEETING**

**MONDAY**

**9:00 A.M.**

**JULY 20, 2026**

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

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Office Administrator; Jodi Larsen, Office Administrator; Chad Bala, CDS Director; Bryan Elliott, Auditor; Jeanne Killgore, HR Director; Maria Gomez - Rios, District Court Administrator and one member of the public.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**OFFICE STAFF MEETING**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At 9:00 a.m. Chairman Wright opened the Office Administration meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE**

**CALENDAR**

**WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed their weekly calendar.

**PAF/VOUCHERS**

**REVIEW OF PAF'S & VOUCHERS**

**COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of County Commissioners approved and signed County Employee Personnel Action Forms and Vouchers.

**CORRESPONDENCE LOG**

**REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE LOG**

**COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed the weekly Correspondence Log, a listing of all incoming mail and correspondence for the week ending July 17, 2026.

**UPDATE**

**WHITE BOARD**

**COMMISSIONERS**

The Board reviewed their current whiteboard topics and provided status updates.

**DISCUSSION**

**COUNTY FACEBOOK**

**COMMISSIONERS**

The Board determined that for the week of July 20, 2026, they would post the following on their Facebook page: County Employee Milestones; County/City Joint ADU Meeting set for August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026; and a Message from Chairman Cory Wright to wrap up his time in office.

**APPROVED**  
2026/08/04

**REQUEST****COG/COUNTY/CWU - TFG****AUDITOR**

Bryan Elliott, Chair of the Conference of Governments (COG) and Kittitas County Auditor, presented a request for the Board to consider Kittitas County's participation in a Regional Advocacy and Federal Funding Strategy Consortium with The Ferguson Group, the Kittitas County Council of Governments, and Central Washington University. Mr. Elliott stated that the proposal would provide federal advocacy, legislative monitoring, strategic funding planning, and grant consulting services to consortium members. He explained that the County's base contribution would remain at its current funding level of \$72,000 annually, with an option to provide limited contingency funding to assist smaller member jurisdictions, not to exceed a total County contribution of \$100,000 per year. The Board discussed the proposed regional collaboration and funding structure.

Commissioner Osiadacz moved to approve Kittitas County's participation in the Regional Advocacy and Federal Funding Strategy Consortium with The Ferguson Group, members of the Conference of Governments, and Central Washington University, under the funding structure presented in the Staff Report, including a base County contribution of \$72,000 for the 2027 contract year and a total annual County contribution not to exceed \$100,000. Chairman Wright seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

**REQUEST****LEGAL PROCESS ASSISTANT****LOWER DIST COURT**

Maria Gomez, Lower District Court Administrator, presented a request for the Board to consider reinstating the 7th Legal Process Assistant position to Lower District Court and approving a budget amendment to allow the position to be filled immediately.

Ms. Gomez explained that Lower District Court was aware during the 2026 budget process of upcoming system changes from JIS to Enterprise Justice. In preparation for those changes, the Court requested overtime funding. However, it has become apparent that the overtime allotted will not be sufficient as a long-term solution.

Ms. Gomez stated that the 7th Legal Process Assistant position is already included on the approved organizational chart but has not been filled since 2024.

Commissioner Osiadacz moved to approve and authorize Lower District Court to fill their 7<sup>th</sup> Legal Process Assistant position and approve a Budget Amendment to allow the position to be immediately filled. Chairman Wright seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

**UPDATE****BOCC/ DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS****COMMISSIONERS**

Each Commissioner was assigned three different Department Heads to

meet with on a weekly basis for the year. The assignments for 2026 were determined during a Board of County Commissioners Office Admin meeting and they will continue to provide updates at future meetings.

Each Commissioner reviewed discussions held with their respective departments and exchanged details of those meetings.

**OTHER BUSINESS/GENERAL UPDATES** - There were general updates on meetings & conversations that the Board participated in, individually, over the past week.

Meeting concluded at 9:17 a.m.

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**

  
Mandy Buchholz

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
Cory Wright, Chairman