



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

Public Health Study Session
July 22, 2026
at 10:00 am
Commissioners' Conference Room
Meeting Minutes

Present: Laura Osiadacz, Cory Wright

Absent: Brett Wachsmith

Others: Chelsey Loeffers, Candi Blackford, Kasey Knutson, Erin Moore

No citizens present for public comment

Other Business

IT Purchases

Zane Kinney provided a staff report that reviewed the rotation of technology practice for all organizations to stay up to date. The IT department had limited time to arrange this purchase, but they are taking advantage of special pricing. If allowed to purchase items, it saves the county approximately \$10,000.00. Total cost for the purchase will not exceed \$150,000.00.

The board did not express any concerns with purchase as it was already budgeted for in the ETF for 2026.

Department Business

Approve Resolution Authorizing a Recurring Monthly Closure of KCPHD for All-Staff Meetings

Erin Moore discussed the department's ask for closing the office one day a month from 3-4pm for monthly all staff meetings. The Kittitas County Public Health Department currently operates with staff assigned across multiple divisions, programs, and work locations. Establishing a recurring monthly all-staff meeting provides a consistent opportunity for department-wide communication, organizational updates, training, emergency preparedness activities, cross-program coordination, and employee engagement.

Scheduling these meetings during normal business hours allows all employees to participate without requiring overtime or extended workdays. A predictable one-hour monthly closure also allows the public to plan accordingly and minimizes disruption compared to scheduling intermittent closures throughout the year.

Chelsey Loeffers agreed to the board's request that only required staff would attend Board of Health meetings. Motion 07.01: Motion to approve Resolution 2026-132 to Authorize a Recurring Monthly Closure of the Kittitas County Public Health Department for All-Staff Meetings. Laura Osiadacz moved to approve Resolution 2026-132 to Authorize a Recurring Monthly Closure of the Kittitas County Public

APPROVED
a/1/2026



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Health Department for All-Staff Meetings. Cory Wright second. All approved. Motion 07.01 carried to approve Resolution 2026-132 to Authorize a Recurring Monthly Closure of the Kittitas County Public Health Department for All-Staff Meetings.

Approve Recommendation on Use of Liquor Excise Tax and Profits

Kasey Knutson discussed that public health is not the best fit for the Liquor Excise Tax. The department would like to recommend the county devote the required two percent of Kittitas County's share of liquor taxes and Profits to support the Kittitas County Jail's substance use disorder program. After working with the Kittitas County Auditor's office the average amount of those funds is small, annually, about \$2,730.

The Kittitas County Jail recently requested additional funding for its program and has explained that other funding sources have gone away. The program at the jail also utilizes our 1/10th of 1% mental health and substance use disorder tax funding as well as opioid settlement funding.

Although it is a small amount of funding, we know the jail will utilize any funds to support their program in addition to other county funds. Utilizing an internal county office for the funds will also decrease any staff time for oversight.

Both Laura Osiadacz and Cory Wright approved the recommendation.

Health Officer Update

No Health Officer update this month.

Other

Chelsey Loeffers asked for a letter from Cory Wright noting documentation concerns from meetings with Hopesource. Commissioner Wright noted that he would do this before he left.

Meeting concluded at 10:09 am.

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BOCC Chair

A blue ink signature, likely of Candi Blackford, written over a horizontal line.

Candi Blackford, Clerk