

**KITTITAS COUNTY
SOLID WASTE AND MAINTENANCE MINUTES
BOCC CONFERENCE ROOM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 108 - ELLENSBURG
Regular Meeting**

TUESDAY	2:00 PM	August 11, 2026
Board members present: Chairman Brett Wachsmith and Laura Osiadacz Vice-Chairman		

Others: Patti Stacey, Jesse Cox, Cody Cupp, Charlie Smith, Erica Luce and one member of the public

Call to Order at 2:00pm

Citizen Comments (1 min. time limit): None

Closed Ryegrass Balefill Update: Jesse informed the Board he is currently working with engineers and waiting for their review of the site's condition. After the review is received, the department will have a better idea of how to monitor and manage the site to regulation standards in the most cost efficient way for the County.

Discuss Ryegrass Liquid Waste Lagoons: Jesse informed the Board the permitting agency for the land application of biosolids has determined the County may lose ability to land apply within three years at the Ryegrass facility. Discussion was held on the significant cost and infrastructure required to keep up with the growing amount of septage the County receives and the issue of not having a guaranteed solution for sustainable disposal and keeping disposal fees feasible for septage pumpers. Further discussion included reaching out to the City of Ellensburg and the need to put a plan in place within the next six months.

Septage Fee Update: Jesse presented a yearly revenue and cost tracking spreadsheet for the Ryegrass Liquid Waste Lagoon facility to the Board. Discussion was held on the recent state requirements for septic tanks to be pumped during property transfers and the projected increase of septage the County will receive. Further discussion was held on the history of the lagoons. Patti informed the Board the State has changed the terms of "beneficial use", rates and methods the County can land apply; approved application fields are smaller, making the task more labor intensive and expensive.

Lower County Transfer Station Material Stockpile Removal Update: Jesse informed the Board the City is requiring the dirt stockpile from construction of the new Lower Valley Transfer Station to be moved. Jesse explained the cost to move the estimated 30,000 yds of dirt is approximately \$700,000.00. The County plans to use the dirt as cover at the Ryegrass LPL.

Discuss New Lower County Transfer Station Wind Impacts: Jesse informed the Board he is aware of the public feedback about wind issues at the new transfer station and is currently

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working with engineers to remediate issues. Patti informed the Board the engineers are currently conducting a wind study and will modify designs after reviewing the study results.

Request Board Approval and Chair's Signature on Change Order #15 with Belsaas and Smith Construction, Inc: Patti explained to the Board C.O. #15 included small "cleanup" change orders along with electrical and infill on the MRW building to reduce wind impacts. Vice-Chairman Osiadacz moved to approve Chair's signature on C.O. #15 with Belsaas & Smith, Inc; Chairman Wachsmith seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Former Lower County Transfer Station Site Remediation Update: Jesse informed the Board Parametrix is working on the draft remediation plan; the plan has also been shared with WM for review. Brief discussion was held on the lease history and the City's potential plans for the site.

Direction to Proceed with Establishing a Separate Study Session for the Solid Waste Department: Jesse proposed establishing separate study sessions for the Solid Waste and Maintenance departments. Discussion was held on formal protocol on separating sessions. Vice-Chairman Osiadacz made a motion to separate the study sessions; Chairman Wachsmith seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Saniglaze Discussion: Cody explained to the Board the need for polishing the public restrooms in the Courthouse. Cody presented product samples and a proposal from Pacific Modular and explained the benefits of the product including updated look, easier surface to clean, is anti-microbial as well as less cost and downtime than a full remodel. Cody estimated they could complete at least one bathroom with the 2026 budget. Patti explained the company was on the State's Sourcewell list. The Board directed Cody to request a quote for the restroom most in need of repair and proceed with the project.

Facilities Project Updates – Jail, Rodeo Arena & EOC: Cody informed the Board the framing project for the Jail's skylights is ongoing and the doors are scheduled to be installed this week. The final backpunch for the Rodeo Arena is scheduled for this Wednesday and the ribbon cutting ceremony is taking place tonight. Cody informed the Board contractors are beginning to erect the EOC building and the generator is currently enroute from Texas.

Request Board's Approval for Chair's Signature on Change Order No.3 for the Search & Rescue/EOC: Patti explained to the Board there were issues getting the secondary conductors to the building due to P.U.D. changing locations. Patti informed the Board work for C.O. #3 also consisted of widening the driveway for the generator access and tree clearing for the flagpole on site. Vice-Chairman Osiadacz moved to approve Chair's signature on C.O. #3 for the Search & Rescue/EOC; Chairman Wachsmith seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Maintenance Updates: Cody informed the Board several Courthouse mini splits are at end of life and are in need of replacement before winter. Cody informed the Board he found a company that can do night work at the Jail; specifically cleaning the kitchen, including hood vents. Brief discussion was held on past contractors and contract terms.

Other Business – No Action to be Taken

Concluded 2:48pm

Executive Session - Chairman Wachsmith called an Executive Session to order at 2:48 p.m. and announced per RCW 42.30.110 (c), the Board would recess into session for 12 minutes, with no anticipated action, to discuss the consideration of selecting 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. At 3:00 p.m. the Board reconvened from executive session.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm



Erica Luce

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Brett Wachsmith, Chairman