

**KITTITAS COUNTY
EC STUDY SESSION MINUTES
BOCC CONFERENCE ROOM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 108 - ELLENSBURG
Regular Meeting**

WEDNESDAY	10:00 AM	June 10, 2020
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Board members present: Chairman Brett Wachsmith (via Web Ex), Vice-Chairman Laura Osiadacz (via Web Ex), Commissioner Cory Wright (via Web Ex)

Others: Kady Porterfield (Event Center Director), Becky Sherley (Fair Board President), Julie Kjorsvik (Clerk of the Board), Lacie Dawson (Event Center Program Manager) – all via Web Ex.

1. Call to Order: Chairman Brett Wachsmith called the meeting to order at 10:00am to discuss Event Center Business

2. COVID Event and Rental Updates:

Per Kady, KVEC is working on adjusting operating plans to comply with COVID best practices. She is working with the legal department to ensure proper communication with events, including contract language, as we prepare to enter Phase 3. The office will remain closed until Phase 4, except for appointments for tours or immediate business needs.

Good progress is being made with the new booking software, will begin training soon.

Kady has researched to see if there was a specific county use policy for the Event Center. She was able to locate a previously written policy but there was never a resolution put in place. Commissioner Osiadacz stated that a resolution was not passed because there was no final agreement, it was still a work in progress. Kady will work on a rental policy and will seek commissioner input as it is drafted.

3. COVID Fair Updates:

Kady stated that while on a conference call with the WA Department of Agriculture, there is currently projected to be a 50% cut in fair funding for the next year. This would affect premium payments to the fairs.

Becky stated the Fair Board will likely prolong the final decisions as to what the fair will consist of this year. They are currently discussing cancelling the big name entertainers (their contracts need to be cancelled sooner than others), as there will

be no lodging for them due to CWU starting earlier this year. The early start for CWU also means loss of parking. The fair and rodeo executive boards met last night to discuss and coordinate the events. The number one priority for the fair is to keep the livestock shows going. If we are able, will add in food, entertainment, etcetera. Becky spoke with Rep. Dent about possibly bringing together a fair council consisting of the remaining uncanceled fairs. She is waiting for further information from them. The rodeo is still being planned and moving forward as normal and making contingency plans. Likely there will not be a final decision for fair and rodeo until August 1st.

4. Approve to Proceed with 4th of July Fireworks Show

Kady has been working with both the city and local fire department and they are in support of the show. Due to the department hiring freeze, utility savings and training/travel cuts she is able to cover the additional \$7500 to do the show. The rodeo hilltop would be used again this year. Dr. Larson also is supportive of this event. The city has not gotten back to Kady yet about possible funding. Kady is also working with the city on a drive-in movie night.

All 3 commissioners are in favor of proceeding with the fire works show.

Commissioner Wright encouraged Kady to continue seeking partnerships with the city.

5. Special Projects

KVEC is hosting a blood drive today, will host another on 10/12/2020. The spaces filled up within three days, excellent community support. Many county employees signed up to donate.

The rodeo arena LED lighting project is complete and the L&I inspection is done. There are still six lights by the roping boxes, under the seating, that aren't LED. The rebate from the city should be in soon and Kady is working on grant reimbursements.

The Buckaroo stands project is still ongoing. Currently working on getting quotes on spray foam insulation, which should solve the condensation problems – will do a small work bid request. She is working with both Patti Johnson and Mike Flory as needed.

The stock panels will be built at the end of the month and should be shipped to us soon. Once we are into Phase 4, we will possibly partner with the Ellensburg Rodeo Top Hands to get them installed behind the Gold Buckle.

Kady has turned in the lodging tax application for operations. Kady asked if she should also apply for the small capital project one as well. Per Commissioner Osiadacz, the large ones only come up every few years due to funding constraints and she would encourage Kady to apply for the small one for this year.

Kady is also working on KVEC policies, the emergency plan, and a draft for a capital improvement plan.

6. BOCC/COVID-19 Planning & Updates:

None

7. Other Business:

Commissioner Wachsmith thanked Kady for her continued hard work, as well as her staff. They have made many improvements to the facility and operations.

8. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned by Commissioner Wachsmith at 10:27


Kady Porterfield

KITTITAS COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Brett Wachsmith, Chairman