

**KITTITAS COUNTY  
LAW AND JUSTICE STUDY SESSION MINUTES  
COMMISSIONERS' AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109 - ELLENSBURG  
Regular Meeting**

<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>8:02 AM</b>	<b>January 6, 2021</b>
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**Board members present:** Brett Wachsmith Chairman, Commissioners Cory Wright, Laura Osiadacz (via WebEx).

**Others via WebEx:** Sheriff Clay Myers, Inspector Chris Whitsett and Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager.

Budget Process & Responsibility – Sheriff Myers discussed the budget process and outlined concern with the board giving direction and a timeline, then making changes to significant items (body cams) prior to the timeline. Outlining the negative staff-times and equipment priorities

Commissioner Wright discussed communication concerns with impacts to IT and potential policy changes to support a broader request process for large ticket items.

Sheriff Myers and Inspector Whitsett clarified the impacts to IT would be minimal.

Commissioner Osiadacz shared concerns over this year's tight timelines and acknowledged the importance of these types of clarifying meetings.

The Board clarified it's rationale in requesting the cuts and Chairman Wachsmith voiced support of a budget adjustment to support body cams, but not an amendment.

Current Mandates – Sheriff Myers asked if the board received additional direction from State or IMT on establishing Regions. Commissioner Osiadacz indicated the reasoning is due to medical and migration of people, lumping us in with Benton Franklin, Yakima, Columbia, and Walla Walla. She stated the Board is objecting. Sheriff Myers voiced concern, as EM director, on potential impacts to the current statewide system and long-standing processes.

Commissioner Wright asked Sheriff Myers if he would be interested in an executive session with prosecutor and the board on this. Sheriff agreed.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 AM

  
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Kim Dawson

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
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Brett Wachsmith, Chairman

**APPROVED**  
2/16/21