

**KITTITAS COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S STUDY SESSION - SPECIAL MINUTES  
COMMISSIONERS' AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109 - ELLENSBURG  
Special Meeting**

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>July 18, 2022</b>
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**Board members present:** Commissioner Cory Wright, Commissioner Brett Wachsmith

**Others:** Sheriff Clay Myers, Inspector Chris Whitsett, Deputy Prosecutor III Attorney Neil Caulkins, Solid Waste Director Patti Stacey

Discuss BNSF (Burlington Northern Santa Fe) Property: Regarding the SAR building on Railroad Road, Sheriff Myers relayed the Sheriff's Office's lease ends September 1, 2022, and they are almost out. However, they learned the building belonged to a private entity and moreover, the lease states the S.O. must remove all improvements. Sheriff deferred to Attorney Caulkins for options on how to proceed since there is another private party who wants the building as-is. After much discussion, it was decided Inspector Whitsett was to reach out to the private party and he with SW Director Stacey will work on the RFP, and the Prosecutor's Office should handle all paperwork.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Abatement Messaging Plan: Inspector Whitsett recognized Attorney Caulkins' current work on abatement enforcements in the county, and he recommended using these opportunities to teach the community about the abatement process. Essentially, have one public message that could include a step-by-step of the impact to safety and replacement process, and Sheriff Myers advised it to be an educational message as well. Inspector Whitsett continued, the message should be one voice of the county working together, and Attorney Caulkins suggested bringing in other departments such as Public Works, Public Health, Code Enforcement, as well as board members. Commissioner Wright also stressed the importance of having the psychology of the abatement ready and to speak with CDS Director Dan Carlson to get the psychology put in place this next month. The Sheriff agreed to assist, and he added the psychology sets the priority for public health and land impact. Commissioner Wright inquired as to a timeline, and Attorney Caulkins believed he could focus on the messaging this fall.

Meeting adjourned at 10:23AM

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



**Anita Mishina**



**Cory Wright, Commissioner**

**APPROVED**  
8-16-22