

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY**

**11:00 A.M.**

**AUGUST 8, 2023**

Board members present: Chairman Cory Wright; Vice-Chairman Brett Wachsmith; and Commissioner Laura Osiadacz.

Others: Kate Jimenez, Administrative Assistant, Jeanne Killgore, HR Director, Greg Zempel, Prosecutor, Eileen Murphy, Public Defense Director, Brian Carlson, Budget and Finance Director, Andrew Yoder, Accountant II Auditor's Office, Elisha Harvill, Chief Administrator Prosecutor Office, Jodi Hammond, Chief Criminal Deputy Prosecutor Office.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**ATTORNEY RECURITMENT**

**PROSECUTOR**

Chairman Wright opened a Special meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Greg Zempel discussed the current need for raising salaries in the Prosecutor's office. Mr. Zempel explained the challenges they have been facing in employee recruitment and retention. Mr. Zempel partnered with Brian Carlson, Budget, and Finance Director to put together a wage salary increase proposal based off their salary research to be presented to the Board.

Brian Carlson presented options for the Prosecuting Office salary range increases.

Chairman Wright asked if the salary range proposal was all based off 1 data point, the Cabot Dow data. Jodi Hammond, Chief Criminal Deputy Prosecutor, said it is based off more than 1 data point, they also use the data such as the 39 Washington county wage disclosure reports.

There was discussion regarding what the plan for implementation of salary changes will be.

The Board discussed fairness of the proposed plan and if there is enough data from the Cabot Dow study and Department vacancies to move forward with a decision of salary change immediately. It was discussed that given the current case overload for County

**APPROVED**

8.15.23

attorneys there is a urgent public need to adopt a salary increase.

Chairman Wright said they would adopt the DPA (Deputy Prosecuting Attorney) 3 and Chief and Director Salary Scale. numb

Chairman Wright would like HR to draft a Resolution to retro pay the DPA 2 and 1 salaries.

- Jeanne Killgore, HR Director, Eileen Murphy, Public Defense Director, Brian Carlson, Budget and Finance Director, Andrew Yoder, Accountant II Auditor's Office, Elisha Harvill, Chief Administrator Prosecutor Office, Jodi Hammond, Chief Criminal Deputy Prosecutor Office left at 11:50 a.m.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **PROSECUTOR**

At 11:50 a.m. Chairman Wright announced the Board would recess into Executive Session with Greg Zempel, Prosecutor, under RCW 42.30.140(4), To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. However, subject to RCW 42.30.140(4), discussion by a governing body of salaries, wages, and other conditions of employment to be generally applied within the agency shall occur in a meeting open to the public, and when a governing body elects to take final action hiring, setting the salary of an individual employee or class of employees, or discharging or disciplining an employee, that action shall be taken in a meeting open to the public; for five (5) minutes. There was no action anticipated.

At 11:55 a.m. the Board reconvened out of Executive Session. There was no action taken.

At 11:55 a.m. Chairman Wright announced the Board would recess back into Executive Session with Greg Zempel, Prosecutor, under RCW 42.30.140(4), To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. However, subject to RCW 42.30.140(4), discussion by a governing body of salaries, wages, and other conditions of

employment to be generally applied within the agency shall occur in a meeting open to the public, and when a governing body elects to take final action hiring, setting the salary of an individual employee or class of employees, or discharging or disciplining an employee, that action shall be taken in a meeting open to the public; for five (5) minutes. There was no action anticipated.

At 12:00 p.m. the reconvened out of Executive Session. There was no action taken.

Meeting concluded at 12:00 P.M.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**



**Kate Jimenez**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



**Cory Wright, Chairman**