

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
WEBEX  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY**

**3:30 P.M.**

**JANUARY 13, 2021**

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

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Deputy Clerk of the Board II; Lisa Young, Human Resources Director; Judy Pless, Budget and Finance Director; Clay Myers, Sheriff; Dan Carlson, CDS Director; Mark Cook, Public Works Director; Mike Flory, Building Official; Christopher Horner, DPA III; Doug Mitchell, DPA III; Chris Whitsett, Inspector; Taylor Crouch, Deputy Clerk of the Board I and 4 members of the public.

**DISCUSSION                      ADMIN LEAVE COVID - 19 QUESTIONS                      COMMISSIONERS**

Sheriff Myers asked the Board for input on using Paid Admin Leave, for COVID-19 as they use Paid Admin Leave for different reasons not just discipline. They used it prior to the federal funding coming available, so now that the leave is gone, they planned to return to that practice. He reviewed scenarios where it would be used currently and stated that in his opinion there is not a budget impact by doing this. Lisa Young, HR Director reviewed the policy and stated its their opinion that an employee's sick leave should be used as it would for any other illness, as it's a benefit the County offers to it's employee's. She stated that one option would be to create a bank that employees could donate to for folks to use for COVID-19 specific leave if an employee is out of sick leave, but we can't be spreading whatever a sick employee has. There are other options to use including comp-time, vacation leave or even FMLA if it's a significantly long term illness. There was discussion over policy amendments that could be made or that are in existence. Inspector Whitsett stated that they also have situations where folks are asymptomatic but have tested positive and he doesn't want to discourage them from being forthright about symptoms and testing, even when they feel ok. There was discussion on the risk to County employees working around employees who are asymptomatic or have minimal symptoms. The Board asked Lisa Young, HR Director, Judy Pless, Budget and Finance Manager, Clay Myers, Sheriff and their attorney's to work through this and come back to meet with the Board on 1/21/2021 at 9:00 a.m. and present options for the Board to consider.

**DISCUSSION                      UPPER COUNTY TRUCK TRAFFIC                      COMMISSIONERS**

**APPROVED**  
2/2/21

