

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

AUGUST 31, 2021

Board members present: Chairman Brett Wachsmith & Vice-Chairman Laura Osiadacz. Excused: Commissioner Cory Wright.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Taylor Crouch, Administrative Assistant; Greg Zempel, Prosecutor; Val Barschaw, Clerk; Barb Demory, Lower District Court Administrator; Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager; Diana MacKenzie, Upper District Court Administrator; and Amy Cziske, Treasurer.

SPECIAL MEETING

BLAKE DECISION

PROSECUTOR


At 10:00 a.m. Chairman Wachsmith opened a meeting to receive an update on the Blake decision.

Greg Zempel, Prosecutor provide an update to the Commissioners on the Blake decision. He said they've been working on setting up the distribution plan with the Auditor's office and Courts. There is currently a group of defendants who are filing a class action lawsuit against Counties for more than their refund, but also want interest on the amount owed to them. Kittitas County has not been served as of this date. He reviewed the AOC distribution plan; monies that have been allocated for refunds to defendants; and monies allocated for costs of implementation of the Court's decision. He said they will work on the contract with the AOC as he doesn't believe the one proposed is acceptable. It was noted the current money allocated for refunding defendants will not cover everything and Mr. Zempel felt it was the State's obligation to cover it all.


Val Barschaw, Clerk, agreed with Prosecutor Zempel and that the proposed AOC contract is unacceptable. She felt it's another burden to their office who is not in the profession of accounting or legal. Barb Demory, Lower County District Court Administrator said their Courts are different from Superior Court and they use a collection system, so she is unsure how they will obtain money back from them.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD


Julie Kjorsvik

**KITITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**


Brett Wachsmith, Chairman

APPROVED
9/21/21