

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

TUESDAY

1:30 P.M.

JANUARY 23, 2024

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

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Office Administrator; Amy McGuffin, Chief Executive Officer - Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce; Kelle Vandenberg, City of Ellensburg - Arts & Economic Development Manager; Kristine Miller, CenterFuse Executive Director.

SPECIAL MEETING

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

COMMISSIONERS

At 1:30 p.m. Chairman Wachsmith opened a Special Meeting to receive a quarterly update from the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce CEO/ADO.

Amy McGuffin, Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Officer, reviewed quarterly reports for recruiting and marketing activities; business retention and expansion activities; business assistance including start-ups; as well as readiness and capacity/asset building. She reviewed the Washington SBDC & ADO Partnership County Activity & Impact Report outlining case totals, company status, demographics and types of Counseling Activity provided in Q4.

She shared with the Board the SCORE Program they use and the benefits that come with that program, as well as plans and current location of their Advisor.

She stated that there is a requirement for regional marketing to be done by the ADO and she would like direction on what she can do to assist the County. The Board directed Ms. McGuffin to begin with development of a stand-alone airport website. Ms. McGuffin was given examples of what they would like to see and She was directed to make recommendations from the Chamber to the Board on how to move forward. They asked that she work with Josh Fredrickson, County Engineer/Airport Mgr., to do a presentation and then work those through the Airport Advisory Committee as well.

There was discussion on Sub-Area Planning Updates; Planning into the new biennium and discussion on whether or not we should start publicizing our shortfalls so the residents have a more realistic picture of the County's needs and support from the voters.

She updated the Board on a new lease out in Kittitas that will be where the SCORE Advisor will be located and they are currently trying to get in-home business to move into the site where they will get coaching etc., on how to grow their business.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Board reviewed a letter of support requested by the City of Ellensburg to submit to Senator Warnick in support of the City's Community Fieldhouse Project. Chairman Wachsmith noted that the letter was needed by end of business today. He proposed the letter be signed and ratified at the next Office Admin Meeting.

Vice-Chairman Osiadacz moved to approve and authorize Board signature on a letter of support for the City of Ellensburg's Community Fieldhouse Project as presented, noting it should be brought forward for ratification at the Board's Monday Office Admin Meeting. Commissioner Wright seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting concluded at 2:30 p.m.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR


Mandy Buchholz

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**


Brett Wachsmith, Chairman