

**KITTITAS COUNTY
SOLID WASTE AND MAINTENANCE MINUTES
BOCC CONFERENCE ROOM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 108 - ELLENSBURG
Special Meeting**

WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM	February 21, 2024
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Board members present: Chairman Brett Wachsmith, Laura Osiadacz Vice- Chairman, and Cory Wright Commissioner

Others: Patti Stacey, Lisa Lawrence. Zach DeHaven, Bryon Elliott, Brian Carlson, Clay Meyers, Steve Panattoni, Kylee Wuesthoff and one member of the Public

Call to Order at 9:00 a.m.

Citizen Comments (1 min. time limit) None

Discuss Future Courthouse and Jail Facility Options with Finance, Sheriff, and Treasurer:

Patti reminded the Board of the multiple studies that have been done on this project and presented the Board with a study prepared by DLR Group on five different options with or without a jail and the different costs options. She presented them with a jail breakdown prepared by KNIT with a cost of \$7.4 million for needed repairs and improvements. Discussion was held on the options presented.

Brian Carlson presented and went over the numbers in his staff report and explained what does and what does not need voter approval.

Discussion was held on the increased liabilities associated with the old jail including lawsuits due to weather impacts and providing comfortable housing. Further discussion included legislative changes and unfunded mandates, such as providing outdoor exercise facilities.

Discussion was held on the Grant County jail prefab cell model, noting the design build is less maintenance, includes more safety features, is expandable and is designed by the Company that provides the lock system to the current jail.

Discussion was held on funding, the continuity of Government, the possibility of contracting with other facilities or building a Criminal Justice Facility on another site. Discussion was held on the current jail bed count of 210 with a fill rate of 90 to 120, that the modular design is built in 120 bed increments, the need for additional housing for revenue, re-entry into the community, future services and that a 120-bed facility could be a starting point.

Discussion was held on the fact that if a Criminal Justice Facility was built that it would free up space in the Courthouse. Further discussion included the possibility of selling the satellite facilities and using the revenue towards the debt of a new facility and if 3/10th and 1/10th could help service the debt.

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Discussion was held on Sales Tax funds, increasing the lodging tax, putting it up for vote in 2026, forming a citizen advisory group, getting the message out to the public and continuing to look for alternative funding options. It was recommended to put this topic on a monthly study session to continue the conversation.

The Board directed staff to prepare costs per bed and per square foot to build a Criminal Justice Facility to present to the Management Team at the retreat.

Authorize Auditor's Signature on the Enterprise Fleet Management Assignment and Consignment Agreements. Bryon Elliott presented his staff report to the Board. Commissioner Osiadacz moved to approve Auditor's signature on Fleet Management agreements. Commissioner Wachsmith seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Other Business – No Action to be taken. None

Meeting Concluded at 10:06 a.m.



Lisa Lawrence

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**


Brett Wachsmith, Chairman