

**KITTITAS COUNTY**  
**FINANCE STUDY SESSION MINUTES**  
**BOCC AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109 - ELLENSBURG**  
**Regular Meeting**

|                 |                |                          |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>THURSDAY</b> | <b>1:30 PM</b> | <b>December 19, 2024</b> |
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**Board members present:** Chairman Brett Wachsmith, Commissioner Cory Wright, Commissioner Laura Osiadacz

**Staff Present:** Bryan Elliott, Auditor, Brian Carlson, Finance Director, Amy Cziske, Treasurer, Kylee Wuesthoff, Ben Kokjer, Cori McKean, Nick Henderson, Coroner

**Others:** Pat Kelleher and Claire Nicholls

1. **Call to Order:** 1:31 PM
2. **Citizen Comments** - none
3. **Approval of Contract Extension with Tara Dunford, CPA**

Mr. Carlson would like approval to extend the contract for 2025 to Tara Dunford, CPA.

**Commissioner Osiadacz makes a motion to approve the 2025 contract for Tara Dunford, CPA and Commissioner Wright seconded the motion and the motion passes.**

**4. Cle Elum Skate Park**

The City of Cle Elum has inquired about additional funding for the Skate Park too meet shortfalls resulting from prevailing wage impacts that were not contemplated in the original request. Commissioners Wright discusses the need for more information and Commissioner Osiadacz agrees to more information before a decision is made.

**5. Upper County Helipad**

Commissioner Osiadacz and Ben Kokjer from the Sheriff's office return to the topic of the maintenance needs for paving and lighting for the Upper County Helipad. The cost of repairs is not remembered. More information is needed.

**6. Upper County Recreation Center**

Claire Nicholls from the Upper Kittitas County Recreation Center discusses possible need for funding the Upper County Recreation Center. She is waiting for more information before she knows an exact cost. Commissioner Wright would like more information and more discussion before deciding. Commissioner Osiadacz agrees to more information.

**7. Treasurer Discussion Item-Cost Recovery Bill for 2025**

Amy Cziske the Treasurer discussed The Cost Recovery Bill. If fees are collected, she would like the service fees to go to the General fund to possible pay for another staff position which is estimated to be \$128K. No decision was made.

**8. Consideration of 2025 Appropriation for Morgue Feasibility Study**

Cori McKean from the Coroner’s office discusses the need for a feasibility study for a new Morgue for Kittitas County. The cost of the study is \$45K. The money will come from unused funds from 2024. **All 3 Commissioners agree to the Feasibility Study.**

**9. YTD November Financial Update**

Mr. Carlson discusses the end of the year financial update. General Fund Surplus is anticipated to be approximately \$3MM - \$4MM. The Budgeted deficit is approximately \$6.6MM

**10. 2025 Budget-Recap and next steps**

Mr. Carlson discusses priorities for 2025. Commissioners give feedback on this year’s budget meetings. The consensus were Communication between department heads and elected officials.

**11. BOCC Resource-Planning Priorities for 2025**

High impact topics for the BOCC to consider:

- 1. Financial Planning Policies
- 2. Union Contracts
- 3. Central Services Committee

**12. Other Business- NONE**

**13. Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)- NONE**

**14. Concluded -- 2:31PM**

Meeting adjourned at 2:31 PM



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**Brian Carlson**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



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**Brett Wachsmith, Chairman**