

BUDGET RETREAT
July 13, 2017 – 8:30 A.M.
Kittitas County Fairgrounds-Armory

Those Present:	Mandy Buchholz	Jim Goeben	Mike Stafford
	Paul Jewell	Julie Kjorsvik	Kari Elkins
	Brett Wachsmith	Greg Zempel	Robin Read
	Laura Osiadacz	Pat Gigstead	Mike Flory
	Obie O'Brien	Lucas Huck	Mark Cook
	Jill Scheffer	Judy Pless	Dan Carlson
	Liz Whitaker	Val Barschaw	Lisa Young
	Gene Dana	Angela Bugni	Sue Higginbotham
	Clayton Myers	Elishia Harvill	Stephanie Mifflin
	Diana MacKenzie	Sarah Keith	Paul Sander
	Jerry Pettit	Heather Siebert	Kasey Knutson
	Todd Davis	Kaitlyn Reddick	Christy Garcia
	Mike Hougardy	Tip Hudson	Barb Demory
	Christine Luvera	Patti Johnson	Tim Egan
	Scott Casey		
	Rep. Tom Dent	Senator Judy Warnick	

Chairman Jewell opened and welcomed all County Staff to the 2017 Budget Retreat, and reviewed the Agenda.

Commissioner Jewell provided an update regarding the County's PILT Funding allocation for 2018. He indicated that Kittitas County received more than they anticipated and reviewed how the funds get broke down and where they get used.

Commissioner Jewell introduced Representative Tom Dent and Senator Judy Warnick. Representative Dent & Senator Warnick provided a re-cap and highlights for them during their most recent Legislative Session. They provided an opportunity for the County Management Team to openly ask questions.

Lisa Young, HR Director and Commissioner Jewell provided a debriefing of the Wage Survey Implementation.

Commissioner Osiadacz updated the Management Team on the upcoming plans for the Board to consider following a meeting with the Freedom Foundation, after they requested the County to consider open public Union Negotiations. She also updated the Management Team on the Elected Officials Advisory Board being created and what their task will be as well as the anticipated implementation timeline. She stated that this has never been done before so the outcome she is curious to see.

Patti Johnson, Solid Waste/Maintenance Director/Project Manager and Mark Cook, Public Works Director gave an update on Capital Projects throughout the County. Ms. Johnson reminded the Management Team to review the e-mail she sent out with the Courthouse Needs Assessment. She stated that the Consultant is preparing to move into the next phase of the project and need to make any corrections. She stated that they have spent 1.3 million on the Jail this year so far and provided an update on Shady Brook. Mark Cook, Public Works Director provided an update on County Road projects and the Airport. He provided a Flood Control Zone Update and discussed changes at Currier Creek.

Commissioner Jewell reviewed the Rainy Day Fund and stated that the County will continue to contribute to it, as they will finally met their goal set in 2004.

Commissioner Jewell noted that the BoCC Staff had previously e-mailed a letter of key policies for County departments to use when drafting their budget proposals. He outlined the Boards priorities and asked that departments prepare their budgets to address the following priorities:

- Improving the customer experience.
- Professional development and training, especially cross-training for key functions and personnel to create appropriate inter and intra-departmental redundancies.
- Investing in capital facilities.
- Investing in economic development.
- Providing appropriate levels of service for essential public services.

He reviewed the following policies that were created for budget discussions and subsequent development of the 2017 budget:

1. Your 2017 department operational budget after implementation of the wage survey (inclusive of wage and benefit increases as well as all compensating expense reductions and revenue increases) will be considered your 2018 starting point. Please make certain any commitments your department made as offsets for the wage survey implementation are reflected in your budget. Requests for increases for any line item must be justified in your budget narrative in order to be considered.
2. Increases in FTE's may not be considered without funding.
3. Vacancy savings may not be spent elsewhere within a department budget without approval from the Board of County Commissioners.
4. The Rainy Day Fund contribution will be included in the 2018 budget and existing fund balance will not be utilized.

Judy Pless, Budget and Finance Manager reviewed handouts regarding Kittitas County's General Fund Operating Reserve and Rainy Day Fund; 2016 Actual Fund Balance Classifications and the 2017 Budget Fund Balance, as well as the 2018 preliminary Budget Calendar. She stated all Budgets will be done in Laserfische and Department's shall have their Budgets submitted by 8/25/2017.

Lisa Young, HR Director provided handouts for medical cost comparison from 2002 to present, as well as a copy of the Wage Survey Report and what Departments committed to in order to get the Wage Survey Implemented. She stated that she hopes to have an update from Aliant who is producing the County's portfolio with Insurance recommendations/suggestions. She reminded the Management Team to thank the Commissioners for allowing this to be done as it is a huge undertaking that would not be possible if it was solely on her.

Brett Wachsmith gave an update on County investments.

Gene Dana, Sheriff explained how the population growth have impacted the Sheriff's Office and their calls are up.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.


Deputy Clerk of the Board II


Paul Jewell, Chairman
