

**KITTITAS COUNTY
LAW AND JUSTICE STUDY SESSION MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109 - ELLENSBURG
Regular Meeting**

WEDNESDAY	8:07 AM	July 7, 2021
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Board members present: Chairman Brett Wachsmith and Vice-Chairman Laura Osiadacz.

Others: Sheriff Clay Myers and Chief Deputy Ben Kokjer.

Legislative Mandates /Budget Discussion concerning Car & Body Cameras– Sheriff Myers indicated that there are impacts forthcoming and to be upfront; a cost of \$1 million. Sheriff recommends that while taking statements in custody with juveniles and the downside is transporting juveniles. Benefits to having cameras are for conversations and false allegations. We prepared a few proposals with Axon one being a five-year lease, single payment close to \$900,000. Inspector Whitsett has been working with Jim at IT on storage. Sheriff Myers mentioned that we are trying to identify funding. Federal monies might be the way to go, and Vice-Chairman Osiadacz mentioned might check with Ferguson Group to assist.

Chairman Wachsmith asked what we would be budgeting in 2022 and Sheriff Myers said five-year rotation, not sure yet as it comes down to requirements and funds. Sheriff indicated that Superintendent Panattoni is doing proposals (1/10th) coming soon.

Project staffing discussion with respect to Calls for Service and County Growth – Sheriff Myers indicated we are chasing growth; calls of service are up and next year looking at deputy positions out of 3/10th and General Fund. Vice-Chairman Osiadacz asked to focus more on the Upper County area. Sheriff Myers indicated more in the ‘problem areas’, probably not specific to traffic, but would assist.

Budget Amendment for Overtime (Action Item) Upper County Traffic Enforcement – Commissioner Osiadacz mentioned she had a ride along with Cpl. Goeman. Sheriff Myers mentioned that our impact is putting two to three deputies in that area ad these are our targeted areas of emphasis. Sheriff indicated he is working with USFS, Mark Cooke on signage, parking tickets and towing and the Budget Amendment is for speed emphasis (days/hours identified). We request authorization for an Amendment in OT budget. Vice-Chairman Osiadacz approves; Chairman Wachsmith seconded. Motion passed.

Other Business – None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 a.m.



Kim Dawson

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Brett Wachsmith, Chairman

APPROVED
9/7/21