

**KITTITAS COUNTY
SHERIFF'S STUDY SESSION MINUTES
BOCC CONFERENCE ROOM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 108 - ELLENSBURG
Regular Meeting**

WEDNESDAY	8:04 AM	February 1, 2023
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Board members present: Chairman Cory Wright, Vice-Chairman Brett Wachsmith, and Commissioner Laura Osiadacz (via WebEx).

Others: Chief Ben Kokjer, Auditor Bryan Elliott, Budget Director Brian Carlson (via WebEx), Treasurer Amy Cziske, Lt. Ed Buntin, Inspector Chris Whitsett and Sheriff Clay Myers.

Citizen Comments: None

Surplus Update: Chief Kokjer updated the Board on the vehicle trade to rent with Cle Elum. He mentioned there are troubling areas for Cle Elum and so Chairman Wright approved moving forward to surplus the vehicle.

Discussion on Legislation: Inspector Whitsett provided updates on some legislation bills; substance use disorder we are waiting to see what happens, watching the bill on vehicle pursuits, interviewing of juveniles as it makes it impossible for law enforcement, and mentioned the House Bills (HB1025, HB 1445). Chairman Wright asked Commissioner Osiadacz if this has been on WASAC radar, and she replied that for different municipalities on firearms bill. Inspector Whitsett indicated that Deputy Prosecutor Chris Horner is aware and on the same page regarding HB1025. Commissioner Osiadacz will discuss that bill with formal questions this week. Chairman Wright asked Commissioner Osiadacz to discuss at WASAC and bring back to him and he will follow up with the Sheriff's Office if needed.

Command Structure: Budget Director Brian Carlson provided an overview of the proposal on the Sheriff's Office restructure for the and jail and line and that the Sheriff's Office acknowledges the current hold on moratorium. The Sheriff's Office and finance staff have calculated estimated budget impacts and identified other operational benefits. Chief Kokjer included that the Sheriff's Office does system analysis yearly and that LEMAP questioned the 24-hour supervision that we currently do not have. Chief Kokjer added that we have grown, our sergeants are now supervising 13-14 people, this gives us 24-hour supervision and reduces risk mitigation. Chairman Wright recognized the value of this and understands, however we are now in a current 90-day moratorium and possibly at the end of February make more solid decision on revenue.

Other Business: None.

Meeting adjourned at **8:45 a.m.**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Kim Dawson



Cory Wright, Chairman