

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITTTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
PUBLIC HEARING**

**WEDNESDAY**

**6:00 P.M.**

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2004**

Board members present: Chairman Perry D. Huston and Commissioner Max Golladay. Absent: Vice-Chairman Bruce Coe.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Warren Beed, Facilities Maintenance Director; Clayton Myers, Undersheriff; David Bowen, Auditor; Amy Mills, Treasurer; Allison Kimball, CDS Operations Supervisor; Paul Bennett Public Works Director; Gene Dana, Sheriff, and approximately 10 members of the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**JAIL PROJECT**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At 6:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** opened the public hearing continued from August 31, 2004, to consider whether a .3 cent increase in the sales tax should be placed on the ballot to fund the construction and operation of a new jail facility and remodel existing structures.

**CHAIRMAN HUSTON** acknowledged receipt of a Memorandum from Susan Musselman, Financial Consultant (9/15/04), letter from the Town of South Cle Elum (9/10/04), and Opinion of Probable Cost from Lombard-Conrad Architects, P.A. (9/26/04). He gave an update from the municipalities on their discussions on whether or not to support an agreement to dedicate their portion of the increase in sales tax for the proposed jail project. The City of Ellensburg approved dedicating their portion of sales tax to the project, the City of Cle Elum and the Town of South Cle Elum expressed their support as well. The City of Kittitas supported the concept of the project, but did not feel they could approve the dedication of funds at this time. The City of Roslyn did not take any action.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING:** **SHERIFF GENE DANA** said he had talked to the Roslyn City Council and they were confused if there was a sunset clause with the proposal. He also reported that in discussions he has had with the Kittitas Police Chief, and he indicated the City was supportive of the project, but they didn't want to lend their support prior to voter approval. **FREDRICK KRUEGAR** read a letter into the record dated September 15, 2004. He felt the democratic process had been flawed and lacking for the local citizens to make a decision on the tax/jail proposal. He urged the Board to vote no on the proposed jail design and funding process. **THERE BEING NO FURTHER TESTIMONY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY** expressed concern of having only one letter from the municipalities (Town of S. Cle Elum). **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** noted the City of Ellensburg voted to dedicate the funding during their last City Council meeting, and the minutes reflecting the decision had not been prepared. **COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY** referenced the Opinion Sheet and the payout on a 20-year term would take \$1,187,500.00, based on a half of a percent of the current interest. He felt the 20 years referenced was a sunset clause built into the proposal. He noted that training would be paid for by another source. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** said it would not exceed 20 years of the collection and he would like to include language that if the sales tax collections increase, dedicating it to debt service and to pay it off early.

**COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY** moved to approve and direct the Prosecutor office to draft language for a Resolution placing a ballot issue on the General Election, of whether a .3 cent increase in the sales tax should be approved to fund the construction and operation of a new jail facility and remodel existing structures. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** seconded.

The Board agreed to the 20-year amortization; dedicating any additional collections to debt service with the goal of paying it off early if sufficient revenues are collected; noting the construction cost estimates ceiling (in terms of the bond) as referenced on the Opinion of Probable Cost, in the total amount of \$15,061,250; and as to the operations component, the part of the 3/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% is dedicated with the bulk going to the construction debt service, and the 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% that is already collected will be dedicated to debt service. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** acknowledged that once the bond is paid off, the Board would need to begin building in the operation component, because the facility will have to be supported out of existing revenues or it will have to go back out to the ballot for something else. The Board felt there was a lot of work to be done selling the project to the public.

Motion carried 2-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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**Julie A. Kjorsvik**

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**Perry D. Huston, Chairman**