

COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM

WEDNESDAY

1:30 P.M.

APRIL 15, 2009

Board members present: Chairman Alan Crankovich; Vice-Chairman Paul Jewell; Commissioner Mark McClain.

Others: Catherine Dunn, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Gene Dana, Sheriff; Clay Myers, Undersheriff; Steve Panattoni, Patrol Sergeant; Michael Carpenter, Facilities Maintenance Director; Paula Hocter, Commander.

SPECIAL MEETING JAIL EXPANSION/IMPROVEMENTS COMMISSIONERS

At approximately 1:30 p.m. Chairman Crankovich opened a Special Meeting to consider a discussion of the proposals from Hultz BHU Cross Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Undersheriff Clay Myers said that the change in the plans was not a result of any request from the Sheriff's Office. Michael Carpenter, Facilities and Maintenance Director said that he was aware that this might be an option but not that it would be the only option they would offer. Undersheriff Myers said that the other architects that have looked at the building over the years had said that it would be much less expensive to change the jail to offices than to remodel it as a jail.

Sheriff Gene Dana said that there were some positives to this plan and that it was within the budget. The pod could be used while the main jail was being remodeled and the remodeled laundry would be a help to everyone.

Commissioner McClain said that it was not good financially to have to pay for prisoners that were housed elsewhere. This building would be self contained except for food and laundry. Chairman Crankovich asked what the square footage was of the pod building. It was estimated at about 1600 square feet.

Commissioner McClain asked where the County wished to be in 20 years. He asked if the jail should be downtown or should there be a small facility for pre-court individuals with a larger post-court jail for prisoners. Vice-Chairman Jewell said that as part of the Ellensburg Downtown Businesses he had advocated for the courts to be in the downtown area. When asked, Commander Paula Hocter said that at present there were 60 non-sentenced and 40 sentenced inmates.

Undersheriff Clay Myers said that repairs have to be made and beds have to be increased so the county doesn't have to pay for people sent to other facilities.

There was a discussion of strategies to help people understand the need for the remodel/repair of the jail and the need to increase the number of beds.

Director Michael Carpenter was directed to get more information from the architects and to set up another meeting to discuss it with the Board and the Sheriff's office. There would be another meeting on Monday, April 20 with the Architects and Engineers and at that meeting the Board would like to see more beds where the building Maintenance and Storage is shown; where exactly the "trigger line" was and the relocation of the trustees into another area to free their pod for more inmates.

SPECIAL MEETING

BYRNE GRANT APPLICATION


SHERIFF

The Sheriff's office asked to have the Board acknowledge the Departments intent to apply for their eligible portion of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of approximately \$10,600.00 to upgrade to a more efficient user friendly evidence handling system.


Vice Chairman Jewell moved to acknowledge the intent and to send a letter to the Sheriff's Department with that acknowledgement. Commissioner McClain seconded. Motion passed, 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:35 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD


Catherine Dunn

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Alan Crankovich, Chairman