

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**FRIDAY**

**9:00 A.M.**

**JANUARY 21, 2011**

Board members present: Chairman Paul Jewell; Vice-Chairman Alan Crankovich; Commissioner Obie O'Brien.

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Judy Pless, Budget and Finance Manager; Charlene Sandland, Accountant; and 31 members of the public.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**HOTEL MOTEL TAX DISBURSMENT**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At approximately 9:00 a.m. Chairman Jewell opened a special meeting to review applications submitted for consideration for the Hotel Motel Tax fund disbursement. He reviewed the process for the meeting. He stated that Kittitas County currently imposes a 4% lodging tax which is assessed on the sale of or change made for the furnishing of lodging according to RCW 67.28.180 and RCW 67.28.181. He explained that the intent of the tax is to provide funding for the support of tourism, tourism promotion, and tourism related facilities within Kittitas County. Funds are compiled annually and then distributed throughout the County to qualifying organizations in the form of reimbursable grants. He reviewed different ways the funds can be used and as well as the makeup of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC).

Commissioner Crankovich disclosed that he had a prior commitment and that at some point during the meeting, he would more than likely have to be excused briefly.

Chairman Jewell asked the Board how they would like to handle the disqualified applications. He offered options of either accepting the Lodging Tax Advisory Committees recommendations or for the Board to review the applications further, and then allow for an opportunity to hear from the disqualified applications.

Commissioner Crankovich moved to accept and support the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee's recommendations to disqualify the following applications: Ally Cat Artists, Children's Activity Museum, Ellensburg Rodeo Ad Campaign, Ellensburg Rodeo Capital Improvement, Jazz in the Valley, Mt. Peoh Foundation- Pork in the Pines, Upper County Youth Baseball/Softball, Mts to Sound Greenway Trust, Upper Kittitas County Event Committee, Pat Kelleher visitor map.

**APPROVED**  
2/1/2011

Commissioner O'Brien seconded. Chairman Jewell felt that this motion follows consistency of years past. Motion carried 3-0.

Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager provided a financial report for the Stadium Fund (Hotel Motel Fund). She indicated that as of December 31, 2010 the Stadium Fund had a cash balance of \$468,429.91. She reviewed the 2011 Fiscal Year's anticipated expenses for this fund and the final amount available to be allocated to agencies would be approximately \$260,843.47.

The Board approved the following requests after review and consideration from reports by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee and the applicants which were in attendance on behalf of their organization.

Entity	Board Authorized
Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce	130,000.00
WA ST Horse Park Foundation	45,000.00
Cle Elum Chamber of Commerce	26,300.00
Roslyn Downtown Association	10,000.00
KEEN	7,500.00
Spirit of the West	5,000.00
Roslyn Market	4,500.00
Clymer Museum	3,500.00
Ellensburg Film Festival	3,000.00
High Country Artists	3,000.00
Cascade Rail Foundation	3,000.00
Western Art Association	3,000.00
Kittitas Co Historical Museum	2,500.00
Thorp Mill	2,500.00
CWU Chimpanzees	2,000.00
Gallery One	2,000.00
Kittitas County Farmers Market	2,000.00

Roslyn Coal Mining Heritage	2,000.00
Early Iron Club	1,700.00
Ally Cat Artists	-
Cascadia Carbon Institute	-
Children's Activity Museum	-
Ellensburg Downtown Association	-
Ellensburg Rodeo Ad Campaign	-
Ellensburg Rodeo Capital Improve	-
Fair - Shark Encounter	-
Jazz in the Valley	-
Mt Peoh Found - Pig in the Pines	-
Pat Kelleher visitor map	-
R Town Community	-
Upper Co Youth Baseball/Softball	-
No Kittitas Co Historical Society	-
<b>Total Requests</b>	<b>258,500.00</b>

Commissioner Jewell gave a brief explanation of how the applications were ranked and how the funding decisions were determined.

Commissioner O'Brien moved to accept the Lodging Tax Advisory Committees recommendations as presented with the exception of the applications submitted by the Roslyn Market and Roslyn Downtown Association. Noting that the Roslyn Market would be funded at 100% and the Roslyn Downtown Association would be given funding in the amount of \$10,000.00, \$2,000.00 for the art walk and \$8,000.00 for festivals and events. Commissioner Crankovich seconded with an amendment to limit the Thorp Mill to no funding for their request for funds for an Auction. Chairman Jewell made an amendment of limiting the High County Artists funding request to no funds for insurance or permits. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Crankovich expressed his appreciation for how smooth this year's process went.


Chairman Jewell thanked the LTAC for all their hard work as a volunteer Board.

Commissioner O'Brien thanked the applicants for being so thorough in their applications. He explained that it made it much simpler for him coming in new to the process.

Chairman Jewell noted that next year the County will not be mailing out applications, but the notification process would be the same. He noted that there are significant cost savings in the County going electronic, so next year the applications will be on the County website. He explained that the LTAC is always working to improve the process and they already have ideas for this year's process.

Meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

  
Mandy Robinson

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Paul Jewell, Chairman