

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

FRIDAY

1:30 P.M.

FEBRUARY 4, 2011

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

Others: Catherine Dunn, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; Nancy Goodloe, Chair, Homeless and Affordable Housing Committee; Cathy Bambrick, Sarah Bedsaul, Kelly Thielen, Members of the Committee; Tim Sullivan, Homeless Network of Yakima County, Tom Gaulke, Carole Rhodes, Susan Kautzman, Patty Jordan and Lyle Ocker, Entrust Community Services; Von Elison, Central WA Disabilities Resources; Perry Rowe, Housing Authority of Kittitas County; Roger McCune, Ellensburg Fish Food Bank; Cindy Maib-Robinson, People for People/ WorkSource Kittitas County; Amy Peters, People for People/2-1-1, Yakima County.

SPECIAL MEETING

HOMELESS NETWORK DISCUSSION

HOMELESS COMMITTEE

At 1:30 p.m. **Chairman Jewell** opened the special meeting have a discussion with the Homeless and Affordable Housing Committee. **Nancy Goodloe**, Chair, explained the Yakima Homeless Network and how it might work in Kittitas County. She said the system wide approach to homelessness in Yakima County is a more efficient use of the funding and resources. She introduced Tim Sullivan, of the Yakima Homeless Network who works in Yakima County Human Resources.

Tim Sullivan said he has been involved in working for the homeless since 2004, first through United Way and then through the Homeless Network. He said the network started when Yakima County invited many different agencies to meet and develop a 10 year plan with structures and guidelines that addressed emergency needs of the homeless. Some of the subcommittees of the network are: Homeless Health Care; Respite Program and the Housing Stability Program. The Network only works through agency collaboration with written membership commitment. He said the network arrangement points out the gaps in community services with evaluation forms.

Nancy Goodloe said the Homeless and Affordable Housing Committee is working on a quarterly report form incorporating some of the evaluation questions on the Yakima County forms.

Chairman Jewell asked whether the providers sat on the committees and sub-committees. **Mr. Sullivan** replied that providers, business owners

and agencies do sit on the committees. **Chairman Jewell** asked if there was a conflict of interest. **Mr. Sullivan** said that the Executive Committee votes and anyone with a conflict steps down. **Chairman Jewell** said it didn't sound much different than what Kittitas County has.

Chairman Jewell asked how the recommendations were made. **Mr. Sullivan** said they look for an agency having the capacity to serve the need; has the accounting system in place to satisfy the grants and other criteria. He said they partner to get grants and collaboration is the key.

Commissioner O'Brien asked when the network started to hire staff. **Mr. Sullivan** said when funding started from recording fees, the network was able to use those funds to centralize their efforts and hire staff. Yakima County paid half the salary to support the network. **Commissioner O'Brien** asked if this was a separate line item in the budget with its own budget. **Mr. Sullivan** said the budget was set each year in the Annual Retreat.

Commissioner O'Brien asked whether acceptable administrative amounts are set to cover staff salaries. **Mr. Sullivan** said they don't set an amount, but add administrative charges to the grants they receive to cover administrative staff. He said Yakima County has an office for grant applications.

Tom Gaulke, Entrust, said all the agencies had folks doing service for the homeless and this network takes away duplication of services, sharing information and finding gaps in services. He said having a paid staff member is the glue that holds the network together.

Kelly Thielen, Homeless and Affordable Housing Committee, asked if the network's work has helped address homelessness in Yakima County. **Tim Sullivan** said it has helped chronic homelessness, which has dropped over 60%. He suggested there were consultants, including Kim Tully who will be leaving Yakima County Human Resources, to help Kittitas County if they wish to pursue a similar network.

Commissioner O'Brien asked questions about the Point in Time count and the types of numbers it produced.

Chairman Jewell asked about transitional housing available in Kittitas County. **Nancy Goodloe** said the Kittitas County Transitional Housing is mostly geared to families and jail or rehabilitation transitions. She said one committee of 6 or 7 people is doing the same activities as a network of many agencies. **Chairman Jewell** said Kittitas County does not have the funding required for this sort of network.

Tim Sullivan said that the scale of agencies is smaller in Kittitas County and hired staff may not be needed to start the network.

Meeting adjourned 2:30 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Catherine Dunn", written over a horizontal line.

Catherine Dunn

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Jewell", written over a horizontal line.

Paul Jewell, Chairman