

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

**WEDNESDAY**

**1:00 P.M.**

**JANUARY 3, 2018**

Board members present: Laura Osiadacz, Chairman; Vice-Chairman Obie O'Brien; Commissioner Paul Jewell.

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Deputy Clerk of the Board II; Ed Buntin, Corrections Lieutenant; Paula Hocter, Corrections Commander; Tim Egan, Assistant Maintenance Director; Patti Johnson, Solid Waste/Maintenance Director/Project Manager.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**JAIL HEATING & VENTILATION**

**MAINTENANCE**

At 1:00 p.m. Chairman Osiadacz opened a Special Meeting to receive an update from Patti Johnson, Solid Waste/Maintenance Director/Project Manager & Tim Egan, Assistant Maintenance Director regarding the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Jail heating and ventilation.

Patti Johnson, Solid Waste/Maintenance Director/Project Manager indicated that there have been a lot of work orders and complaints and she wanted to get direction from the Board and asked that the Jail Staff be present to hear the discussion and contribute information. Ms. Johnson explained that although the Jail had a huge overhaul of the HVAC system there are new/more issues that were not showing up as substantially as they are now. She stated that something has exasperated the system as they are now getting heating/cooling extremes on the second floor of the jail where one pod can be 65 degrees and the opposite end of the hall/floor is 100 degrees.

Tim Egan, Assistant Maintenance Director presented & reviewed floor plans for the second floor of the Jail. He shared what he thinks the issues are but stated that they are not equipped to do that type of work. He presented some potential solutions "if" what he thinks the problems are end up being the same.

Paula Hocter, Commander stated that there are multiple grievance's and a possible lawsuit pending. She stated that she understands the Boards frustrations but it's her job to make sure the County knows the issues and try to prevent the complaints from going any further than just a complaint. She stated at least if work is being done she can explain and defend that to the inmates who are voicing concerns.

Patti Johnson, Solid Waste/Maintenance Director/Project Manager stated that McKinstry has satisfied their contract with the County but they are willing to work with the County to assist in fixing the

problem since their fixes exasperated the issue. Ms. Johnson requested permission to engage with McKinstry in problem solving & bring back what they find.

The Board authorized Ms. Johnson to collect a preliminary Scope of Work and find out what's needed to correct the problem.

The Board expressed their frustrations with the Jail and the constant drain of funds. They stated that every time they spend a bunch on the Jail and are given the impression there shouldn't be much more required they get hit with additional expenses and it's never minimal ones. Commissioner Jewell stated it's hard to digest when it comes down to the comfort of inmates or County Staff and every project they want to accomplish can't be done because the funds have to go into the Jail. He stated that it may come down to looking at other options to see if there are any more financially responsible solutions for the County.

Paula Hocter, Commander reiterated her understanding of the Boards frustrations and stated that her and Lieutenant Buntin will accommodate in whatever way they can to make working in the Jail as easy as possible to get the problems solved. She stated they have always done whatever is needed in order to get the work done. She reminded the Board that the newer pod of the Jail doesn't allow for her high risk "clients" because they have to be kept separate. She stated that the newer pod is for low risk groups and they can't ship out the Kittitas County's higher risk inmates because nobody wants to take them.

The Board asked Ms. Johnson to report back with what she hears from McKinstry within the next two weeks.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

**DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**

  
Mandy Buchholz

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
Laura Osiadacz, Chairman