Board members present: Commissioner Perry Huston, Commissioner Alan Crankovich, Commissioner David Bowen.

Others: Jim Hurson, Civil Deputy Prosecutor; Debbie Myers, Deputy Clerk; and two members of the public.

SPECIAL MEETING GREATER COLUMBIA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSIONERS

At approximately 11:05 a.m. Commissioner Huston opened the Public Hearing to consider the Greater Columbia Behavioral Health Prepaid Health Plan Agreement.

Jim Hurson, Civil Deputy Prosecutor, stated there were problems with the contract and advised the Board not to sign it.

Commissioner Huston said there was turnover with the RSN staff but thought it would add turmoil by not signing the agreement. He suggested authorizing the Chair to sign the draft of terms, take it back to RSN and try to get the language tidied up. He agreed with Mr. Hurson and was tempted not to sign it but brought up the issue of payments.

Commissioner Bowen said he was uncomfortable signing the incorrect agreement but more uncomfortable with the lack of services if they did not sign.

There was discussion on RSN and the County contracts.

Dawn Petrie with DSHS said if the contract is not in place by November 15th there will be no funding for services for the mental health community. She would hate to see this not be in place as it is near the deadline. She also commented that RSN did not get the agreement out in a timely manner.

Jim Hurson agreed and stated his office didn’t get the documents until a week ago.

Commissioner Huston said the failing was not with the Prosecutors office, and that getting the documents in a timely manner seemed to be worse this year.

11/08/05 MINUTES
Commissioner Huston moved to sign the Prepaid Health Plan Agreement between Kittitas County and Greater Columbia Behavioral Health for the period September 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006. Commissioner Bowen seconded. He stated he would sign it with reservations and that it had to be changed for next year. Commissioner Crankovich stated he reluctantly supported the agreement because he sees the immediate need, but will not sign it next year unless it is done right. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Huston stated the RSN is in a state of disarray and their goal is to survive right now. He will draft a letter and take it to the RSN meeting on the 17th. He thanked the Prosecutors office.

Ms. Petrie thanked the Board.

Meeting adjourned.

INTERIM CLERK OF THE BOARD

Debbie Myers

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Perry Huston, Chairman