COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM
SPECIAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 11:00 A.M MAY 24, 2006

Board members present: Chairman David Bowen; Vice-Chairman Alan Crankovich; Commissioner Perry Huston.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board.

At 11:00 a.m. Chairman Bowen opened a special meeting to give the Board an update on recent discussions he had with representatives from the Ellensburg School District regarding the Morgan Middle School building.

Chairman Bowen explained the Ellensburg School District will be trying to pass a bond in September of 2006 to fund a new middle school. He toured the middle school building and received copies of an appraisal which was conducted for the School District, which came in at 1.597 million dollars. If the School District bond passes, they would like to receive a commitment from the County to purchase the building and then lease it back to them for a 3 year period while the new school is being built. There were structural studies done in 2003 and 2005 and the building was found to be sound for a school up to the year 2013. Repairs would cost approximately 2.2 million dollars to continue to use it as a school to get it up to seismic code.

The Board discussed options of moving offices including:

Courthouse Building - to include: Sheriff’s office; Prosecutor’s office; Probation Services; Computer Services; and Courts expansion.

Jail would remain the Jail - but with possible room to expand.

Permit Center - Community Development Services - Environmental Health - Public Works Department.

Morgan Middle School building - Commissioners office; Treasurer’s office; Assessor’s office; Public Health; Human Resources; Noxious Weed Department; Auditor. There would also be room for an Ag-Center including Conservation District; NACS - FSA and Fish & Wildlife - which would all be renters. The Maintenance department would also probably be located at Morgan because it has a shop etc. already set up there. Discussions were held on possible funding options. They said they could consider the Morris Sorensen Building surplus and
possibly sell it, as well as a house that the County owns in the vicinity. The proceeds could be put towards the Morgan building. They felt there was plenty of room for parking around the area.

The Board instructed Chairman Bowen to place the issue on the upcoming Management Team budget retreat on June 15th as well as place a notice of public hearing on the June 20th agenda to unveil a "pre-proposal" to the public to receive comments for the beginning of July some time.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Julie A. Kjorsvik

David B. Bowen, Chairman