

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM**

MONDAY

11:00 A.M.

APRIL 13, 2009

Board members present: Chairman Alan Crankovich; Vice-Chairman Paul Jewell; Commissioner Mark McClain.

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Brenda Larsen, Fire Marshal; Gene Dana, Sheriff; Clay Myers, Undersheriff; Steve Panattoni, Patrol Sgt; Dan Davis, Interim Building Official; Michael Carpenter, Facilities Maintenance Director; Dave Millet, Corrections Sergeant; Paula Hocter, Commander; Bob Gubser, Commander; Joe Seemiller, Fire Marshal (KVFR); Peter Rasmussen, Principal Architects Rasmussen Triebelhorn; Jason Ramay, Associate Principal Architects Rasmussen Triebelhorn; Rick Hultz, Principal Hultz BHU Cross Consulting Engineers, Inc.

SPECIAL MEETING

JAIL EXPANSION/IMPROVEMENTS

COMMISSIONERS

At approximately 11:00 a.m. Chairman Crankovich opened a Special Meeting to consider a presentation showing the proposals from Hultz BHU Cross Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Michael Carpenter presented the Board with an agenda and initiated introductions. He reviewed the history of previous meetings with the Board and how we have gotten to where we are today.

Rick Hultz, explained the new design layout and provided copies for the Board to review. He also reviewed a cost schedule.

Peter Rasmussen, went through each new proposal and layout of the proposed expansion and improved buildings.

Commissioner Jewell questioned if it was cheaper to add on to the existing footprint then to just redo the HVAC.

The Commissioners expressed a great deal of concern and frustration regarding the new proposal. They indicated that what was before them today was a large jump from the initial request and they would need some time to meet with Maintenance and Sheriffs staff to discuss where this proposal has gone as well as to just let the proposal sink in.

Commissioner McClain expressed frustration over an entirely new concept and where the direction had come from. He expressed his frustration over the meetings taking place so far apart and felt in order to get things moving we need to be meeting more frequently to keep things on track.

Dan Davis, questioned space needs in the existing building and how much different the space needs are.

Jason Ramay indicated it is more cost efficient to repurpose the existing facility and then put the new pod out in the courtyard than to try to bring the old facility up to code.

There was discussion over the concerns raised with the jail basement being occupied.

Commissioner Crankovich questioned the huge change in plans and where the direction came from. He indicated his concerns stating that he felt broadsided since the last meeting.

Rick Hultz explained that the proposal today is far more economical than the originally proposed plan. He reviewed the code issues the current structure is faced with as well as the code issues they are faced with meeting.

Peter Rasmussen indicated that all the original concerns on the list have been addressed in the new proposal.

Commissioner Crankovich questioned what kind of impact this idea will have on other County departments.

Michael Carpenter indicated that was his role to play and he would be responsible for staging and scheduling.

Undersheriff Myers indicated his understanding from the previous meeting was to see how many beds we could get from repurposing the existing footprint. He indicated that the BOCC should have been told right away about any proposed changes instead of just moving forward without telling them.

Randy Rasmussen reviewed the different time frame options for the project.

Dan Davis offered code advice to the Commissioners and gave options of cost saving measures with the facility.

Commissioner Jewell asked how many beds we currently have, and how many this will bring us to.

Commander Hoctor reviewed the current bed count. She indicated that there are currently 113 beds and they would be adding an additional 54 new beds with the proposal.

Peter Rasmussen indicated that the K Mod of the Jail will only be having the plumbing replaced and be bringing it to code.

Commissioner Crankovich and Dan Davis questioned if the County was to go forward with this proposal does the new building have the ability to go up for growth in the future.

Peter Rasmussen indicated that he would look into it.

Joe Seemiller indicated that bringing an old building up to code is always more expensive than building a new building. He explained that when going in to an old building like the jail you never know what you will start getting into and find. He stressed the importance of the structural requirements being met and how to do it in an affordable way.

Commissioner McClain questioned doing a second floor.

Steve Panattoni said there are rules and requirements that we have to provide including natural light for the inmates, so by adding a second floor would eliminate the current light offered.

Peter Rasmussen suggested following what some County's have done which is develop and adopt a County ordinance with standards for this particular facility so that we are protected if an inmate brought forward a lawsuit pertaining to daylight requirements and other requirements by law.

Commissioner Jewell questioned the cost.

Peter Rasmussen indicated it would be five million or less. He indicated his initial thought was closer to three or 3.5 million.

Brenda Larsen questioned whether they had specked out the sprinkler and alarm systems. She cautioned the architects and explained the high cost that is generally associated with those two crucial systems. She encouraged them to look into that right away, if it had not already been done.

Commissioner Jewell questioned if the County moved forward with the existing request if it would cost more than the new one that has been presented today.

Peter Rasmussen stated yes.

Undersheriff Myers asked if it was the opinion of the architects that we cannot get the additional beds needed in the existing footprint.

Jason Ramay indicated that statement was true. He explained the cost associated with bringing the existing footprint up to code and indicated that was without knowing what they would find when they got in there, and additionally the amount of money the County has allocated would not be enough.

Commissioner Jewell expressed his desire to take some time to meet with staff and let the new proposal digest.

Commissioner Crankovich indicated that he would review the Commissioner's calendar and set up some meetings to hold with staff for internal discussions.

Michael Carpenter asked Mr. Hultz to review the County Jail Mechanical Evaluation that was prepared and provided to the Commissioners. Mr. Hultz indicated that the project schedule is about six months out.

Commissioner Jewell felt that was a long stretch and felt that we should be able to get this going sooner if the County moves forward with the proposal.

Rick Hultz thanked the County Commissioners and staff for taking the time to meet today and apologized for all the confusion on the new layout and design.

Chairman Crankovich indicated that the next meeting would be held on Monday April 20, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. with Hultz to answer follow up questions in the Commissioners Auditorium.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

Mandy Robinson

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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Alan Crankovich, Chairman