

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM
SPECIAL MEETING**

MONDAY

1:00 P.M.

MAY 04, 2009

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

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Ken Cohen, CWU Staff; Roger Fouts, CWU Staff; Bob Tosch, CWU Staff; Bill Vertrees, CWU Staff.

SPECIAL MEETING

GLADMAR PARK

COMMISSIONERS

At 1:00 p.m. Chairman Crankovich opened a special meeting to meet with Ken Cohen, Assistant Professor, Recreation & Tourism with Central Washington University. He indicated that the meeting was set in response to a letter the Commissioners received on April 16, 2009 regarding the interagency agreement with the County and CWU for Gladmar Park.

Bill Vertrees indicated that after the flood of 96' the bathrooms at Gladmar Park, put in by the County had been washed out. He indicated that more damage was done after this year's flooding so today they wanted to bring some discussion points forward since they would like to re-evaluate the contract and propose re-negotiations.

Commissioner Crankovich indicated that his main concern has been and will be, the accessibility to the public. He indicated that he was willing to consider anything, but felt that this should be on a Public Works Study Session and that a time should be set up for Public Works to get out to the park and look at what changes have evolved since the flood. He indicated that he wanted it to be clear that no changes would be made today. He indicated that he was in agreement of Mr. Vertrees regarding the concern over the continuous re-building of structures when they keep getting washed away and damaged.

Commissioner Jewell questioned the letter and the signed interagency agreement. He stated that after comparing it to the redline version provided today it looks as though CWU is proposing to eliminate parking. He gave an overview of the history of the park from his interpretation and understanding.

Bill Vertrees indicated that the redline version was presented today as conversation topics only, that they were interested in possibly changing in the agreement with the County.

Commissioner Jewell questioned why we entered into the agreement to begin with.

Commissioner Crankovich stated that it was a win win situation for the County. He explained that the County was not going to rebuild the park and CWU had needs for the park, as well as agreed to allow for public access. He explained that it was going to provide a research specimen for all ages of citizens in the County.

Commissioner Jewell questioned the proposed changes and indicated that with a majority of the changes it appears to eliminate all benefits that the County was receiving.

Ken Cohen indicated that it would be a stimulus effect. He stated that although it sounds cliché, what is good for the University is good for the County. He stated that it would also allow for grant options, etc.

Commissioner Jewell indicated he was happy to negotiate but if we do, then the benefits to the County that are being brought up to be removed will need to be replaced with other benefits to the County that the Board agrees to.

Commissioner Crankovich indicated he would get Public Works to go out to the park and asses the new damage. He indicated that he would also like to get out there and see what had transpired since the flooding. He stated that he would get the evaluation back and have a meeting with Public Works and then get back to Central in no longer than a month.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Mandy Robinson

Alan Crankovich, Chairman