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

Others: Catherine Dunn, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Ken Prenslow, Gary Kasowski, Upper County Centennial Center.

SPECIAL MEETING UPPER COUNTY CENTENNIAL CENTER COMMISSIONERS

At 11:00 a.m. Chairman Alan Crankovich opened the special meeting to consider a review of an Agreement with the Upper County Centennial Center.

Chairman Crankovich explained that the County has an annual agreement with the Upper County Centennial Center and he asked the representatives if they wished to renew the agreement. Ken Prenslow said they wished to renew the contract for $19,000.

Vice-Chairman Jewell said the County is able to use the facilities in exchange for these funds.

Gary Kasowski said there had been a question of asking for an adjustment of the amount. Vice-Chairman Jewell asked if they had a number in mind. Ken Prenslow said $24,000 was the number they had envisioned. Mr. Jewell asked how long the amount had been set at $19,000. Mr. Prenslow said from the beginning of the agreement in 2002, it has been set at $19,000.

Mr. Prenslow said the Centennial Center is membership owned and the only government agency to contribute to the upkeep of the Center is Kittitas County. In return, the government agencies can use the building. He said agencies such as Red Cross, Kittitas County Health Department (for flu shot clinics) and evacuations use the building as well as the Center providing coffee and sandwiches to volunteers working outside the building. Gary Kasowski said that a designation from the County, such as the Red Cross for an evacuation site, would help with funding from other agencies. Commissioner McClain said that something could be added to the wording of the agreement stating that the Centennial Center was an evacuation point. Mr. Kasowski said when Snoqualmie Pass closes there is a need for emergency housing.
Commissioner McClain said that with a recording system, the County could hold public hearings in the larger banquet room and this would justify the requested increase.

Vice-Chairman Jewell asked if the building would be rebuilt in the same configuration. Gary Kasowski said that they were building it the same with the addition of some storage areas off the kitchen.

Chairman Crankovich said changes could be drafted into the agreement, but as the County is heading into budget it depends on the dollar numbers.

Ken Prenslow said right after the fire at the Centennial Center, they found homes for all the County agencies who used the building. Commissioner McClain asked if they had an extra office. Gary Kasowski said that they had an office with 3 work stations. He said they could make adjustments. Mr. McClain said that they would have Cathy Bambrick give him a call as they are looking for a new location. Mr. Kasowski asked if the County was still planning on building an annex in the Upper County. Mr. McClain replied that with the economy the way it was, that was unknown.

Chairman Crankovich said they would have something for the Upper County Centennial Center within 30 days.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.