COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING

TUESDAY 1:00 P.M. JANUARY 05, 2010

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

Others: Catherine Dunn, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Joseph Whalen, Human Resources Director; Deanna Panattoni, Treasurer; Judy Young, Administrative Assistant; Marsha Weyand, Assessor; Joyce Julsrud, Clerk; Sara Keith, Administrative Assistant; William Holmes, Juvenile Court Administrator; Christine Luvera, Court Administrator; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; Sue Higginbotham, Administrative Assistant; Brent Bottoms, Deputy Prosecutor.

SPECIAL MEETING BUDGET REDUCTION COMMISSIONERS

At 1:00 p.m. CHAIRMAN McCLAIN opened a special meeting to consider reductions in the 2010 County Budget.

Marsha Weyand, Assessor said that since her department has a vacant position, they will save the required $56,369.00 by not filling the position.

Jerry Pettit, Auditor, removed a .6% position and overtime to reach the $34,322.00 which was needed to reduce. He said he had asked the Prosecutor’s two questions: Can a citizen donate money to the county? Can the Elected Officials salaries be amended? To date, he has not received an answer.

Joyce Julsrud, Clerk, said the Clerk’s office will donate back to the County, the County’s share of medical benefit payments to the amount of $127 per person, which would meet the $10,662.00. She, too, is waiting for the Prosecutor’s office to answer the question on citizen’s donating to the County.

Joseph Whalen, Human Resources Director, said the Unions want input on the question of donating salaries and benefit amounts to the County. Commissioner Crankovich said this has nothing to do with the Unions, and asked him to check with Rocky Jackson, the County’s employment lawyer.

William Holmes, Juvenile Court Administrator, had reduced salaries and benefits, as well as overtime and vacation payoffs. There was a discussion on the methods he used. He offered to send a proposed
budget to the Budget and Finance Manager, as well as the Human Resources Director as requested by 3:00 p.m. to discuss at a meeting on January 6, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

Christine Luvera, Lower District Court Administrator, explained that they had dropped a position of File Clerk, limited interpreter’s time and changed hours to eliminate overtime to reduce by $27,188.00. Vice-Chairman Jewell said the Judge had wanted to increase fees, and asked if he has done that? Ms. Luvera said he hadn’t yet and they also could charge for interpreters when the verdict is guilty and they will start that.

Commissioner Crankovich said that Sheriff Dana had turned his budget reductions in already.

Deanna Panattoni, Treasurer, said they are meeting their reduction because of the voluntary lay-off of one employee. She expressed concern regarding the tax season. She said she would have money left that could be used for temporary help. Vice-Chairman Jewell said to put a plan together to show how this would work. Chairman McClain said the Union buyoff would be necessary on the voluntary layoff.

Commissioner Crankovich said that Linda Childs, Upper District Court Administrator would retire on September 1, 2010, to allow for the reduction required, as well as the addition to the salary of the person named to be Administrator.

Commissioner Crankovich moved to continue the special meeting until Wednesday, January 6, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner’s Auditorium. Vice-Chairman Jewell seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Catherine Dunn

Mark McClain, Chairman