COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING

TUESDAY 2:00 P.M. JUNE 22, 2010

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

Others: Catherine Dunn, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Judy Pless, Budget and Finance Manager; Michele Darling, Solid Waste Assistant; Christine Luvera, Court Administrator, Lower District Court; Todd Davis, Program Coordinator, Noxious Weed Board; Susan Higginbotham, Administrative Assistant, Auditor; Gene Dana, Sheriff; Duke Senter, Director and Jim Goeben, Information Services; Sarah Keith, Administrative Assistant, Clerk’s office; Andrea Morse, Office Manager, WSU Extension; Deanna Panattoni Treasurer; Lisa Young, Human Resources Manager; Marsha Weyand, Assessor; Cindy Adams, Administrative Assistant, Assessor’s Office; Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Cathy Bambrick, Public Health Administrator; William Holmes, Probation Services Director; Kirk Holmes, Public Works Director and Interim CDS Director; Clay Myers, Bob Gubser and Steve Panattoni, Sheriff’s Office.

SPECIAL MEETING FINANCE COMMITTEE COMMISSIONERS

At 2:00 p.m. Vice-Chairman Jewell opened a special meeting to discuss quarterly finances. He said he appreciated Judy Pless putting together this information.

Judy Pless, Budget and Finance Manager, discussed a Power Point presentation sent to all Management Team members, showing the financial position of the County. She said the County is above average on revenues and good on spending. She said that last year at this time expenditures were at 41% and is 38% this year. She said the Retail Sales and Use Tax amount was increased from last year, and the REET funds were doing well. She said she was working with WSDOT on a fuel purchase project which should be an advantage for the County.

Vice-Chairman Jewell congratulated all the departments on keeping the expenses in check.

Ms. Pless said the General Fund Balance was currently at approximately -$45,000, which is offset by a loan of $40,000 to the TV District which will be paid back from a grant they have received.

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She also said the County has a Rainy Day Fund of $500,000 which is budgeted and is available if needed. She said this County was in a much better position than many others. She went on to say that 2011 will be a budget struggle.

Vice-Chairman Jewell asked about the Sales Tax Trends. Judy Pless said she was looking into the Sales Tax on the materials for the upcoming wind farm construction and on the electricity generated by the wind farms and on Sales Tax from road construction done in the County. Marsha Weyand asked if the Teanaway Solar project will be starting soon. Kirk Holmes said it is still in the SEPA process and wouldn’t break ground before 2011. Ms. Weyand said that gives the County an opportunity to approach the Legislature to have solar projects included as personal property and to be taxed as such.

Judy Pless announced that the Budget Retreat will be July 14, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. She asked the Board if it would be held the same way as in the past. Commissioner Crankovich said a letter would be coming out soon with the Boards expectations and goals for the budget. Vice-Chairman Jewell said they would be focusing on essentials only with thought given to methods of recovering the $1 million dollar levy shift. Deanna Panattoni said she will be asking for ideas on the Bank Fees as they are rising.

Gene Dana remarked that the City of Monroe was contracting with the School District to buy fuel together.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.