COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING

THURSDAY
3:00 P.M. APRIL 21, 2011

Board members present: Commissioner Paul Jewell, Commissioner Alan Crankovich and Commissioner Obie O’Brien.

Others: Catherine Dunn, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Nancy Goodloe, Chair, Kittitas County Homelessness and Affordable Housing Committee; Susan Grindle, Hope Source; Tom Gaulke, Carol Miller Rhodes, Entrust; Perry Rowe, Katie Haggin, Housing Authority of Kittitas County; and nine persons representing the public.

SPECIAL MEETING HOMELess GRANTS COMMISSIONER

At 3:00 p.m. Chairman Paul Jewell opened a Special Meeting to consider the Kittitas County Homelessness and Affordable Housing Committee’s recommendations for the Spring 2011 Grant applications.

Nancy Goodloe, Committee Chair, said there were two applications for grants under consideration, Entrust RIETH program and People for People Ending Homelessness Together. She said the Committee supports and recommends the Entrust program, but does not recommend the People for People program.

Ms. Goodloe said the Entrust RIETH program is for $100,000 for an additional year of the program funded last year. She said the People for People program is for $17,920 and is not supported because the case management is already being done.

Cindy Robinson, People for People said the application was for a work force development grant to provide support for work seekers. She said there was a fair number of homeless people coming to Work Source and this would provide additional case management to help get additional services for the homeless. Chairman Jewell asked if additional persons would be hired in Kittitas County. She said the case manager is working there but more of her time would be spent on the homeless and would serve approximately 15 persons.

Carole Miller Rhoades, Entrust, said they had housed 17 homeless people with last year’s grant and connected them with foodbank,
elderly, WIC, medical, infant, veteran’s, educational, addiction, domestic violence, prescription drugs and other services. She said they did not extend services to 16 homeless persons who were not willing to commit to the program and they were referred to other programs. She said they try to leverage the funds to make the monies go as far as possible and they negotiate with the landlords to make them more willing to rent to formerly homeless people and help with the sustainability.

There was a discussion of various budget items. Chairman Jewell said he understood the budget.

Perry Rowe said the Housing Authority is under in-kind services as Entrust uses a classroom and office made from unused space at their office.

Commissioner O’Brien said he honored the work done by the Committee and moved to deny the application for People to People as it did not involved housing for the homeless. Commissioner Crankovich seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

Commissioner O’Brien said although he didn’t like how the money was spent, he honored the work done by the Committee to recommend the Entrust RIETH and moved to fund the Entrust RIETH program. Commissioner Crankovich seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

The Board cautioned Entrust to not return next year with the same request, as they did not wish to keep funding the program year after year.

OTHER BUSINESS

Nancy Goodloe, Committee Chair, presented a request from the Homeless and Affordable Housing Committee for an amount not to exceed $1,000 to contract with a consultant to facilitate two meetings with agencies and the public to establish a Homeless Network. She said the consultant was Kim Tully, recommended by Tim Sullivan, Yakima County Homeless Network, who has experience in facilitating this sort of meeting and as a neutral party would be non-confrontational.

Commissioner Crankovich moved to approve the expenditure of up to $1,000 to conduct a meeting regarding the Homeless Network Commissioner O’Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.
The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

Catherine Dunn

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Paul Jewell, Commissioner