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, Sarah Bedsaul, Kittitas County Homelessness and Affordable Housing Committee; Carol Miller Rhodes, Entrust; Perry Rowe, Housing Authority of Kittitas County; and nine persons representing the public.

At 10:00 a.m. Chairman Paul Jewell opened a Special Meeting to consider the Kittitas County Homelessness and Affordable Housing Committee’s Annual Report presentation.

Nancy Goodloe, Committee Chair, opened the presentation with thanking Amy Diaz and Sarah Bedsaul, Public Health, for their help in developing and assisting with the presentation. She gave a history of the Legislation and development of the Homelessness and Affordable Housing Committee and funds. She outlined the goals, priorities and survey data formulated by the Committee. She said the Homeless Network agency and public meeting had been set for May 18, 2011 from 9:00 AM to Noon.

Commissioner O’Brien asked how the agencies would be able to interact considering the Legislation which precludes personal information. Ms. Goodloe said other counties have been able to set up databases.

Commissioner O’Brien asked about the fund balances in each of the funds. She said the 2163 fund had a balance of $538,000 with $300,000 obligated and the 2160 fund with $304,000 with $110,000 encumbered.

Commissioner O’Brien asked if the Committee had explored partnering with Yakima County on the Homeless Network. Ms. Goodloe said that was an idea they will explore.

Commissioner Crankovich said he didn’t want the agencies counting on the Homelessness and Affordable Housing Funds every
year to fund their projects. He said they need to become self-sufficient and a system of services may meet some resistance. He expressed concern with the paid Network coordinator position, how it would be funded and where it would be housed.

Chairman Jewell asked about Goal and Priority #8 which the Committee indicates is partially met. He asked what more was needed for this goal and noted that State funding has cut 2/3 of some programs.

Chairman Jewell asked about the Point in Time survey and other survey data.

A discussion was held on Central Washington University students and whether they were considered in these numbers.

Chairman Jewell expressed concern with the methodology of the agency survey. He asked about the category “unsure”. Ms. Goodloe said that indicated what agencies knew about other agencies’ programs.

Chairman Jewell asked why Single Males continues to be the priority for aid. Ms. Goodloe replied that there is a gap between the 24/7 Emergency Hotline response, with a 3 day limit, and when the Single Males are plugged into other programs, and single men are more visible to the public.

Larry Nickel, 317 ½ N Pearl, #1, said he had taken in a homeless person and was trying to aid him in working through the system. He commended the Homeless and Affordable Housing Committee but was more concerned with the indigenous homeless people than those that have come from elsewhere. Nancy Goodloe replied that the Committee is aware of the two populations and one of the criteria for the Emergency Hotline is County residency.

Sarah Bedsaul reminded all the agencies present to attend the meeting regarding the Homeless Network possibility on May 18, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.