SPECIAL MEETING  RICK WEAVER/MENTAL HEALTH UPDATE  COMMISSIONERS

At 9:00 a.m. Chairman Jewell opened a Special Meeting to meet with Rick Weaver, CEO of Central Washington Comprehensive Mental Health to receive updates on Mental Health services being provided in Kittitas County.

Commissioner Jewell introduced Rick Weaver, CEO of Central Washington Comprehensive Mental Health and explained his role representing our County through RSN when he cannot attend the meetings to represent the County.

Rick Weaver reviewed the different services that they provide for the County residents. He provided a graph reflecting clients served over the past five years in Kittitas County. He discussed some recent issues they have been working through in Kittitas County. He reviewed the 11 Counties that make up the Regional Support Network (RSN) and the benefits it offers to the Counties that are enrolled in the Network. He notified the Board that he has recently been informed that one of the County's local providers for Mental Health is closing. He expressed his concern to the Board regarding the lack of members on the County's Alcohol & Substance Advisory Board and the problems that could potentially come from that. He informed the Board that the individual that replaced Skip Mynar as the Director of ADDS needs to be formally designated as the new Director, as the State still lists Mr. Mynar as the contact. He reviewed the options the County has for using the ADDS/Substance Abuse funds. He explained that in the past the funds were used in very isolated areas and they could be used for a lot more than what was used in the past. He discussed with the Board the different opportunities of services that Central Washington Comprehensive Mental Health can provide to Kittitas County, which would allow the County to consolidate more services into one location. He updated the Board on the local facility and the Agreement with the County. He explained that the Agreement is coming to an end soon and they are already in talks with the County Prosecutor's office to work through that process. He noted
the benefits that have come with acquiring an additional location to perform mental health services with their new business location on Pearl Street. Mr. Weaver indicated that there are not a lot of legislature updates to update the Board on because the changes are being felt everywhere and that is simply a lack of funding. He discussed with the Board extended services and the desire to isolate them for crisis services and co-occurring clients. He noted that the future has potential to no longer provide the RSN service to Counties. He explained that there is a pilot program currently forming to use Health Care Home models. He updated the Board on the 1/10th sales tax for Mental Health. He noted that Yakima County had been trying to have their Mental Health funds to pay their court costs, however that has since been caught and there is language close to being approved to prevent any more instances like that one.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

Mandy Robinson

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Paul Jewell, Chairman