

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONER'S AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING**

MONDAY

3:30 P.M.

JANUARY 30, 2012

Board members present: Chairman, Alan Crankovich; Vice-Chairman Obie O'Brien and Commissioner Paul Jewell.

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Matt Anderson, Facilities Maintenance Director. Members of Friends of the Fair: Jodee Shenyer, Jerry Jarnagin, Bill Boyum, Bill Allison, Becky McDowell, Roylene Crawford, Wilma Pratt, Heather Harrell, Jessie Blackwood, Brian Lenz, Greg Zempel.

SPECIAL MEETING

FRIENDS OF THE FAIR

COMMISSIONERS

At 3:30 p.m. Chairman Crankovich opened a Special Meeting to receive a project report from the Friends of the Fair.

Becky McDowell, Friends of the Fair provided the Board with an agenda. She explained that the reason they asked for the meeting was because the Friends of the Fair had a list of projects they wanted the Boards blessing on, as well as to discuss the future use of the current Fair office and request a feasibility study for a project they would like considered at the north end of the Fairgrounds. She reviewed the short term projects the Friends of the Fair want to accomplish as well as the long term projects. She stated that the Friends of the Fair welcome Commissioner input and/or if there are additional improvement projects the Commissioners would like to see addressed they would like to hear those as well.

There was discussion on the need for more shaded areas at the Fairgrounds as well as a need for additional bathrooms and more lighting.

The members from the Friends of the Fair all expressed their thanks to the Board for allowing the removal of the chemical shed near the Armory, noting that it eliminated a lot of safety concerns.

There was discussion on the accomplishments that have been made which were outlined in the Master Plan. There was discussion on the Friends of the Fair's desire to place an additional stage down by the Frontier Village and the attractions it would generate. There was discussion on expanding the foot print to allow additional parking space.

Commissioner Jewell explained that currently there are no funds available in the REET funds which are what the County typically buys

property with. He acknowledged that there is ideal property that is going to be available for purchase very soon. He suggested that the Committee come up with a plan & timeline for property purchases.

There was discussion on the steps the Committee has taken to add to the lighting needs at the Fairgrounds and discussion on the need for additional picnic tables and benches.

Commissioner O'Brien questioned what the impact to the lighting concerns would be if they proceeded with the installation of shade screens.

Greg Zempel, Friends of the Fair questioned the rate that the REET funds come in at and what is available that isn't already dedicated.

Commissioner Jewell reviewed additional funds and funding options the County has that could potentially be obtained or used for projects at the Fairgrounds.

There was discussion on moving Frontier Village and where it would be located, as well as potential plans for the current space where Frontier Village is. There was discussion on the proposed costs received for a catering kitchen in Armory. There was brief discussion on the options of getting a loan from the Solid Waste Department with no interest.

Becky McDowell, Friends of the Fair stated that the Committee would like a feasibility study done. There was discussion on other avenues for funding the study. Brian Lenz, Friends of the Fair questioned who does the Capital Facilities planning for the County and questioned if they would be willing to work with the Friends of the Fair. Becky McDowell explained that the Committee would like the Boards blessing to expand the north end of the Fairgrounds, but they need to know it can be done before they invest funds.

The Board directed the Friends of the Fair to work with the Department of Public Works and see what options they have. The Board indicated that they were curious about what concerns the City may have.

Wilma Pratt, Friends of the Fair expressed concerns regarding the future use of the current Fair office. She explained her concerns and the impact on the public. She explained that they currently sell tickets out of the Fair office and rely on Fair office staff for a great deal of assistance. She felt having to try and get them over to the Armory where they will find staff that can answer their questions is not going to be very ideal. The Board directed the Friends of the Fair to work with Matt Anderson, Facilities Maintenance Director to see what resolution they could work out.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD



Mandy Robinson

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Alan Crankovich, Chairman