

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM
SPECIAL MEETING**

TUESDAY

2:00 P.M.

FEBRUARY 21, 2012

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

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Sadie Thayer, Museum Curator; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; John P. Winbauer, Attorney Representing Museum.

SPECIAL MEETING

ROLLINGER ROCK COLLECTION

COMMISSIONERS

At 2:00 p.m. Chairman Crankovich opened a Special Meeting stemming from the January 31, 2012 Special Meeting to receive an update from the Kittitas County Historical Museum (KCHM).

Commissioner Jewell recapped the previous discussions leading up to this meeting. He indicated that the direction from the previous meeting was that the (KCHM) was going to work with their Attorney. He stated that he has been in contact with Ms. Lopez (Rollinger Rock Collection) to keep her informed of the discussions the Board has held.

John P. Winbauer, Attorney representing (KCHM) explained his understanding of the direction the Board is wishing to go and also where the previous discussions have led to. He reviewed the conditions and concerns the (KCHM) has expressed and what needed to be accomplished before they (KCHM) could sign off and accept the documents and the collection. He questioned Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor regarding County RCW's that he had reviewed. He explained that he felt some of the County's RCW's prohibited the Board from accomplishing what they have set out to complete. Neil Caulkins explained how the RCW sited is not applicable to this scenario.

Commissioner O'Brien reviewed his understanding of the agreement. He noted that it was his understanding that realistically, the Lopez's (Rollinger Rock Collection) don't have any say in how the County carries out the agreement, and that the County has been courteous in keeping them updated.

Mr. Winbauer stressed the importance of the Lopez's (Rollinger Rock Collection) family understanding that when and if the agreement is broke and a new agreement with the (KCHM) takes place, the family has to understand that they no longer have strings attached to the Collection.

There was discussion on different options the County has in order to handle transferring the collection officially to the (KCHM).

Commissioner Jewell reviewed his most recent discussion with the Lopez's (Rollinger Rock Collection) family. Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor stated that ideally the Lopez's would sign off on the proposed agreement however if they don't the County will Quit Claim Deed the collection to the Museum. Commissioner Jewell felt it was important to get the whole plan laid out for the Lopez's (Rollinger Rock Collection) family or in his opinion they wouldn't sign off on anything.

Jerry Pettit, Auditor questioned the possibility of Deeding the collection back to the family so they could take the parts of the collection they were interested in and then have them deed it back to the County so there are no outstanding ties when the collection becomes the property of the (KCHM).

Commissioner Jewell stated that the Museum will contact the Lopez family (Rollinger Rock Collection) about the Quit Claim Deed and then the (KCHM) will report back to the Board.

Commissioner Crankovich expressed his concerns regarding the amount of control the family perceives that they have. He cautioned the amount of communication with the Lopez family, noting that his concern comes from the family thinking they have more leverage than they do. He reminded the Board of previous discussions where it was determined by County legal counsel that the Lopez family actually doesn't have a say with regard to the collection and where it is housed. He reminded the Board that the County has been courteous in keeping the family informed.

Sadie Thayer, Museum Curator indicated that Ms. Lopez has contacted Keith Eslinger, Museum Board Member. She indicated that all the discussions have been extremely productive and positive. She explained that she wasn't aware that there have been any real concerns expressed when the Lopez family spoke with Mr. Eslinger and she understood it to be that the Lopez family was supportive of the efforts that the County and the Museum were making.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**





Mandy Robinson

Alan Crankovich, Chairman