

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

**MONDAY**

**11:00 A.M.**

**APRIL 9, 2012**

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; Paul Sander, Deputy Prosecutor and Greg Zempel, Prosecutor.

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**SPECIAL MEETING**

**COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At 11:00 a.m. Chairman Crankovich opened a Special Meeting to discuss communication strategies between the Commissioners and Prosecutors offices.

Commissioner Jewell asked for clarification on what is and what is not considered attorney/client privilege and who can ask for an opinion from the Prosecutors office. He said he was concerned with the memos issued at the last minute to the Planning Commission relating to the road standards. He said he would prefer that if memos with opinions by the Prosecutors office were going to be submitted into the record to Boards and Committees that the Commissioners first be able to review them. He noted he was also concerned about the timing of the memo and how it was issued.

Greg Zempel, Prosecutor said that almost everything is work product and discussed how issues relating to legislative action is considered confidential product. He said their department receives requests for opinions from Elected Officials, Departments Heads and other staff.

Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor said he is to advise the Planning Commission and the memos are one way he advises them including the Board of Adjustment. He reviewed the framework that was created by the legislature. Mr. Zempel asked what types of information does the Board want and how far down the line. He indicated that it should be no surprise to them as the Board would eventually get the entire record from the Planning Commission to make their final determination. He felt the process has been working and questioned how often their concern has occurred.

Commissioner Jewell suggested having a member of the Board of Commissioners on each citizen's advisory committee so they can be

kept aware of what's going on and have a chance to review documents before they go out such as to the Planning Commission.

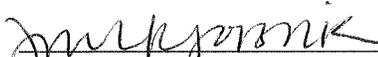
An option that was discussed was to have the Hearing Examiner hear all quasi-judicial matters in case the issue is appealed and then the Board could hear it.

The Board indicated they would like to follow up on the discussion at the next CDS/Public Works Study Session about having documents reviewed and given input before it goes to the Planning Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
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Julie Kjorsvik

  
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Alan Crankovich, Chairman