

BUDGET RETREAT
July 18, 2012 – 9:00 A.M.
Kittitas County Fairgrounds

Those Present:	Alan Crankovich	Karen Hamel	Mandy Robinson
	Obie O'Brien	Jim Goeben	Jonna Davis
	Paul Jewell	Julie Kjorsvik	Dale Larson
	Megan Acree	Matt Anderson	Marsha Weyand
	Brenda Larsen	Mandy Weed	Kim Dawson
	Patti Johnson	Diana Mackenzie	Robin Rapp
	Cindy Adams	Lisa Young	Judy Pless
	Bob Gubser	Joyce Julsrud	Jan Ollivier
	Gene Dana	Sara Keith	Sue Higginbotham
	Clayton Myers	Kathy Jurgens	James Rivard
	Steve Panattoni	Deanna Panattoni	Kelly Carlson
	William Holmes	Kirk Holmes	Paul Sander
	Todd Davis	Christine Luvera	Doc Hanson
	Greg Zempel	2-Members of the Public	

Chairman Crankovich opened and welcomed all County staff to the 2013 Budget Retreat. He reviewed the Agenda and noted that staff had previously e-mailed a letter of expectations for the retreat and what departments should be planning for when preparing their 2013 budget. He gave an update on County building projects: jail repairs and the new Pod, Armory & the Upper District Court.

Marsha Weyand, Assessor gave updates on Real & Personal property taxes and the annual revaluation process.

Deanna Panattoni, Treasurer gave an update on property foreclosures and distraints in the County. She reviewed the process for property foreclosure and how one goes about purchasing property that is in foreclosure. She gave a brief overview of purchasing Tax Title property and how it ends up in that status.

Lisa Young, Human Resources Director updated the County Management Team on the four out of six Union Contracts that will be open for negotiations in 2013. She explained what the negotiation process entails and addressed what the process is if the negotiation process exceeds the contract end date. Chairman Crankovich gave updates on the anticipated increases for insurance premiums. He indicated that the rate setting meeting will take place in August and at that time he will be able to bring back firm numbers. He addressed the County's opportunity to participate in a "wellness program" and the benefits it provides to the employee and employer if they have 40% of the employees commit to the program. He indicated that even if the employees partake in the program, but the County doesn't get 40% to commit, there is still a financial benefit to the employee. He anticipated information about the program to begin coming in for the employee's information in August. Commissioner O'Brien explained how he is not preparing for any kind of salary increase in 2013 for non-union or exempt personnel. He stated that it is his hope that come budget time, the numbers will show differently but at this time it was looking grim. He stated that it was his personal feeling that he would rather save positions than give salary increases.

Judy Pless, Budget and Finance Manager reviewed what the Management Team should expect for this year's budget dates. She reviewed key dates that were important in relation to the

APPROVED
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budget process. She indicated that this year they would be using "family" groups again and provided a list of the proposed groups. She indicated that the location is not yet set for the budget dates but to expect additional information in the near future. She reviewed financial reports that were provided at the start of the Budget Retreat, as well as fund balances, BARS updates, & preliminary Budget documents.

- Lunch Break 12:05 – 1:05

Commissioner Jewell reviewed the following policies created for budget discussions and subsequent development of departments budget requests:

1. Your beginning 2012 department budget will be considered your 2013 starting point. Requests for increases of any line item must be justified in your budget narrative to be considered.
2. Increases in FTE's will not be considered without funding specifically designated to cover a respective request.
3. Vacancy savings may not be spent elsewhere within a department budget without BOCC approval.
4. Existing fund balance will not be used to support operations.
5. "Rainy day" funds will not be used.

He indicated the priorities of the Board and asked that staff to prepare their budgets as follows to address the 2013 priorities:

1. Providing appropriate levels of service for essential public services.
2. Capital facilities improvements.
3. Investing in long term planning improvements and efforts.
4. Investing in economic development.
5. Investing in services of the Public Health Department.
6. Employee compensation and professional development.

A roundtable discussion with departments was held and each department gave brief reports and updates, as well as their 2013 budget priorities.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m.


Deputy Clerk of the Board


Alan Crankovich, Chairman