

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

MONDAY

2:30 P.M.

MARCH 4, 2013

Board members present: Chairman Obie O'Brien; Vice-Chairman Paul Jewell and Commissioner Gary Berndt.

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Clay Myers, Undersheriff; Paula Hocter, Commander; Shawn Stredwick, Lieutenant.

SPECIAL MEETING

JAIL CONCERNS

COMMISSIONERS

At 2:30 p.m. Chairman O'Brien opened a Special Meeting to discuss with the Sheriff's Command staff the Statewide Jail capacity issues.

Commissioner Jewell stated that he wanted to meet with staff prior to him attending a meeting on Friday March 8, 2013 that he was invited to regarding Statewide Jail capacity issues. He stated that the meeting was to take place with the Department of Corrections and to look into housing options in the existing County facilities. He explained that it was his hope to receive feedback from the Sheriff and staff so he would be able to speak on behalf of Kittitas County and represent the Sheriff in the best way possible.

Clay Myers, Undersheriff explained that the County is not in a position to take on a State contract. He stated that we are understaffed and cannot manage the additional prisoners with the staff the County currently has. He said that the Sheriff's position would support legislation however there are extremely different requirements between the State Prison and County Jail requirements. He explained that additional concerns would be housing sick inmates and it would be important to agree to a timeframe that the inmate would be with the County. He explained the importance is due to the fact that we don't want inmates that are at the end of their time served as they are more likely to stay here. He also explained the difference between County and State is that with State inmates their family and friends are more likely to relocate here to be closer to loved ones that are in for a substantial amount of time and the County doesn't want those people relocating to Kittitas County. He stated that if the County were to take on sick inmates the contract would need to say where the inmate was actually sentenced is whom would assume the medical expenses.

APPROVED
3/19/2013

Paula Hoctor, Commander stated that along with State Prison they offer schooling and larger workout/outdoor facilities that the County cannot offer. Undersheriff Myers explained that they have previously entertained a contact with the State Marshal, as they have a pretty favorable one but at this time the County isn't in a position to take on more until staffing levels are back up to where they should be.

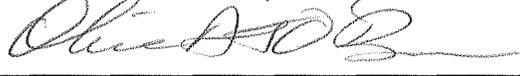
The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD



Mandy Robinson

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Obie O'Brien, Chairman