

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

**TUESDAY**

**3:30 P.M.**

**MARCH 5, 2013**

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

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager; Robin Read, Interim Public Health Administrator; Lisa Young, HR Director.

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**SPECIAL MEETING**

**PUBLIC HEALTH ACCOUNTANT**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At 4:00 p.m. Chairman O'Brien opened a Special Meeting to meet with County staff regarding the Public Health Accounting position.

Commissioner Jewell reviewed the changes being implemented in Public Health since the layoffs in 2008. He explained the basis for reclassifying the Public Health Accountant. He stated that the position would be a Supervisory role with some additional duties and then give that position an assistant, whether that is an Accounting Clerk or Tech. He stated that Dr. Larson has been involved in the discussions and is supportive of the direction the Board has presented.

Jerry Pettit, Auditor explained to the Board that there have been 6 accountants in the past 8 years and it has been cumbersome to his staff to be in "training mode" with that position. He reviewed some of the frustrations and concerns he and his staff have discussed. He also explained why he was not supportive of the position being moved to a Supervisory role. He stated that the Public Health budget narrative doesn't reflect the newly classified position. He stated that it's been frustrating to be left out of a majority of the conversations regarding these changes and it comes across as the Board isn't being upfront about the changes.

Commissioner Jewell questioned why this position is being fixated on while they have had similar positions in the Sheriff's department that have gone without any objection by the Auditor's office. He apologized for the way this was received by the Auditor's office but felt that the conversation was lost in translation and that ultimately the funds are in the budget for the changes to be implemented. He apologized if the budget narrative didn't reflect

