

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITTTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**THURSDAY**

**1:00 P.M.**

**MAY 9, 2013**

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager; Gene Dana, Sheriff; Greg Zempel, Prosecutor; Sarah Keith, Administrative Assistant; Clayton Myers, Undersheriff; William Holmes, Probation Services Director; Chris Herion, Deputy Prosecutor; Jim DeVere, Mayor of S. Cle Elum; Shannon Harwood, Crime Victim Specialist; Joyce Julsrud, Clerk; Scott Fergeson, Cle Elum City Police; Tony Swartz, Deputy Prosecutor; Brent Neirman, Kittitas Police Chief; Emily Brown, ADDS and approximately 3 members of the public.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**3/10<sup>TH</sup> OF 1% SALES TAX**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At 1:00 p.m. Vice-Chairman Jewell opened the Special Meeting to consider a Resolution relating to the placement of a proposition to the voters of Kittitas County authorizing the continued maintenance of the three tenths of 1% County Sales and Use Tax to fund Kittitas County and the Incorporated Cities of Kittitas County for criminal justice purposes. He noted Chairman O'Brien was on the speaker phone.

Vice-Chairman Jewell said there had been questions raised at the May 7, 2013 Commissioners Agenda relating to the language interpretation of supplant versus non-supplant. He said he had asked the Prosecutors office to provide information and clarification on the language. He suggested the Board consider adopting a statement of intent in addition to the Resolution to honor the previous committee's work and the concerns expressed.

Commissioner Berndt noted that all three communities (S. Cle Elum, Roslyn and Cle Elum) receive funding, but it does not fully offset their costs. Cle Elum Police Officer Scott Fergeson said that one of their officers and part of the animal control is barely being funded from the money they receive. Jim DeVere, S. Cle Elum Mayor said he doesn't consider what they are doing supplanting, but rather a State Auditor issue.

**APPROVED**  
6/4/2013

Chairman O'Brien said he would be in favor of leaving the non-supplant language included and noted he had no concerns with the Prosecutors review.

Dale Miller, City of Ellensburg Police Chief felt there could be somewhat of a downside down the road if the language changed resulting in jurisdictions capping out at the 2013 levels. He said due to inflation it could actually end up shrinking on the general fund side things. He was fearful of adding on any language that people down the road may not understand the intent and allow for more flexibility.

Chairman O'Brien questioned why they should put in all the additional restraints if they didn't have to.

Chris Herion, Deputy Prosecutor said while he understood the concerns expressed by Commissioner Jewell, he was worried if the language was changed in any way it could have a negative effect on the voters. Emily Brown, ADDS explained how the exact language was extremely important to the committee and it was vital to keep it the same.

**RESOLUTION 2013-064                      3/10<sup>TH</sup> OF 1% SALES & USE TAX                      SHERIFF**

Commissioner Berndt moved to approve Resolution No. 2013-064, to Submit a Proposition to the Voters of Kittitas County Authorizing the Continued Maintenance of the Three Tenths of 1% County Sales and Use Tax to Fund Kittitas County and the Incorporated Cities of Kittitas County for Criminal Justice Purposes, as presented. Chairman O'Brien seconded.

Chairman O'Brien felt they owed it to the voters to continue in the same tone and any extra constraints could make it more difficult. He said it's been working well since it was originally approved and would support the Resolution.

Commissioner Berndt said it had been good for the communities and Dr. Reasons report states how there is a prices to be able to live in a safe community.

Commissioner Jewell felt everyone had been doing a good job utilizing the funding. He said with the commitments made by the other jurisdictions to honor the trust being placed on them by the citizens, he had hoped the voters will continue to support it.

Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Julie Kjosrvik

  
Paul Jewell, Vice-Chairman