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

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager; Kirk Holmes, Public Works Director/Interim Building Official; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; Joyce Julsrud, Clerk; William Holmes, Probation Services Director; Patti Johnson, Solid Waste Director/Project Manager; Stephanie Conley, HR Rep.; Christine Luvera, LDC Administrator; Angela Bugni, Legal Secretary III; Robin Raap, Office Administrator; Jim Goeben, IT Director; Sarah Keith, Administrative Assistant III; Kaitlyn Reddick, Fiscal Analyst; Sue Higginbotham, Administrative Assistant III; Jim Hurson, LDC Judge; Mickey Webb, Event Center Director; Clay Myers, Undersheriff; Greg Zempel, Prosecutor; Holly Myers, Environmental Health Supervisor.

PUBLIC HEARING 2015 COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSIONERS

At 2:02 p.m. Chairman Jewell opened the Public Hearing to consider the 2015 County Budget.

JUDY PLESS, BUDGET & FINANCE MANAGER provided a brief summary of the Budget Special Meeting held on November 13, 2014, where they reviewed the preliminary budget figures. She indicated the total preliminary budget for 2015 is $94,576,576.00. She explained that due to an error on her part the previous cuts the County Departments submitted in addition to those submitted after the 11.13.2014 Special Meeting didn’t change the numbers as much as initially thought.

COMMISSIONER JEWELL suggested the Board cut the $162,000.00 from the “rainy day fund” for 2015. There was discussion on revenues and expenditures. COMMISSIONER BERNDT discussed the PILT Funds and the uncertainty/lack of guarantee that the County would receive them. The Board determined that they would move the $17,000.00 into the revenue side of the budget. CHAIRMAN JEWELL proposed the Board take another look at the library funds that the County contributes each year and also discussed the
possibility of a levy shift. He stated that the County is still 1.8 million out of balance. He asked Staff in attendance if they had any ideas or suggestions to offer up. He questioned JUDY PLESS, BUDGET & FINANCE MANAGER on what she would suggest the Board do in order to bring the budget into balance. She stated that she would use the fund balance to balance the budget. CHAIRMAN JEWELL suggested that the Board also review the projects budget for 2015 and see if there are any projects that can wait.

THERE BEING NO ONE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

COMMISSIONER BERNDT moved to continue the Public Hearing for Board Discussion & Decision to Friday December 5, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Auditorium, Room 109, Kittitas County Courthouse, to allow the Board time to meet with County Departments and review their budgets for additional cuts, to be submitted to JUDY PLESS, BUDGET & FINANCE MANAGER. CHAIRMAN JEWELL seconded.

Motion carried 2-0.

Meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.