COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM
SPECIAL MEETING

FRIDAY 1:00 P.M. MARCH 6, 2015

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

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Nick Henderson, Coroner; Clay Myers, Undersheriff; Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager; Kay Kresge, Accountant; Ed Buntin, Corrections Lieutenant; Patti Johnson, Solid Waste Director/Project Manager/Interim Maintenance Director

SPECIAL MEETING CORONER LOCATION NEEDS COMMISSIONERS

At 1:00 p.m. Chairman Berndt opened a Special Meeting to receive an update from the County Coroner. He stated that Commissioner O'Brien had called the meeting and he would turn it over to him.

Commissioner O'Brien explained that after meeting with the Coroner it appears there is concern for the location/distance between the County Coroner and the Deputy Coroner office locations.

There was discussion over the office location and historically what had been discussed for the Coroner location.

Clay Myers, Undersheriff stated that concerns have developed since the Coroner had taken office. He stated that they are things that were not thought of and wouldn’t have come to surface until the position and office had officially begun. He stated that the concerns are nobody’s fault they were just unforeseen and until the office was active more than likely nobody would have considered.

Nick Henderson, Coroner provided the Board a letter outlining his concerns those being: office size, off hours access to office for the public, reference library access, copier space and access, supply storage, access to current files, evidence lockers, possible foyer conflicts, possible visitor room conflict and interruptions to the Law Clerks by the Coroner visitors. He stated that with the work he does with the County Health Department his office would fit in the Morris Sorenson 2015-03-06 MINUTES

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building better. Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager stated that if the Coroner moves to the Morris Sorenson building he will be required to pay rent. Patti Johnson, Solid Waste Director/Project Manager/Interim Maintenance Director stated that there will be 5 rooms open at the Morris Sorenson building shortly after ADDS moves downstairs. There was discussion on access to offices at the Morris Sorenson building and a concern for having nobody to greet the public. Mr. Henderson felt that when the office is closed there is more than one phone number he or a Deputy could be reached by. There was discussion over the interruptions and impact to the Public Health staff.

Clay Myers, Undersheriff stated that any of the issues before them are things that they can find ways to work with and accommodate. He stated that they are just finding impacts in areas that hadn’t been considered. He stated that currently they provide storage space for the County Clerks Records and that requires Corrections office staff to escort the Clerk’s office staff each time they need to access their records. He also indicated that the Deputy Coroners have not had background checks done however, they have access to parts of the Jail and that needs to be done as quickly as possible.

Patti Johnson, Solid Waste Director/Project Manager/Interim Maintenance Director reviewed a floor plan of Morris Sorenson and the offices that will be open. She stated that the rooms that ADDS previously held were not maintained by County staff they did their own maintenance and upkeep. So she hopes to get access to those rooms by Monday and evaluate them to see what kind of expense will be needed to get them up to an acceptable appearance. She stated that during her Study Session on Tuesday she can report back to the Board.

The Board determined they would take no action until they get a report back from Ms. Johnson next Tuesday.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.