

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

**WEDNESDAY**

**11:00 A.M.**

**JUNE 24, 2015**

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

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Jerry Pettit, Auditor/Secretary to Veterans Advisory Board. Veterans Advisory Board Members: Sam Garrett, Ronald Jacobson, Joseph Peach, Andrew Pruitt & Ronald Ness.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At 11:00 a.m. Chairman Berndt opened a Special Meeting to review and discuss the revised Kittitas County Indigent Veterans Financial Assistance Manual (DRAFT) and discuss member ideas for assistance to Veterans within our County.

Jerry Pettit, Auditor/Secretary to Veterans Advisory Board stated that he previously sent the Board for advance review, a draft of the Kittitas County Indigent Veterans Financial Assistance Manual. Sam Garrett reviewed the proposed changes noting they were minimal.

Commissioner Jewell questioned what the "E5 Rate" means. He stated that it should be explained within the document as a footnote, so others who don't "speak" this terminology will understand. He felt it would be beneficial for the website link to be listed in the footnote as well.

The Board questioned why is "honorable discharge" being removed from (3.2), but still in the "key words" section.

The Board gave their approval of the draft proposal with the corrections/additions as suggested and encouraged them to bring it forward to a future Agenda date for formal approval by the Board.

Ronald Jacobson expressed some confusion with regard to why there were no listings in the back of the Manual that listed the VFW's and other similar groups that could help Veterans. He stated there is a list of other resources for them but nowhere does it mention the VFW's etc. He stated that he would like to have that added.

The Board supported Mr. Jacobson's request to add to the list of resources the VFW's.

Andrew Pruitt asked the Board what they would like to see the Veterans Advisory Board (VAB) do. Commissioner Jewell felt one point of contact or one stop would be helpful for Veterans so they aren't being sent all over and the experience can be consolidated. Commissioner Jewell stated that the Board needs the "experts" (Veteran's Advisory Board) to educate the BoCC on what's needed. He stated that they look to them because this is an area that is not familiar to them, unfortunately.

The Board encouraged the VAB to submit quarterly reports/updates to the BoCC and thanked them for their service and for volunteering on the VAB.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

**DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**

  
Mandy Buchholz

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
Gary Berndt, Chairman