

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

**MONDAY**

**3:00 P.M.**

**DECEMBER 11, 2017**

Board members present: Chairman Paul Jewell; Vice Chairman Laura Osiadacz and Commissioner Obie O'Brien.

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Deputy Clerk of the Board II; Senator Judy Warnick; Representative Tom Dent; Jerry Pettit, Kittitas County Auditor; Greg Zempel, Kittitas County Prosecutor; Brett Wachsmith, Kittitas County Treasurer; Nick Henderson, Kittitas County Coroner; Gene Dana, Sheriff; Clay Myers, Undersheriff; Juliana Roe, WSAC Policy Director & Bill Clarke, County Lobbyist - by phone.

**SPECIAL MEETING            WSAC/LSC DELEGATION UPDATE            COMMISSIONERS**

At 3:00 p.m. Chairman Jewell opened a Special Meeting to discuss with Senator Judy Warnick, Representative Tom Dent and WSAC Representative Juliana Roe the Kittitas County Legislative priorities and WSAC Legislative priorities.

Chairman Jewell reviewed the two priorities Kittitas County has for 2018. 1. PILT Funding (Fish & Wildlife PILT funding). 2. Chairman Jewell presented proposed legislation for an ACT relating to Authorizing Counties to establish Community Wildfire Risk Management (previously Community Wildfire Protection Zones). He stated it's something he has been working on with Kittitas County's Lobbyist Bill Clarke. He stated that he would like to see it sponsored by Senator Warnick and Representative Dent. Bill Clarke, Kittitas County Lobbyist stated that he has been routing the draft to his contacts and they are supportive of the proposal. Representative Dent stated that if he can get sponsors he will get a hearing set up. Senator Warnick provided names of Senators and Representatives that Chairman Jewell should reach out to and work on getting some support as well.

There was discussion and information shared on various issues at the County level. There were frustrations expressed to Senator Warnick and Representative Dent about the fiscal condition of the Counties. There was discussion on the challenges the Counties are facing in balancing their budgets to deliver the services required by the Constitution and Statues.

**APPROVED**  
12-19-17

Juliana Roe, WSAC Policy Director provided a handout and reviewed the 2018 Legislative Priorities and the background: 1. Adequate Funding for Indigent Defense. 2. Rural Water Solutions. 3. Foundational Public Health Services. 4. Local Government Property Tax Revenue.

There was brief discussion on funding locations for Senator Warnick and Representative Dent to look at in an attempt to free up funding for other areas of concern presented today.

Jerry Pettit, Auditor briefly discussed concerns on behalf of the Auditor division at WACO.

The Board thanked Senator Warnick and Representative Dent for their time and all the on-going support throughout each year.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

**DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**



**Mandy Buchholz**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



**Paul Jewell, Chairman**