Board members present: Chairman Laura Osiadacz and Commissioner Paul Jewell. Excused: Vice-Chairman Obie O’Brien.

Others: Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager; Stephanie Hartung, Deputy Prosecutor; Doug Mitchell, Deputy Prosecutor; Jim Goeben, IT Director; Jill Scheffer, Event Center Director;

Fair Board Members: Becky Sherley, Roylene Crawford, Clay Myers, Jerry Lael, Jared Fudacz, C.L Clarke and Jessie Blackwood.

Stephanie Hartung, Deputy Prosecutor provided information on some concerns that have been raised by various County Departments over the years relating to Fair Board operations including if the Board members were employees; should they have email; should they track their time for L&I purposes; and if they are subject to the same policies and disciplinary proceedings as traditional County employees. She indicated that according to RCW 36.37.040 the Counties are required to host a Fair. After review there were two options the County could go including delegating the Fair operations to a non-profit group like Friends of the Fair, or have them be County employees. She reviewed obligations relating the Public Records Act and the Open Public Meetings Act; the new law requiring an hour of sick leave per 40 hours worked for PRA & OPMA obligations; the new sick leave law; tracking hours in Novatime and compensation. There was discussion on various ways to track email of Board members and the Commissioner preferred setting up G Suite emails instead of having County emails.

Clay Myers said the Fair Board doesn’t have an interest at this time in putting on the Fair as a Non-Profit. Commissioner Jewell said there were various models of how counties host their Fair as required by RCW, but they don’t operate it, rather it’s another entity that does. The Board came to a consensus to appoint a committee to work on possible solutions which would include a representative from the Prosecutors office, Human Resource Department, IT (when needed), Auditors office (when needed) Event Center Director, a Commissioner and 4 or less members of the Fair Board. Once the Fair Board has determined who will be representatives on
the committee they were instructed to contact Commissioner Osiadacz so she could set up a meeting with all parties involved.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

Julie Kjorsvik

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Laura Osiadacz, Chairman