

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

WEDNESDAY

9:00 A.M.

NOVEMBER 19, 2008

Board members present: Chairman Mark McClain; Vice-Chairman Alan Crankovich and Commissioner Linda Huber.

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Cathy Bambrick, Homelessness Assistance Committee Member; Nancy Goodloe, Chair of the Homelessness Assistance Committee.

SPECIAL MEETING STRATEGIC PLAN HOMELESSNESS COMMISSIONERS

At approximately 9:00 a.m., Chairman McClain opened a Special Meeting to review the revised draft strategic plan for the Homelessness Assistance Committee.

Nancy Goodloe provided the Commissioners with a full copy of the draft Strategic Plan. She explained that for some reason the plan she sent, as an attachment did not come across as a full document. She explained that there are actually 41 pages and the document the Commissioners received was only ten.

Chairman McClain reviewed some general housekeeping concerns he had regarding the draft strategic plan.

Commissioner Crankovich referenced the portion of the plan regarding housing and assistance for sex offenders. He indicated he was not interested in the least bit to accommodate them.

Chairman McClain explained that we have to have them in homes in order to account and track them. He indicated his appreciation for Commissioner Crankovich's stance on the issue, but felt it was important for him to understand the other side of the issue.

Chairman McClain reviewed some of the homeless counts and questioned if they were accurate.

Nancy explained the difference of state and county definitions of homeless and how the counts are compiled. She indicated that the state definition for Kittitas County indicates that we have 19 homeless and that count came from Hopesource. She explained that Hopesource is hoping to have numbers that are more accurate

in the near future. Nancy indicated that there is one day a year that a task force works on getting homeless counts. She explained this year it would be January 29, 2009. She referred to a format they use to obtain the counts and indicated a form they use as well for reporting.

Chairman McClain expressed his concerns for housing drug dealers. He indicated he was unwilling to provide funds for housing for that.

Cathy questioned if they were "recovering" addicts from drugs or alcohol if we could still provide assistance for housing to those types of individuals.

Nancy reviewed the specifics of the strategic plan with the Commissioners and covered differences in plans. She indicated that the reason the committee wanted to get the plan before the Board was there are so many agencies chomping at the bit to see where the money will be distributed.

Cathy showed the Commissioners a chart of homeless situations causations (refer to pg. 14). She explained her perspective on the necessity of getting this plan implemented and the importance of getting the Affordable housing committee on board with them.

Nancy referenced pg. 30, which outlines the priority focus areas for Kittitas County 10- year plan. She explained that this portion of the plan would need to be revisited yearly.

Chairman McClain questioned the portion of the plan that references hotel rooms at the Thunderbird for sixty dollars a night. He questioned if it would make more sense to purchase a block of rooms.

Nancy reviewed bus fares and hotel expenses that are associated with a person's first day of expenses once being released from jail. She indicated that it was the committee's intent to try and assist with these types of funds.

Commissioner Huber indicated that there are numerous local contractors that could do HUD housing and they could build inexpensive modules.

Cathy reviewed pg. 19 indicating that their first goal was to move homeless people into housing first. She also reviewed pg. 24 indicating their second goal was to provide sufficient and

coordinated supportive services delivery, and last she referred to pg. 26 listed as goal three which is to prevent homelessness through timely financial assistance with case management and effective discharge planning.

Chairman McClain referenced pg. 31 indicating the bold area that states a goal to provide sufficient and coordinated supportive services to homeless households to access the assistance, housing and tools they need to obtain and maintain permanent housing, was a very accurate goal.

Commissioner Huber questioned how many federal programs for housing assistance might not be available next year.

Nancy referred to pg. 35, which lists the 2008 affordable housing locations in Kittitas County.

Chairman McClain questioned whether the Affordable Housing committee was buying into the proposal.

Commissioner Crankovich expressed concern over the possibility of ending up with repeat offenders in a frequent flyer program so to speak. He indicated he did not want to see the program abused.

Chairman McClain referred to a "Catch All" phrase in the plan that indicates the right to refuse services to anyone.

Commissioner Crankovich reiterated his concern and lack of support regarding monies going to sex offenders. Chairman McClain questioned whether a bus ticket would be more supported.

Commissioner Crankovich moved to direct staff to request setting a public hearing on December 2, 2008 to consider formal adoption of the proposed draft strategic plan to reduce homelessness for the January 6, 2009 Agenda. Direction was given for Chairman McClain to work on drafting a Resolution to be considered on the December 16, 2008 Agenda to consider combining the Homelessness Committee and the Affordable Housing Committee into one joint committee. Commissioner Huber seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

OTHER BUSINESS-

LETTER

COUNTY EMPLOYEES

COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner McClain indicated there was a letter requiring Board signature he needed a motion for signature to allow Board

signature. Commissioner Crankovich moved to approve Board signature on a letter to County staff. Commissioner Huber seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Mandy Robinson

Mark McClain, Chairman