

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

**THURSDAY**

**1:30 P.M.**

**DECEMBER 4, 2008**

Board members present: Chairman Mark McClain; Vice-Chairman Alan Crankovich; Commissioner Paul Jewell.

Others present: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Louis Musso III, Rail District Representative; Howard Carlin, Rail District Representative, and three members of the public.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**RAIL DISTRICT**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At approximately 1:30 p.m. Chairman McClain opened a special meeting to receive updates and discuss positive developments that have recently happened regarding the County Rail District.

Mr. Musso explained he was here today to run by some unexpected new strategy's that have come about for funding the rail projects in Washington State. He reviewed other comparable similar rail projects and indicated that in conclusion there are four things to be addressed: 1.) Projects are not in competition for funding; 2.) There has never been a creditable voice for the project; 3.) Project representative with experience; 4.) Significant prospect is approaching. He indicated that a quarter of a million dollars is needed from somewhere to do the feasibility study and the latest news is a new non-profit group is going to be formed that is in a comparable status to a non-profit Chamber of Commerce. He indicated that he is un-aware of a name of the group at this point. He apologized for not being more prepared he indicated that he did not anticipate getting a meeting this quickly with the County. He indicated that the County way in no way being approached for funding however, they may later on ask for letters of support or resolutions showing the County's support. He closed with thanking the Commissioners for the quick meeting and explained that it was his hope to continue having informative meetings to keep the Commissioners in the loop prior to any big announcements being made.

Commissioner Crankovich expressed his appreciation for the meeting and felt they were right on track with the updates being brought to the Commissioners attention.

Commissioner Jewell questioned the specifics of the feasibility study. He questioned whether it was strictly to see if the Rail District could be done or if it was for other projects for the Rail District as well.

Mr. Musso indicated that Commissioner Jewell was right on and that the feasibility study was specifically for seeing if the Rail District was even possible.

Chairman McClain questioned what kind of tunnel work has to be done to get the project done.

Mr. Musso explained that our tunnel here is short enough nothing has to be done, however concerns have been raised regarding the tunnel in Leavenworth regarding fumes.

Commissioner Crankovich expressed his interest in having a meeting with the new group that is in the midst of being formed, so there could be formal introductions.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

**DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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**Mandy Robinson**

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**Mark McClain, Chairman**