

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

TUESDAY

2:00 P.M.

MAY 4, 2010

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

Others: Catherine Dunn, Deputy Clerk of the Board, Judy Pless, Budget and Finance Manager; Cathy Bambrick, Public Health Administrator; Nancy Goodloe, Homelessness Committee; Perry Rowe and Katie Haggin, Housing Authority of Kittitas County; Susan Grindle, HopeSource; Carol Miller Rhodes, EnTrust and 2 persons representing the public.

SPECIAL MEETING HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE 24/7 HOTLINE COMMISSIONERS

At 2:00 p.m. **Chairman Mark McClain** opened the public hearing to consider recommendations by the Homelessness and Affordable Housing Committee to implement a 24/7 Homeless Housing Hotline and provision of Emergency Housing vouchers in Kittitas County on a 12-months trial basis.

Cathy Bambrick, County Representative on the Homelessness Committee, said the Homelessness and Affordable Housing Committee wished to use 2163 fund for a 24/7 Emergency Housing Hotline to distribute housing vouchers to Kittitas County persons. She said they took a survey of the County partners and found the biggest issue is emergency housing at nights and on weekends. The partners said it is important to take care of basic needs before you can move on. They have developed a process that has a phone system with the Housing Authority answering the daytime calls and the Seattle Crisis Line taking the nighttime and weekend calls. They have a screening tool that they use for emergency services, for violence and for mental health issues. The criteria consists of the person being a citizen of Kittitas County and agreeing to go into regular services. The vouchers are available up to 3 times and would be for a reasonable time. The Seattle Crisis Line has a tracking system to keep account of the people as they move through the system until they are out on their own. The proposed budget is for \$27,000 per year, \$4,800 for Seattle Crisis Line, \$7,000 for the Housing Authority and \$15,000 for housing vouchers. The Committee would like to try it for a year with quarterly reporting and then move to work on transitional and long-term housing.

APPROVED

5/18/2010

Commissioner Crankovich asked if the people were eligible for a maximum of three times in a year or over the time of the grant? Ms. Bambrick said it would be over all the time of the grant.

Nancy Goodloe said all costs were fixed but the Housing Vouchers. She indicated \$15,000 would be for 200 nights, but that is an estimate of how many calls the partner groups have been receiving.

Perry Rowe said this would be a one stop shop for housing for County residents. Transient housing would continue to be handled by the Valley Ministerial Association or St. Vincent de Paul.

Katie Haggin, Housing Authority, said the program will use the same hotel partners as Aspen uses as well as their forms. She said they receive a corporate or government rate.

THERE BEING NO PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

Chairman McClain asked Judy Pless for the budget amounts for the Homeless fund. She replied there was \$575,494.34 in the Homeless fund.

EMERGENCY 24/7 HOUSING HOTLINE

Vice-Chairman Jewell moved to approve the 24/7 emergency housing hotline for one year. **Commissioner Crankovich** seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

Vice-Chairman Jewell moved to continue the public hearing until May 18, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. for contract documents. **Commissioner Crankovich** seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD


Catherine Dunn

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Mark McClain, Chairman