

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM
SPECIAL MEETING**

FRIDAY

11:00 A.M.

APRIL 29, 2011

Board members present: Commissioner Paul Jewell Commissioner Alan Crankovich and Commissioner Obie O'Brien.

Others: Catherine Dunn, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Marsha Weyand, Assessor; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; Judy Pless, Budget and Finance Manager; Kirk Holmes, Director of Public Works; Kathy Jurgens, Finance System Manager; Doug D'Hondt, County Engineer.

SPECIAL MEETING

ROAD LEVY UPDATE

ASSESSOR

At 11:00 a.m. **Chairman Paul Jewell** opened a special meeting to consider Road Levy updates.

Chairman Jewell explained that they had discovered that the Road Levy amounts were lower than expected. He said that instead of restoring the 2010 Road Levy after the Levy Shift, it had been added to the new shift. It was intended to be a \$750,000 Shift in 2011 and a \$1,000,000 in 2010 and what actually happened was the addition of the \$1,000,000 to the \$750,000 intended for 2011. \$400,000 less was collected this year as well as the new construction amounts for a total of \$750,000 less.

Assessor Marsha Weyand explained that the terms used were understood differently by each party.

Chairman Jewell said the County is limited by rate, Statutory Maximum and Highest lawful amount.

Marsha Weyand, Assessor, said the if Board wanted to go back to the 2009 amount with the addition of the new construction amounts, they would have had to state in a Resolution they would be lowering the Current Expense Fund and raising the Road Fund to the Bank Capacity. She said the Bank Capacity is the highest lawful amount the County could have captured. She said the Department of Revenue figures the Bank Capacity before the shifts. She said with the wind farms coming onto the rolls for new construction the numbers will be higher. She said they haven't taken the 1% increase in 12 years.

Ms. Weyand showed the forms used for figuring the amounts. For raising the Road Fund, they had to take 125% X \$3,325,693.37 which equals \$4,157,116.71. The 25% increase is \$833,000. She said the Current Expense is lowering and on the form it will be \$6,755,238.43 X 88% equals \$5,944,609.82 plus the new construction which totals \$6,144,609.82. The totals between the two funds is \$10,301,725, which makes a deficit of \$400,000 in the Road Fund.

Auditor Jerry Pettit said the Board needs to decide through the budget process whether we deal with the whole \$400,000 or do it over a number of years. **Chairman Jewell** said the departments are doing well on the budgets and keeping the spending down.

There was a discussion of different scenarios to repay the amount. **Commissioner O'Brien** noted the County isn't in as dire straits as other municipalities.

Marsha Weyand said the County will have to consider the levy rate forms in future for budgeting.

It was decided to schedule another meeting in two weeks for a continued discussion on the issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD


Catherine Dunn

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Paul Jewell, Commissioner