

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

**MONDAY**

**11:00 A.M.**

**DECEMBER 12, 2011**

Board members present: Chairman Paul Jewell, Vice-Chairman Alan Crankovich and Commissioner O'Brien.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Lisa Young, Human Resource Director; Paul Sander, Deputy Prosecutor and Greg Zempel, Prosecutor.

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**SPECIAL MEETING**

**BUDGET & STAFFING**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At 11:00 a.m. Chairman Jewell opened a Special Meeting discuss budget and staffing in the Prosecutors office.

Chairman Jewell indicated the Board was already looking at the 2013 budget and reviewed the current reductions in staff that have been made in other departments. He said the Prosecutors currently have two open positions on the civil side, which they did not intend on filling and are looking at further reductions in their department. He said decisions do not need to be made immediately, as there is some time, but they need to begin looking into the future. He questioned if support staff should be reduced in the Prosecutors office since they are currently down two Deputies. He noted the Board is currently looking into ways of combining some services with the City of Ellensburg, including Information Services.

Greg Zempel, Prosecutor, said on December 15<sup>th</sup> they will begin taking on the interim duties for prosecuting services for the City of Ellensburg, since Fran Chemlewski was recently appointed to serve as Superior Court Judge. He said the City of Ellensburg will be opening up the position and the County was encouraged to apply, which would result in additional revenue.

Chairman Jewell suggested the Prosecutors office discuss their options internally and come back to the Board at a later date with recommendations for reductions and ways of implementation.

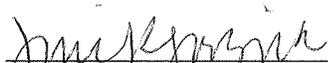
Mr. Zempel asked what type of reductions in legal work would the Board want to impose if staff is further downsized. The Board indicated they had not heard anything back from the committee who was to have met to discuss the types of contracts that need to be reviewed by the Prosecutors office. Paul Sander, Deputy Prosecutor, said the committee met, but was not sure of the end results. Staff was directed to schedule a Special Meeting with the Management Team

to discuss contract review by the Prosecutors office. Chairman Jewell said he would like the Prosecutors office to look at operational changes and ways to reduce their overall salary/benefits line item. Mr. Zempel asked if they were going to try and reduce their budget by 10%, could it be offset with revenues? The Board said it would be worth considering, but to make sure those funds were not year to year.

Staff was directed to schedule a meeting in another month to receive an update from the Prosecutors office to see what options they have come up with.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

  
Julie Kjorsvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
Paul Jewell, Chairman