

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

FRIDAY

10:00 A.M.

MARCH 23, 2012

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

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Debbie Myers, Board Clerk/Receptionist; and 26 members of the public.

SPECIAL MEETING

HOTEL MOTEL TAX DISBURSMENT

COMMISSIONERS

At approximately 10:00 am. Chairman Crankovich opened a Special Meeting to review applications submitted for the second round of Hotel Motel Tax fund disbursement. He reviewed the process for the meeting. He stated that Kittitas County currently imposes a 4% lodging tax which is assessed on the sale of or change made for the furnishing of lodging according to RCW 67.28.180 and RCW 67.28.181. He explained that the intent of the tax is to provide funding for the support of tourism, tourism promotion, and tourism related facilities within Kittitas County. Funds are compiled annually and then distributed throughout the County to qualifying organizations in the form of reimbursable grants. He reviewed different ways the funds can be used and as well as the makeup of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC). He explained that on January 24, 2012 recommendations from the LTAC were considered by the BoCC, noting that there were 20 applications received totaling \$316,457.00 in requests and five applications were disqualified, leaving 15 for consideration. He stated that the amount awarded for those applications totaled \$115,796.00, which was well below what was available to be distributed. He explained that the Board felt it was important to provide the highest level of opportunity to flush funding back into the community to promote tourism. He noted that at that time it was determined there would be a \$50,000.00 cap on requests with a deadline of February 29, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

Debbie Myers, Clerk of the LTAC reviewed a staff report. She stated that on behalf of the LTAC they have recommended to use \$50,000.00 of Hotel/Motel funds per year over the next four years, to support the purchase of property adjacent to the Kittitas County Event Center and to additionally consider the LTAC recommendations to disburse approximately \$134,910.00 dollars of Hotel Motel funds for the second round of grants in 2012. She explained there was a total

APPROVED
4/3/2012

of 29 applications received for the second round with requests totaling \$464,610.00 dollars.

Commissioner Paul Jewell, Chair of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) reviewed a letter outlining the Committees proposals for the 2012 funds, as well as the ten applications that were recommended to be disqualified and reasons why. He noted that the letter was submitted to the Board of County Commissioners on March 15, 2012 from the (LTAC).

Commissioner Jewell moved to accept and support the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee's recommendations to disqualify the following applications: Cascade Cow Cutters, City of Roslyn Historic and Planning Commission, Cle Elum Improvement Association, Daniel Beard Rodeo, Ellensburg Rodeo, Roslyn Downtown Association, RSVP and Volunteer Center of Kittitas County, Spirit of the West Cowboy Gathering, Upper Kittitas County Senior Center, Upper Kittitas County Senior Center (2nd application). Commissioner O'Brien seconded. Commissioner Jewell felt that the motion follows consistency of years past in supporting the recommendations of the (LTAC). Motion carried 3-0.

The Board approved the following requests after review and consideration from reports provided by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee and the applicants which were in attendance on behalf of their organization.

	NAME OF ORGANIZATION	AMOUNT REQUESTED	LTAC REC	AMOUNT APPROVED
1.	Cascade Cow Cutters	10,000.00	DQ	0
2.	City of Roslyn Historic and Planning Commission	5,000.00	DQ	0
3.	Cle Elum Improvement Association	21,000.00	DQ	0
4.	Daniel Beard Rodeo	2,000.00	DQ	0
5.	Ellensburg Rodeo	25,000.00	DQ	0
6.	Roslyn Downtown Association	50,000.00	DQ	0
7.	RSVP and Volunteer Center of Kittitas County	1,545.00	DQ	0
8.	Spirit of the West Cowboy Gathering	25,000.00	DQ	0
9.	Upper Kittitas County Senior Center	5,000.00	DQ	0
10.	Upper Kittitas County Senior Center (2nd application)	2,500.00	DQ	0
11.	Central Washington Resource Energy Collaborative (CWREC)	8,000.00	8,000.00	7,500.00

12.	Jazz In the Valley	3,500.00	1,750.00	2,000.00
13.	WA ST Horse Park	50,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
14.	Easton Memorial Day Parade	2,725.00	500.00	700.00
15.	Kittitas Co. Chamber of Commerce	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
16.	Kittitas Environmental Education Network (KEEN)	7,500.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
17.	Ellensburg Youth Baseball & Softball	31,380.00	-	0
18.	Clymer Museum of Art	5,000.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
19.	Friends of the KC Fairgrounds	15,000.00	-	0
20.	Gallery One	2,510.00	1,660.00	1,660.00
21.	Northern Kittitas Co. Historical Society	2,700.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
22.	KC Fair	15,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
23.	Kittitas Valley Jr. Soccer Assoc.	51,000.00	14,000.00	14,000.00
24.	Friends of the Northern Pacific Depot	49,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00
25.	Roslyn Ronald Cle Elum Heritage Club	6,450.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
26.	Alley Cat Artists	4,000.00	-	140.00
27.	Ellensburg Film Festival	10,000.00	-	0
28.	KC Historical Society	3,800.00	-	0
	TOTAL	\$464,610.00	\$134,910.00	\$135,000.00

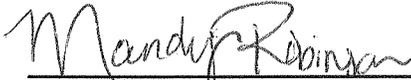
The Board discussed the allocations and considered proposals for funding in addition to the recommendations of the (LTAC) due to further detail and explanation during the applicant presentations.

Commissioner Jewell moved to accept and award a total of \$135,000.00 in Hotel Motel Grants as discussed and recommended by the LTAC and BOCC. Commissioner O'Brien seconded. Commissioner Jewell thanked the (LTAC) for all of the time and effort they put into reviewing the applications for a second round and making recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner O'Brien echoed Commissioner Jewell's statements and also thanked the applicants for taking the time to be present today. Chairman Crankovich thanked the LTAC for all their work as well as expressed his appreciation for the work Commissioner Jewell has done over the past few years, noting that he has taken on the project and was the lead on pursuing the lodging tax increase a few years ago. Motion carried 3-0.

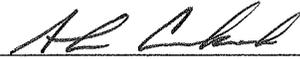
Meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Mandy Robinson



Alan Crankovich, Chairman