

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

THURSDAY

12:30 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

Board members present: Chairman Gary Berndt; Vice Chairman Obie O'Brien; and Commissioner Paul Jewell.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Senator Jim Honeyford; Representative Bruce Chandler; Laura Merrill, Washington State Association of Counties; Representative Cary Condotta; Mike Livingston, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife; Anna Clarke, Peter Dysktra, Plauche & Carr; Clay Sprague, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife; Ann Larson, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife; Jill Scheffer, Forterra; Tom Bugert, Nature Conservancy; Scott Merriman, Washington State Treasurer's Office; Eric Johnson, Washington State Association of Counties; Josh Weiss, Washington State Association of Counties and 6 other representatives from State agencies.

SPECIAL MEETING

PILT UPDATE

COMMISSIONERS

At 12:30 p.m. Chairman Berndt opened a Special Meeting to received updates on PILT from the Washington State Association of Counties.

Laura Merrill, Washington Association of Counties explained how the PILT funds have been frozen at the 2009 levels. She thought the group could discuss issues, strategies and any other ideas that may help answer questions that the Legislators may have.

There was discussion and information shared on various impacts to the Counties affected by the freeze. Commissioner Jewell said the Board has taken the position to not support any more acquisitions until the issue has been resolved. It was noted the importance of coordination in order to help those Counties that have been extremely impacted, especially in the Central Washington areas. A suggestion was made to have one coordinator work with all the participants and they would be the ones to schedule weekly meetings and ensure everyone's voices are heard and are on the same page. Senator Honeyford said he anticipated seeing a lot of financial pressures on the upcoming budget & supplemental budget on issues relating to water, fire and education, but noted it is worth the discussion. Commissioner

APPROVED
12/16/15

Jewell said it was evident that there was a lot of support to move forward. It was suggested on having 4 or 5 members from the Counties and 4-5 from the NGO groups.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD



Julie Kjorsvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Gary Berndt, Chairman