

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

FRIDAY

11:00 A.M.

DECEMBER 9, 2016

Board members present: Chairman Obie O'Brien; Vice-Chairman, Paul Jewell & Commissioner Laura Osiadacz.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Brett Wachsmith, Treasurer; Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; 5 members of the Rodeo Board and 2 members of the public.

SPECIAL MEETING

RODEO ARENA SEATING PROJECT

COMMISSIONERS

At 11:00 a.m. Chairman O'Brien opened a Special Meeting to consider a letter supporting a partnership for the Rodeo Arena project.

Carl Jensvold, Ellensburg Rodeo Board member said their group was 100% committed to the Rodeo Arena seating project. He said they had met with Representative Matt Manweller and he suggested obtaining letters of support by January so they are ready to go with the next session for potential funding assistance from the State. The Rodeo Board wants to be proactive so they had directed him to reach out to the City of Ellensburg to discuss the issue of partnering in the project. The City Manager said he would like to know what is expected of them as far as how much funding they will be requesting and the expectations. The estimated cost of the Rodeo Arena seating project is \$10.2 million dollars. The Rodeo Arena Grandstand Committee will be meeting next week and at that time they will be obtaining the cost of the project.

Chairman O'Brien felt obtaining letters of support for the project from various stakeholders would be very beneficial including the Yakama Nation, Department of Fish & Wildlife, etc. as they would most likely carry more weight in Olympia. Commissioner Jewell asked how much the barn improvement project was going to cost and questioned what plan B was if the legislature does not fund the \$6 million dollars. The approximate cost of combining the two projects would be approximately \$12.2 million dollars, and they will be requesting the State to pay \$6 million dollars of it. Chairman O'Brien provided ideas on funding for the County's portion including .09 funds, Lodging Tax, and General Obligation Bonds. Commissioner Osiadacz explained how there were a lot of other projects in the County that would like funding assistance from the Lodging Tax Funds such as the Washington State Horse Park and she did not want to use all of the funds for one project. Commissioner Jewell said that amount would wipe out the Lodging Tax Funds for the next 20 years

and would not be in favor of dedicating those funds solely to one project.

The Board of Commissioners said they would like a presentation made back to them once they have more financial information. It was suggested that if the State were to fund the \$6 million dollars, then the remaining funds would need to be split up for example \$100,000 from the Rodeo Board, and \$200,000 from the County and City of Ellensburg. Once the anticipated costs are provided each entity needs to go before the City Council to request their partnership and for funding.

RESOLUTION 2016-165

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

TREASURER

Commissioner Jewell moved to approve Resolution No. 2016-165, Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds of the County in the Aggregate Principal Amount of \$5,539,000.00 for the Purpose of Acquiring Property, Financing Water Bank Acquisitions, and Making Capital Improvements to County Facilities: Providing the Date, Form, and Repayment Terms of Said Bonds and for the Annual Levy of Taxes to Pay the Principal of and Interest on the Bonds; and Approving the Sale of Such Bonds. Commissioner Osiadacz seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD



Julie Kjonsvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Obie O'Brien, Chairman