

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM  
ELLENSBURG, WASHINGTON**

**FRIDAY**

**3:30 P.M.**

**MARCH 3, 2017**

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

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Josh Hink, Interim Fire Marshal; Lisa Young, HR Director; John Sinclair, KVFR Chief; Rich Elliott, KVFR Deputy Chief and Joe Seemiller, KVFR Fire Marshal

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**FIRE MARSHAL STRUCTURE-KVFR**

**BOCC**

At 3:30 p.m. Chairman Jewell opened a Special Meeting to discuss with representatives of Kittitas Valley Fire & Rescue (KVFR), the future structure of the Fire Marshal's Office.

Chairman Jewell gave a brief history of the discussions and decisions that have taken place to land them where they are presently.

Commissioner Osiadacz briefly reviewed the discussion that took place previously when she met with KVFR, County HR Staff and Interim Fire Marshal Josh Hink as well as the options she prepared for the BoCC's consideration.

Chief John Sinclair stated that KVFR's costs would be more for the County than what the City pays for KVFR's services because the County is much larger and has more need. He stated that KVFR wants to be good neighbors but can't take on the County's liability. He questioned what the County is trying to solve. Chairman Jewell stated that the County is looking for the best model for its citizens. Chief Sinclair stated that the easiest part to figure out would be cost. He stated that figuring out the authority would be much more difficult and complex. Chairman Jewell questioned what the relationship with the City is and how the authority breaks down between the two agencies. He also questioned how appeals and variances are handled.

There was discussion on process options & model options.

Joe Seemiller, KVFR Fire Marshal stated that he would like to see cross training so that he and Deputy Fire Marshal Hink would be able to cover for each other for vacations and sick leave, etc. He stated that currently they are barely treading water in both their inspections.

Rich Elliott, KVFR Deputy Chief suggested that they market the services to the surrounding municipalities.

There was discussion on the current formula and whether or not it's sufficient.

Rich Elliott, KVFR Deputy Chief stressed to the BoCC that if they choose this route they need to be 100% sure it is what they want, because it will be between 50 and 100 hours of work upfront between working with the Union, City of Ellensburg and the KVFR Commissioners.

Chief Sinclair stated that this is possible, but they just need to figure out the authority chain, etc.

KVFR left the meeting.

Staff was directed to set a follow up Special Meeting for 3/7/2017 to allow time for the Board to consider everything discussed and debrief.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

**DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**

  
Mandy Buchholz

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
Chairman, Paul Jewell