

**KITTITAS COUNTY  
PUBLIC WORKS STUDY SESSION MINUTES  
COMMISSIONERS' AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109 - ELLENSBURG  
Regular Meeting**

**MONDAY**

**1:30 PM**

**February 22, 2016**

Board members present: Commissioner Gary Berndt, Commissioner Paul Jewell

Others: Mark Cook, Candie Leader, Gail Weyand, Public Works; Doc Hansen, Stephanie Mifflin, Lindsey Ozbolt, Community Development Services; Neil Caulkins, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Daily Record

Additional items were added to the agenda: Tracking Software and Road Improvement District Discussion

**FLOODING UPDATE**

Mark Cook reported that there was localized flooding in the Upper County with most of the damage being done to road shoulders. Mark Cook stated that previous repairs done on Lambert Road the Dickie Creek bridge held and Ringer Loop was flooded again. Mark Cook continued that staff held a meeting with FEMA to discuss the November flood event. Mark Cook added that two slide events occurred and staff met with property owners along where the slide happened. Discussion was held.

**FLOODPLAIN PERMIT CONSULTANT UPDATE**

Mark Cook stated that staff recently solicited Jacobs Engineering for floodplain permit support costs and after discussions found that the staff doing the permits are not local in the area. Mark Cook continued that he then spoke with Cardno for the same services and received a proposal from them. Mark Cook added that he is continuing to work with both firms for a solution and staff will be sending current permits to Jacobs in the interim. Discussion was held.

**FISH BARRIER REMOVAL PROJECT UPDATE**

Mark Cook stated that during the Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan discussions staff had been looking at a project in the Teanaway and received contact by Fish and Wildlife regarding a grant application opportunity for two barrier projects. Mark Cook continued that Yakama Nation was also asked to participate and could use their contracting template for the contract. Discussion was held.

#### **WATERSHED SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING TASK ORDER**

Mark Cook stated that staff has two task orders in process for follow up work with Watershed Science and Engineering for remapping projects. Mark Cook continued that one is for seven miles of Currier Creek and the other is for a reduced scope of the Lower Yakima River area. Discussion was held.

#### **MANASTASH BRIDGE PROJECT UPDATE**

Mark Cook reported that the contractor has cast new abutments and wing walls on the bridge. Mark Cook continued that the culvert removal will occur once flows have dropped. Mark Cook added that the fabricator missed producing re-enforcing steel placement and staff rejected the proposed bridge girder. Discussion was held.

#### **N. THORP HIGHWAY/TANEUM ROAD BRIDGE PROJECT UPDATE**

Mark Cook stated that during routine bridge inspections there was significant decomposition to the structure at North Thorp Highway and Taneum Road. Mark Cook continued that staff did a review of getting a temporary structure in place; however, the bridge to be secured did not meet specifications. Mark Cook added that staff is now working on getting project documents together for the sealed bid process. Discussion was held.

#### **CITY OF KITTITAS - PATRICK AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

Mark Cook gave background on the project within the City of Kittitas. Mark Cook stated that county staff assisted with plan review and submitted comments for revision to the plans. Mark Cook added that Gray and Osborne is the Consultant on the project and Public Works will be assisting with pay requests and other contracting documents. Discussion was held.

#### **HIRING PANEL UPDATE**

Mark Cook stated that the department is getting ready for the first round of applicants for the County Engineer, County Surveyor and Water Resource Manager. Mark Cook continued that he would like to see a Board member sit on the hiring panel for interviews and who the Board would like to have on the panel for the interviews as well. Discussion was held.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Mark Cook reported that the current software used to track work orders is no longer supported by the company it was purchased from. Mark Cook stated that only one staff member can use the software and he has found a potential solution for replacement of the current system. Mark Cook continued that a demonstration has been scheduled and the cost is around \$12,000 a year. Mark Cook added that he would like to reach out to Patti Johnson to see if it's something she would like to use for the Maintenance department. Discussion was held.

Mark Cook gave background on numerous road issues that have come up lately. Mark Cook stated that he did some research and found a possible solution with the establishment of Road Improvement Districts (RID). Mark Cook continued that he would like to do a presentation on the concept of a RID and the benefits. Discussion was held.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
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Candie Leader

  
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Laura Osiadacz, Chairman