

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

WEDNESDAY

9:00 A.M.

MARCH 16, 2016

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

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Mark Cook, Public Works Director/Interim County Engineer; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; Lindsey Ozbolt, Staff Planner and 12 members of the public.

SPECIAL MEETING

BLACK HORSE DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC WORKS

At 9:00 a.m. Chairman O'Brien opened a Special Meeting to discuss & receive an update from Public Works Staff regarding the Black Horse Development.

Mark Cook, Public Works Director apologized for not being able to attend his Regular Study Session on Monday 3-14-2016. He stated that this was set up as an extension of that and meant to be informal, and just so that he could provide the Board a brief update. He apologized for any confusion that the meeting notice may have created. Mr. Cook reviewed the significant winter events this past year. He reviewed direction he had given to the former County Engineer with regard to preparing an emergency plan. He discussed the importance for a Bond for Phase 1, noting the impacts of one winter, however the facilities were designed for a 25 year event. He explained that the County is currently concerned with the design not meeting County standards. He stated that the applicant is very engaged in the process. He expressed his confidence with the County remaining very involved & respectful with the neighbors and the applicant to find a solution.

There was discussion amongst the Board and Staff regarding de-watering as well as the concern that the application approved back in 2006 was approved for a 25 year event and is failing already, yet no work has been done. There was discussion on what options the County currently has available.

The Board explained that the County and Public Works have inherited what the County Engineer previously approved and they will work towards a solution.

The Board asked the applicant if they were aware of the issues & concerns and questioned what they were doing to work towards a resolution with the County.

Chairman O'Brien allowed public comment for a maximum of 3 minutes each.

Oenone Kinman, 1113 West Bender Road, provided handouts of aerial photos of flooding that has impacted her property and her neighbors due to the Black Horse Development. She questioned why they have been allowed to raise the bank which diverts water onto her property.

John Woods, 1206 West Bender Road, requested to speak. Commissioner Jewell stated that due to the County still being in litigation with Mr. Woods, he was not comfortable discussing anything at this time. Chairman O'Brien and Commissioner Berndt supported Commissioner Jewell's statements.

Dan (last name unknown), stated that growing up here as a kid he recalls the flooding issues, but feels the typography has changed. He expressed concerns.

Larry Brown, Ellensburg Water Company stated that he has documented 12 events in the last 10 years. He stressed the importance of the work and the process. He expressed concerns for his ditch and the maintenance he has to do, due to the flooding. He thanked Mr. Cook for doing a great job at working with all parties involved.

Mr. Cook stated that he is expecting to see a proposal from the applicant within the next 30 days. The Board questioned what they should expect going forward. Mr. Cook explained that he will continue to work with the neighbors and applicant and to keep everyone advised of what's going on, including the BoCC.

OTHER BUSINESS-


Mr. Cook provided the Board a brief update on the status of Public Works current vacancies.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD


Mandy Buchholz

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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Obie O'Brien, Chairman