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

MONDAY	**1:30 PM**	**APRIL 8, 2019**

Board members present: Chairman Cory Wright; Vice-Chairman Brett Wachsmith; Commissioner Laura Osiadacz

Others: Mark Cook, Candie Leader, Public Works; Lindsey Ozbolt, Calvana Carper, Jessica Miller, Community Development Services and Seven (7) Members of the Public

At 1:34 pm Chairman Cory Wright opened the Public Works Study Session.

Mark Cook requested to add Ridgecrest Drive Discussion under Other Business. Chairman Cory Wright requested to add Motorized Vehicle Discussion as well.

TEMPORARY FLAGGERS

Mark Cook explained the challenges Public Works is having in hiring flaggers due to the current wage rate. Mark Cook stated that he would like to propose a wage range between fifteen dollars an hour ($15) and eighteen dollars an hour ($18) depending on the experience of the candidate applying for the position. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to move forward with implementing the wage range.

CERTIFIED AGENCY REQUEST - CITY OF CLE ELUM

Mark Cook gave background on the Certified Agency program and requirements the County has to follow to maintain the Certified status. Mark Cook stated that the City of Cle Elum had requested Public Works assist them in the first phase of a construction project for improvements to First Street. Mark Cook continued that phase two (2) of the project will begin soon and Public Works will need to have some additional resources to conduct inspections on upcoming projects in addition to assisting the City of Cle Elum. Mark Cook added that he would like to hire two (2) temporary Equipment Operators and use existing Equipment Operators for construction inspections. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to hire two (2) temporary Equipment Operators for the construction season.

WEIHL ROAD DESIGN ALTERNATIVE UPDATE

Mark Cook stated that discussions have been had at previous study sessions regarding the Weihl Road RID. Mark Cook continued that at the last meeting the Board directed staff to pursue a more cost effective alternative for the project by securing slope easements from property owners. Mark Cook added that one property owner was

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expressing interest in agreeing to the slope easement, however, the other owner has been non-responsive. Mark Cook explained the need for SEPA for the project now due to discovering a defunct irrigation system. Mark Cook commented that he is looking for Board direction on how to move forward with the project. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to submit the SEPA and move forward with advertisement of the project for bids.

UPDATE ON TAX PARCEL 693835

Mark Cook stated that after the last study session update on this topic he submitted a request to the Prosecuting Attorney's office to confirm his research regarding the use RCW 39.33.060 to convey the tax parcel to the City of Cle Elum to establish a dog park. Mark Cook continued that a legal opinion was received and confirmed that RCW was appropriate. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to prepare enabling documents for property transfer.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS PROPOSED POLICY AMENDMENT

Mark Cook reported that last year the Council of Governments (COG) updated their policies to facilitate the processing of submitted applications and the Board approved those policies by resolution. Mark Cook stated that at a recent COG meeting it was discussed to amend policy 2018-01 directing that members do not score their jurisdictions applications for public facility fund requests. Mark Cook continued that he will be presenting the updated policy to COG for approval at the next meeting. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to bring back for Board approval after the COG meeting was held and a recommendation to amend the policy was made.

KLOCKE LEVEE REPAIR UPDATE

Mark Cook reported that for the last few years Public Works has been attempting to repair the Klocke Levee. Mark Cook gave background on the US Army Corp of Engineers PL 84-99 program and the process staff has gone through with Burlington Northern Sante Fe Railroad securing permits to access their property to conduct repairs. Mark Cook continued that property owners were also contacted in 2017 to obtain access for repairs as well. Mark Cook added that at that time one property owner granted access and the other modified the agreement adding terms. Mark Cook stated that these property owners are being benefited by rate payers' dollars through the Flood Control Zone District and if they won't allow access; the next step would be giving notice of abandoning the levee. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to move forward with efforts to repair the Klocke Levee.

OTHER BUSINESS:

RIDGECREST DRIVE DISCUSSION

Mark Cook gave background on Ridgecrest Drive and the issues had with access during the Jolly Mountain Fire by emergency agencies. Mark Cook continued that when the Twenty (20) Year Transportation Plan was finalized the Board requested that the plan include evacuation routes and Ridgecrest Drive was identified as an option. Mark Cook added that several property owners are interested in defining costs to possibly form a Road Improvement District to bring this road up to standard. Discussion was held. No direction was given.

ORV USE/ISSUES

Chairman Cory Wright stated that Pat Deneen approached him about speaking on an event that occurred over the weekend involving off road vehicles. Pat Deneen reported that several homeowners in the Roslyn Ridge area own ATV vehicles and use trails and internal roads for use of their vehicles. Pat Deneen continued that a resident was chased by Fish and Wildlife for riding in the area and this has brought up issues regarding safety and the need for a place to enjoy this recreational activity. Discussion was held. The Board requested that Pat Deneen schedule a meeting with the Board and members of his community for further discussions.

Meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm.

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Candie Leader

Cory Wright, Chairman