

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
WEBEX  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY**

**9:00 A.M.**

**AUGUST 11, 2020**

Board members present via WebEx: Chairman Brett Wachsmith; Vice-Chairman Laura Osiadacz; and Commissioner Cory Wright.

Others via WebEx: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Mandy Buchholz, Deputy Clerk of the Board II; Taylor Crouch, Deputy Clerk of the Board I; Mark Cook, Public Works Director/Interim Engineer; Benjamin West, Director of Airport Operations; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; and 17 members of the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**FISH - LEASE BOWERS FIELD**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

At 9:00 a.m. Chairman Wachsmith opened a Public Hearing to consider a proposed Land Lease with FISH Community Food Bank.

**MARK COOK, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/INTERIM ENGINEER** provided a Staff Report and reviewed a proposed 30-year land Lease with FISH Community Food Bank. He recommended approval of the Lease for Lot C-30 of the Bowers Field binding site plan (BS-18-0001). **COMMISSIONER WRIGHT** asked questions of Staff including the right of first refusal. **NEIL CAULKINS, DEPUTY PROSECUTOR** and **BENJAMIN WEST, DIRECTOR OF AIRPORT OPERATIONS** answered questions and provided clarification on the appraisals. **PEGGY MORACHE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FISH** reviewed their intentions on the space as well as the services they provide to the community. **CHARISSA JOHNSTON, REPRESENTING FISH** reviewed a provision to address wrongful termination term.

**THOSE PROVIDING PUBLIC TESTIMONY: DIANE BRIGGS, FISH BOARD OF DIRECTORS** spoke of the value of a long-term lease to the community. **MARCUS BOWMAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE FISH BOARD** thanked the Commissioners for working with FISH in establishing a permanent home. **MICHAEL WILSON** provided information on the funding plan. **PHIL BACKLUND, FISH BOARD OF DIRECTORS** spoke in favor of the lease and felt it would be extremely beneficial to their clients and community. **STEVE LATHROP** questioned the provisions of the Lease and the difference in opinions. He urged the Board to take the time to get it right before approving it and that as it currently reads it is not a benefit to Kittitas County. **PEGGY MORACHE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FISH** thanked everyone for their input and was in favor of redefining the document to ensure it is fair and equitable for everyone involved. **THERE BEING NO OTHERS REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**COMMISSIONER WRIGHT** moved to continue the Public Hearing to August 18, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. to allow for additional time to redefine the terms of the lease. **COMMISSIONER OSIADACZ** seconded.

**COMMISSIONER WRIGHT** thanked everyone involved for their work. He explained retaining light industrial out at the Airport, and that the investment by FISH would be significant and he believes they will be a good, long term tenant. **COMMISSIONER OSIADACZ** said she's observed a lot of support for FISH and it's proposed location. She said she will be ready to move forward with the proposed Lease at the continued Public Hearing. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** said he was a proponent of FISH and felt they were a good fit out in the area.

Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

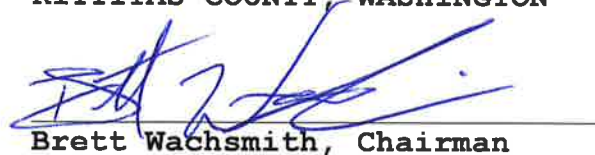
CLERK OF THE BOARD



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Julie Kjorsvik

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON



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Brett Wachsmith, Chairman