

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

MONDAY

1:30 PM

August 14, 2023

Board members present: Chairman Cory Wright and Vice Chairman Brett Wachsmith.

Others: Mark Cook, Josh Fredrickson, Arden Thomas, Rebecca Cruse, Public Works; Jessica Miller, Jamey Ayling, Community Development Services; Stephanie Hartung, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; 5 members of the public.

At 1:35 PM Chairman Cory Wright opened the Public Works Study Session.

No Citizen Comments.

COMPAS AND GIS WETLANDS LAYER INVESTIGATION

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the origin of the wetlands layer on Kittitas County's GIS software. Mark Cook stated he has requested Jacobs to assist in refining the wetland map in Compas and proposed that a wetland's specialist can be contracted for analysis.

KITTITAS COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE PROPOSED PURCHASING POLICY SECTION 4.2B

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on revisions to the proposed purchasing policy and stated circumstances where action must be taken for funding when legal review isn't completed within the necessary timeline. The Board consulted Stephanie Hartung and she understood extenuating circumstances do exist where experienced Directors' do make funding decisions without completion of legal review. Mark Cook requested the Board consider the fiscal impacts and delays this could have on public works contracts if implemented.

DRAFT 6-YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN (2024-2029)

Josh Fredrickson requested the Board of County Commissioners to set a public hearing to consider adoption of the Six- Year Transportation Improvement Plan. Josh Fredrickson stated that with fund reallocation the Road Fund is budgeted to run out of funding. Direction to staff to bring forward enabling documents for public hearing for consideration in September.

CERTIFIED ACCEPTANCE (CA) AGENCY FOR THE CITY OF CLE ELUM

Josh Fredrickson stated Public Works received a request from City of Cle Elum to provide administrative services as the Certified Acceptance agency for City of Cle Elum's First Street Downtown Revitalization federal funding. Direction to staff is to prepare interlocal agreement for consideration.

EASTON FIRST STREET VACATION REQUEST

Josh Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners on request received to Public Works to vacate a portion of First Street in Easton and is requesting the Board to set a public hearing for consideration.

HYAK DRIVE EAST DISCUSSION

Josh Fredrickson updated the Board of County Commissioners about discussion with Snoqualmie Pass Utility District about County owned right-of-way that is currently not an on-system road but continues to a Forest Service Road. Josh Fredrickson stated during winter months the road is gated at a turn around. Direction to staff is to present this on the next Public Lands Advisory Committee Agenda.

2023 DROUGHT PRESS RELEASE

Arden Thomas requested the Board of County Commissioners support to issue a notice acknowledging drought, promoting the Kittitas County Conservation District's Heritage Garden Program, and that the County has purchased water rights for exempt well water users in the County. The Board is supportive of press release.

WATER AVAILABILTY FOR SKI TUR AND STARWATER DEVELOPMENTS

Arden Thomas briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the water availability for 2 recreational developments in the Snoqualmie Pass Gold Creek Valley. Arden Thomas stated that The Yakama Nation and Department of Health and Ecology have recommendations for capping the number of connections for both developments. Arden Thomas stated conversations with Snoqualmie Pass Utility District have identified that these are outside of the District's service area but the District is open to exploring expansion of service to the area as a provider of water to the cistern program.

WATER RIGHT CHANGE APPLICATION

Arden Thomas briefed the Board of County Commissioners on available water rights purchased by Kittitas County that Solid Waste no longer needs. Arden Thomas requested the Boards support to submit a Water Right Change Application and first offering the water right to City of Kittitas for purchase, then marketing the water through the county

mitigation bank. Direction to staff to present to the Board for signature.

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE LANDS 20/20

Arden Thomas requested the Board of County Commissioners support to indicate desirable land for Washington Department Fish and Wildlife acquisition. Hannah Bates, Washington Department Fish and Wildlife stated their office has prioritized a couple properties for public access. The Board supports the action staff is taking and requests they seek the input of the Public Lands Advisory Committee.

FIRE STATION 73 COMPLIANCE PLAN DISCUSSION

Arden Thomas briefed the Board of County Commissioners on an audit that identified Fire Station 73 construction is not compliant with FEMA standards for building within the floodplain. Arden Thomas identified 3 options for the station and estimated an approximate 4-year timeline to resolve to avoid further implications. Bill Dickenson, Chair of the Board for Kittitas County Fire District 7 stated he is concerned about the cost the station will incur and would like to see if there is funding available to keep the station where it is currently located for ideal emergency response. Direction was given to staff to implement a compliance plan for the station.

Meeting concluded at 2:42 PM

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Rebecca Cruse, Administrative
Assistant



Cory Wright, Chairman

APPROVED

9-5-2023