

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
PUBLIC HEARING**

**TUESDAY**

**4:00 P.M.**

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2004**

Board members present: Chairman Perry D. Huston, Vice-Chairman Bruce Coe and Commissioner Max Golladay.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board, Paul Bennett, Kelly Carlson, Public Works Department Administrative Assistant; Joy Potter, Public Works Staff and approximately 20 members of the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**E.R. & R BUDGET**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

At approximately 4:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** opened the public hearing amending the Equipment Rental & Revolving Fund for the 2004 Budget.

**PAUL BENNETT, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR** explained how the revolving fund was used for the purchase or manufacture of materials and supplies needed by the county road department. The county has multiple road construction projects located in close proximity to the Reecer Creek Pit Site, planned for 2005. The pit materials would be used on the following road construction projects: Bowers Road Extension, Alford Road Hazard Elimination, and Smithson Road Extension. He had presented a draft Resolution for the Boards consideration.

**THERE BEING NO ONE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**RESOLUTION 2004-108**

**E.R. & R BUDGET**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Commissioner Golladay moved to approve Resolution No. 2004-108, Amending the Equipment Rental and Revolving Fund 2004 Budget. Commissioner Coe seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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**PUBLIC HEARING STOP SIGNS/SPEED LIMITS-EVERGREEN VALLEY PUBLIC WORKS**

At approximately 4:07 p.m. the public hearing was opened to consider the placement of speed and stop signs on Bakers Road, Evergreen Valley Loop Road, Patrick's Park Road, White Pine Road and Red Cedar Drive on to the County Road System, located in T12N, R14E, Sec. 12, all part of the Evergreen Valley Plat, Division II and III.

**PAUL BENNETT, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR** said the Board of County Commissioners adopted the above roads onto the county road system, and in accordance with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), it is appropriate to place traffic control signs on Evergreen Valley Loop Road for public safety. After reviewing traffic volumes, sight distance and restricted access for Patrick's Park Drive, White Pine Drive and Red Cedar Drive, it does not justify signage at this time, and noted they would be monitored and revised if traffic conditions change. He recommended that Evergreen Valley Loop Road have stop signs placed at the following locations: Westbound on Evergreen Loop Road (north portion) east of Baker Road intersection and westbound on Evergreen Loop Road (south portion) east of Baker Road Intersection.

He further recommended amending Kittitas County Code 10.08.010, approving Evergreen Valley Loop Road, Patrick's Park Drive, White Pine Drive and Red Cedar Drive to place a speed limit of 25 MPH and that signs be placed at the following locations: eastbound on Evergreen Loop Road (north portion) east of Baker Road intersection; eastbound on Evergreen Loop Road (south portion) east of Baker Road intersection; southbound on Patrick's Park Drive; eastbound on White Pine Drive; and southbound on Red Cedar Drive.

**THERE BEING NO ONE REQUESTING TESTIFY THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**ORDINANCE 2004-36                      STOP SIGNS-EVERGREEN VALLEY LOOP    PUBLIC WORKS**

Commissioner Golladay moved to approve Ordinance No. 2004-36, Approving the Placement of Stop Signs Westbound on Evergreen Valley Loop Road at the intersection of Bakers Road (north portion) and Westbound on Evergreen Valley Loop Road east of Bakers Road intersection (south portion), effective upon the installation of the appropriate signs. Commissioner Coe seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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**PUBLIC HEARING                      VACATE PORTION WADE ROAD/GLADMAR PARK    PUBLIC WORKS**

At approximately 4:09 p.m. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** opened a public hearing to consider the proposed vacation of an undeveloped portion of Wade Road East of the County Maintained Portion of Wade Road and the Internal Road System located in Gladmar Park.

**PAUL BENNETT, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR** reviewed his Engineer's Report. He said Kittitas County had initiated the potential vacation of the underdeveloped Wade Road east of the County maintained portion of Wade Road and the internal road system located in Gladmar Park as a result of a public request to surplus of Gladmar Park. After review of information, he recommended that the County Commissioners deny

the vacation of the underdeveloped Wade Road in accordance with RCW 36.87.130 and to provide permanent access for the maintenance of the levee system. He also recommended that the Board deny the vacation of the Gladmar Park Road System in accordance with RCW 36.87.130.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: JEFF SLOTHOWER REPRESENTING PACKWOOD CANAL COMPANY** expressed concern that if the road was vacated, they would lose access to the diversion and fish screens. **GORDON BLOSSOM** felt Gladmar Park was essential to keep and said it would eventually become a park again, and urged the Board to not vacate any of the roads. **JIM DePAEPE** explained that he owned the property located at 830 Wade Road. He said his home was burglarized last year from people accessing the river, which made him feel violated. He felt there had been a long history of vandalism in the area from the access. He submitted a report into the record asking that the Board vacate all former Gladmar Roads; resolve the underdeveloped portion of Wade Road, which currently serves as his driveway and private property, and felt he should not have to remove a gate that protects him from further burglaries and assaults to his property and livestock. **HAL LINDSTROM REPRESENTING KITTITAS COUNTY AUDUBON SOCIETY** spoke in favor of the Public Works Director's recommendation to not vacate the portion of Wade Road and Gladmar Park and felt public access to the river was becoming rarer all of the time. **DOUG NICHOLSON REPRESENTING MR. DePAEPE** He said there was no evidence that the County ever maintained the underdeveloped area. **ALAN SULLIVAN** said Mr. DePaepe had spent a lot of time and money with improvements in the area. There had been a lot of littering, illegal fires, vandalism in the area. He mentioned that Central Washington University was interested in obtaining limited access to the area for educational purposes.

The Board recessed for a five-minute break at 5:30 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 5:35 p.m.

**TONY JANTZER, MANAGER OF THE CASCADE IRRIGATION DISTRICT** explained that they used the road to access the river to work on the Gladmar Levee. He said funds had been spent on improving the road and the County had come out to assist. He felt the public should have access to the river as well, and noted it was great for fishing. **JAMES HURSON, CHIEF CIVIL DEPUTY PROSECUTOR** explained that according to statute, the vacation of roads abutting bodies of water are prohibited unless for public purposes or industrial uses. **BRENT RENFROW, REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE** submitted a letter into the record. He said the rights-of-way presently provide legal access for maintenance of waterways and facilities that are important to the public's interests in agriculture and fish and wildlife resources. He urged the Board to not vacate the rights-of-way. **JEFF BALDY** spoke in favor of not vacating the rights-of-way,

claiming that it allows for public recreation along the Yakima River and with the county growing at a fast rate, it should be preserved. **DEAN DUBY** felt there was no purpose for the public to access the river along the rights-of-way. **KEVIN NEMETH** spoke against vacating the rights-of-way and said access to the river was crucial to fly fisherman. **THERE BEING NO ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**CHAIRMAN HUSTON** suggested leaving the written comment period open for additional information.

**CHAIRMAN HUSTON** moved to continue the public hearing to Wednesday October 13, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Auditorium, Room 109, County Courthouse, written record to remain open up to and including the hearing. **COMMISSIONER COE** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The Board noted they may write legal questions to Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor, James Hurson, and if they did, copies would be sent to Mr. Slothower, Mr. Nicholson (representing Mr. DePeape), and Mr. Yantzer (Cascade Irrigation District)

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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**Julie A. Kjorsvik**

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**Perry D. Huston, Chairman**