

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM
SPECIAL MEETING**

WEDNESDAY

11:00 A.M

AUGUST 20, 2008

Board members present: Chairman Mark McClain; Vice-Chairman Alan Crankovich and Commissioner Linda Huber.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board and Darryl Piercy, Director of Community Development Services.

SPECIAL MEETING

CDS - MID YEAR REPORT

CDS

Darryl Piercy, Director of Community Development Services gave an overview of their department's workload over the past six months along with financial data, activity levels and a planning section work program. He said they had been anticipating the downturn in the building industry this year and had budgeted accordingly, noting their revenue numbers were almost right on. He reviewed their budget and explained they were "under budget" by approximately 19.3% by not filling positions right away when they become vacant, not utilizing the hearing examiner position until later on in the year and also by being conservative ordering office supplies and delaying the purchasing of equipment. Commissioner Huber questioned the 2008 budget adopted for 2008, stating it did not look like the downturn was necessarily reflected.

The Board asked how he would propose justifying to the public, having three Permit Techs at the front counter with such a significant downturn in the building industry. He said they may be overstaffed by two or three employees, but noted they are currently utilizing their Permit Techs by rotating them around the office each day to assist with other duties. He said there were many projects that had not been completed in 2007 due to the significant activity they were experiencing. He indicated they have approximately \$120,000 worth of permits waiting to be picked up and they have been calling to remind people of them because they do not get paid until they are picked up. The Board encouraged Mr. Piercy to do some press releases on the various other types of projects they are working on.

He explained they were currently working on watershed planning and would be bringing it forward to the Board in the near future as well as the critical areas ordinance and development agreements with the

cities for consistency. They are also working on outreach in the building and development community because it's extremely important and beneficial to have a good relationship with them.

He stated there was no longer overtime or comp. time allowed in their department unless there is an extreme emergency. Since the County has gone to timekeeping based on a 40 hour week versus 8 hour day, employees either come in late or leave early within the week if they have night meetings.

Mr. Piercy reviewed some projects they anticipate receiving next year including two wind farm permit applications which will each have staffing agreements attached.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Julie Kjorsvik

Mark McClain, Chairman