

**COMMISSIONERS MINUTES  
KITTTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
SPECIAL MEETING  
KITTTITAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS/EVENT CENTER  
TEANAWAY HALL (HOME ARTS BUILDING)**

**TUESDAY**

**6:30 P.M.**

**DECEMBER 8, 2009**

Board members present: Chairman Alan Crankovich, Vice-Chairman Paul Jewell; Commissioner Mark McClain.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Kirk Holmes, Public Works/Interim Community Development Services Director; Dan Valoff, Staff Planner; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; Jan Ollivier, Transportation Manager; Jeff Watson, Staff Planner; Christina Wollman, Staff Planner and approximately 25 members of the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING COMP. PLAN AMENDMENT & EWGHB FINDINGS  
CDS**

At approximately 6:30 p.m. **CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH** opened a public hearing to consider the Planning Commission's recommendations for revisions of the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan to address findings of the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board. He reviewed the hearing process and noted tonight's hearing would be on the proposed recommendations from the Planning Commission on the findings of the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board. He indicated at the end of the evening, the hearing would be continued to Wednesday December 9, 2009, at which time they would begin taking public testimony on the annual Comprehensive Plan amendments.

**JAN OLLIVIER, TRANSPORTATION MANAGER** introduced county staff and consultants who would be making a presentation to the Board. The consultants reviewed a power point presentation which included the Planning Commission recommendations and rationale for the following: new designations for those former UGN areas including Snoqualmie Pass, Easton, Ronald, Thorp, Vantage; analysis including boundary, land capacity, and capital facilities assessments for the City of Kittitas UGA; designation and de-designation of criteria/future countywide review of the Agricultural and Forest Lands of Long-Term Commercial Significance; correction of mapping errors for Alpine Lakes, West Lake Kachess, Ellensburg UGA, and measures to

implement those above recommendations to include Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designations, Zoning and Policies; Revisions to the Countywide Planning Policies; and revisions to the Kittitas County Code. **NEIL CAULKINS, DEPUTY PROSECUTOR** explained how the proposed resource land criteria mirrors the RCW and WAC requirements. He said it also included language which would address the needs of the industry for designation and de-designation.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING:** **BRIAN MURPHY** felt the proposed changes to the language for Forest Lands of Long-Term Commercial Significance and the seven year cycle for de-designation of resources lands did not make any sense. He encouraged the Board to look at that language closely and opposed the change. **TRACEY ROONEY** supported changes to the resource lands criteria including the seven year cycle for de-designation. **PAULA THOMPSON** felt COG's population allocations was not GMA compliant and questioned if they percentage of growth was still valid. She felt the rural recreation was a designation from the original subarea plans. She also asked if Vantage was designated an UGA (Urban Growth Area) at some point, it should not compete with the City UGA's. **KAREN POULSEN** encouraged the Board to not change the criteria for commercial agriculture. She also opposed the seven year review cycle for de-designation of resource lands, because a farmer can be out of business within one year and they may not be able to wait seven years. She encouraged the Board to keep the one year cycle. **DAVID BOWEN, REPRESENTING THE AMERICAN FOREST LAND COMPANY** said the Growth Management Act does not require a seven year review cycle and felt the Board should go back to the original staff proposal for annual reviews. **LISA PARKS, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF KITTITAS** supported the Planning Commission recommendations to expand the City of Kittitas UGA. She explained how the city needs to improve job opportunities. She said COG provided population figures and by 2025 there may be approximately 2,225 people in the city. She encouraged the Board to adopt the Planning Commission's recommendations. **JAMES BOYLE** said although he has concerns about including the veneer plant in Ronald, he recommended accepting the Planning Commission's recommendation for a LAMRID. **ROGER WEAVER** felt the process had been caught mid-deal for an economic use at the interchange near Thorp and did not want the Board to close the door on a review of the area for an addition to the limited area of more intensive rural development (LAMRID) at the interchange and allow it to be

considered in the future. **JAN SHARAR** spoke of the proposed map changes to the UGA in Ellensburg and where land is upzoned to Urban Residential and questioned if the City of Ellensburg justified this with a land capacity analysis and capital facilities plan. She also mentioned the Gibson Pit in the Thorp area and if it should be reviewed as a mineral land of long-term commercial significance. **VIC MONAHAN** opposed the seven year review cycle for de-designation of resource lands. He said he was a stakeholder in the Easton area and questioned why the County needed another year to study the process. **THERE BEING NO ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY, THE VERBAL TESTIMONY PORTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMPLIANCE ISSUES WERE CLOSED.**

**COMMISSIONER JEWELL** asked staff questions of various comments raised in the public testimony. Staff addressed questions asked by Commissioner Jewell.

**CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH** moved to continue the public hearing to Wednesday December 9, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Kittitas County Event Center, Teanaway Hall, noting the public testimony portion of the hearing is open with the exception of the Comprehensive Plan Compliance Issues which were taken at tonight's hearing. **COMMISSIONER JEWELL** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

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Julie A. Kjorsvik  
Clerk of the Board

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Alan Crankovich, Chairman