

**KITTITAS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING**

TUESDAY

2:00 P.M.

DECEMBER 18, 2012

Board members present: Chairman Alan Crankovich; Vice-Chairman Obie O'Brien and Commissioner Paul Jewell.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Roy Chance, Construction Manager; Brenda Larsen, Fire Marshal, Michael Nigrey, Deputy Prosecutor; Kirk Holmes, Public Works Director; Matt Anderson, Facilities Maintenance Director; Doc Hansen, Planning Official; Lindsay Ozbolt, Staff Planner; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager and approximately 11 members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING

EVENT CENTER FEES

FAIR

At 2:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH** opened a Public Hearing to consider Modifying Rates and Fees at the Kittitas Valley Event Center and Kittitas County Fair.

MATT ANDERSON, FACILITIES MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR AND REPRESENTING THE KITTITAS VALLEY EVENT CENTER reviewed the proposed amendments to rates at the Event Center which were based on the current demand and market conditions. He indicated he had consulted with the Fair Board and the proposed increase in rates and fees had been included in their 2013 budget proposal.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-157

EVENT CENTER FEES

FAIR

COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN moved to approve Resolution No. 2012-157, for the Kittitas Valley Event Center Rental Rates/Fee Structure and Kittitas County Fair Fees. **COMMISSIONER JEWELL** seconded. **COMMISSIONER JEWELL** requested Mr. Anderson to work with the Auditor's office to get an equipment replacement fund set up for next year. Motion carried 3-0.

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APPROVED
1/8/2013

PUBLIC HEARING**UTILITY FRANCHISE - MILL POND****PUBLIC WORKS**

At 2:05 p.m. **CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH** opened a Public Hearing to Consider a Commercial Public Utility Franchise to Mill Pond Mobile Home Park, LLC along Canyon Road.

ROY CHANCE, CONSTRUCTION MANAGER reviewed a request they received from Mill Pond Mobile Home Park, LLC for a Commercial Public Utility Franchise. He said their request was for compliance with Kittitas County Code requirements to an existing sanitary sewer line within the Canyon Road Right-of-Way. He indicated it would provide sewage transport from the Mill Pond Mobile Home Park to the City of Ellensburg Sewage facility. He recommended approval of the Franchise Agreement.

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

AGREEMENT**UTILITY FRANCHISE - MILL POND****PUBLIC WORKS**

COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN moved to approve a Non-Exclusive Franchise Agreement to Use County Roads, Rights-of-Way and other County Property between Kittitas County and Mill Pond Mobile Home Park, LLC. **COMMISSIONER JEWELL** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC HEARING**WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE CODE****FIRE MARSHAL**

At 2:08 p.m. **CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH** opened a Public Hearing to Consider Applying the Wildland Urban Interface Code throughout Kittitas County.

BRENDA LARSEN, FIRE MARSHAL explained how Kittitas County had previously adopted the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Code in 2006 and had applied it in all areas outside of the Fire Districts. She reviewed three separate construction requirements based upon the WUI designation and said due to the lack of on-site water supplies, extended response times, the remote and rural nature of the County as a whole, and the wildland fires which occurred this past summer, she requested that the WUI be applied throughout the County.

COMMISSIONER JEWELL asked for clarification on proposed changes to language which would amend Kittitas County Code Title 14. **MS.**

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LARSEN said as long as applicants have defensible space there are ways to mitigate having to have sprinklers in residential structures. She did anticipate a slight increase in their workload however with their current staff she felt they could handle it. **COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN** questioned if there was any monitoring or follow up required by the County. **MS. LARSEN** said they would not be able to monitor it, as they don't have the manpower to police it.

THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: **RUSS HOBBS, FIRE DISTRICT #7** said he lives in one of the areas being designated and although it will cost him personally, he agreed with all of the recommendations. **DJ EVANS, FIRE DISTRICT #1** said he was in support of the proposal as they have been trying to promote it for some time now. He indicated there will be more wildfires in the future and there are homes already built in those areas and they should be proactive rather than reactive. He said they can always make small changes in the future but felt it should be adopted now. **RAY RISDON, FIRE DISTRICT #7** said he agreed with the WUI Code but had concerns with high development, high capacity and high value homes that are already in certain areas. **MITCH WILLIAMS** said the building community generally supports the document but expressed concerns with a portion of the building code and how it will interface with new building applications and water source. He asked what the difference was between driveways and private easements and how they would be applied. He felt the map was too restrictive in its initial designation as well. **RICH ELLIOTT, KITTITAS VALLEY FIRE & RESCUE** indicated they go out and assess high risk areas every 4 years to help those property owners reduce their risks. He explained how the market is taking care of itself as insurance companies have been going out to see if property owners have defensible space and they will usually immediately drop those who do not have it in place. He felt it was important to look long term and find balance between the risks. **DAVE WHITWILL, CENTRAL WASHINGTON HOMEBUILDERS ASSOCIATION** explained how they had been a not part of the conversation and how it would affect the application process for building permits and felt they had not had adequate time to review the proposal. He said they were concerned with the proposed map and he asked for a continuance of the hearing for 30-days to allow for additional written comments to be submitted. **DEBBIE ROBINSON, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES** said they fully supported the Fire Marshal's proposal and felt it was a good way for the community to make responsible choices. She said they have a program in place called "Firewise Communities U.S.A." which could assist the Fire Marshal. **KIRK**

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