



To Protect and Promote the Health and the Environment of the People of Kittitas County

BoH  
Agenda  
5/16

**KITTITAS COUNTY JOINT BOARD OF HEALTH/BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC HEARING  
Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday March 20, 2014  
Commissioners' Auditorium  
10:00 a.m.**

**Present**

Board of Health (BOH): John Asriel M.D., Gary Berndt, Rich Elliott, Paul Jewell, Obie O'Brien

Kittitas County Public Health Department (KCPHD): Candi Blackford, Amy Fuller, Mark Larson M.D., Lisa Morin, Holly Myers, Robin Read, Kaitlyn Reddick, Liz Whitaker

Other Attendees: Anne Riley

*Paul Jewell called the public hearing to order at 10:00 a.m.*

Paul Jewell introduced himself and noted that this was a joint Board of County Commissioners and Board of Health public hearing to consider approving the new leased mitigated water certificate fee.

Robin Read stepped to the microphone and introduced herself. Ms. Read reviewed that in preparation for the proposed changes to Kittitas County Code 13.35 and the development of a Kittitas County Water Mitigation Program to be administered through the Kittitas County Public Health Department, staff have proposed the addition of a new fee to the 2014 Kittitas County Public Health Fee Schedule. The proposed Leased Water Mitigation Certificate Fee of \$2,195.00 was developed in consistency with the Kittitas County Public Health Department Fee Schedule Policy, and incorporates the estimated county cost of leased water. The fee will be updated and implemented when the final cost of leased water is available. There was discussion between Ms. Read and the board about incorporating estimation in all fees.

Dr. Asriel asked what the current process is now and what it will be in the future with water restrictions and water certificate fees. Ms. Read informed Dr. Asriel that right now someone building a home in lower Kittitas County is required to come into the health department and fill out an Adequate Water Determination form and pay the fee of \$305.00. Once approved by the department, this form indicates that the well produces safe and adequate water for the structure. Ms. Read also noted that with the restrictions in Lower County, one would have to purchase mitigated water and then complete the Water Adequate Determination form. Upper Kittitas County is currently covered under the Department of Ecology Rule already in place. Paul Jewell also informed Dr. Asriel of the different water bank options in the county.

Dr. Asriel asked how long the leased water is good for. Paul Jewell informed the Board that leased water

**APPROVED**  
5-6-14

will be good from the date of adoption of the lease program for up to five years. There are a couple of different ways the county can utilize the program in the lower Kittitas County that has time frames associated with it as long as it is within the five years. This will be a one time fee paid to the county for leased water. There is an eighteen month interim period and then the permanent rule will take place. The whole county will eventually be under the same rule after the initial eighteen month interim period is over.

Paul Jewell requested that Judy Pless, Kittitas County Budget Finance Manager, step to the microphone. Mr. Jewell asked Ms. Pless how the county will manage funds specific to the general and public health funds. Ms. Pless informed the board that \$2195.00 will be the county cost recovery for the leased water program. The Kittitas County Auditor's office will recommend setting up a new fund that has guidelines and restrictions based upon a resolution the prosecutors would prepare and present in the near future. The new funds would be set aside and used to pay for the purchased water and would be recorded and deposited by the health department. The funds will then be taken out to pay for the lease program, which is currently \$32,500.00 for the first year and \$25,000.00 for each subsequent year, for up to five years. The resolution to create a separate fund requires the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to take action and will take place at a later date.

Open to public comment at 10:15 a.m.

Brian Williams: 2701 Sorenson Rd, Ellensburg

Mr. Sorenson questioned if the county was creating a water bank, where were the water rights coming from? Paul Jewell stated that the county is currently in negotiations with the City of Roslyn. There was clarification of groundwater vs. surface water. Mr. Jewell also clarified that the county has not created a water bank yet.

Jimmy Applegate: 1511 Kittitas Hwy, Ellensburg

Mr. Applegate asked that if he was to purchase a leased water right for \$2,195.00 and then in eighteen months it was converted into a senior water right would that water right be attached to the property? Paul Jewell stated that if he wanted to purchase senior water rights that he could attach to his property, he could purchase water from one of the other water banks, but the water lease program is not being created for that purpose. There is some risk with this program and the option to purchase water from other water banks in the county is still available, but once a water right is leased the county has an obligation to either continue the lease, or have the senior water rights suitable for mitigation purchased before the lease lapses at no additional charge. Mr. Jewell also clarified that this process is still in the works.

Public Testimony closed at 10:22 a.m.

Paul Jewell discussed the two resolutions, one for the Board of County Commissioners and the other for the Board of Health.

Mr. Jewell asked for a motion to approve the Board of Health Resolution 2014-001.

**Motion 03-01: Motion to approve the signature and approval of the Board of Health Resolution 2014-001 approving the Kittitas County Leased Water Mitigation Certificate Fee. Rich Elliott moved to approve the signature and approval of the Board of Health Resolution 2014-001 approving the Kittitas County Leased Water Mitigation Certificate Fee. Obie O'Brien second. All approved. Motion 03-01 carried to approve the signature and approval of the Board of Health Resolution 2014-001 approving the Kittitas County Leased Water Mitigation Certificate Fee.**

Board of County Commissioners Resolution 2014-054

**Motion 03-02: Motion to approve the signature and approval of the Board of County Commissioners Resolution 2014-054 that approves the Kittitas County Leased Water Mitigation Certificate Fee. Obie O'Brien moved to approve the signature and approval of the Board of County Commissioners Resolution 2014-054 that approves the Kittitas County Leased Water Mitigation Certificate Fee. Gary Berndt second. All approved. Motion 03-02 to approve the signature and approval of the Board of County Commissioners Resolution 2014-054 that approves the Kittitas County Leased Water Mitigation Certificate Fee.**

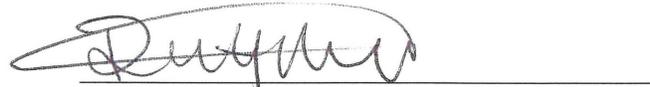
Paul Jewell thanked the Board members for the comments and clarified that the leased water fee is not a regulation, but a technical part of preparing for the water regulations when the Board of County Commissioners approve implementation.

Public Hearing concluded at 10:28 a.m.



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Paul Jewell, Chair of the Board of Health



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Robin Read, Administrator,  
Kittitas County Public Health



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Candi Blackford, Clerk of the Board of Health