

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

**TUESDAY**

**6:00 P.M.**

**APRIL 15, 2014**

Board members present: Chairman Paul Jewell and Vice-Chairman Gary Berndt. Excused: Commissioner Obie O'Brien.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Gene Dana, Sheriff; Clayton Myers, Undersheriff; Christina Wollman, Planner III; Jan Ollivier, Transportation Manager; Karra Bailey, LE Technologist; and approximately 18 members of the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**ALL TERRAIN WHEELED VEHICLES**

**SHERIFF**

At 6:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN JEWELL** opened a Public Hearing to consider adding a new section to the Kittitas County Code authorizing properly licensed "All-Terrain Wheeled Vehicles" on all County Roads that meet the requirements as outlined in ESHB 1632.

**CLAYTON MYERS, UNDERSHERIFF** reviewed a proposal which would authorize the use of licensed approved "All-Terrain Wheeled Vehicles" on County Roads with posted speed limits of 35 miles per hour or less. He said the proposal would not be creating any new recreational riding or parking areas nor would it be opening any new recreational areas. He noted it would not be replacing the ORV requirements or restrictions either. The State law requires certification of safety equipment; requires all operators to be licensed drivers; restricts operations to 35 mph roads; and all current rules of the roads apply as well as current enforcement and penalties. He felt the State had done a good job analyzing the issue and between having licensed operators and safety measures in place they were comfortable with recommending approval of the proposal. He indicated they had put together a committee made up of State, Federal and local landowners to analyze impacts on a larger scale. They also met with businesses and retailers for feedback and recommendations. He noted they received 100% support from those they had spoken to. It was noted that cities would have to adopt their own Ordinances for allowed use inside the city limits.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING:** **STEVEN ZABRANSKY** agreed with the proposal and felt it would be good for the economy. He noted other States have adopted similar regulations and some are able

**2014-04-15 MINUTES**

**APPROVED**

**5-6-14**

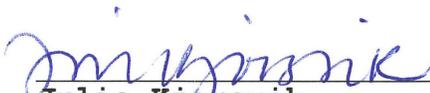
to use golf carts as well on the roads. **FRED SLYFIELD** said he fully supported opening the roads and hoped if the Commissioners approved the proposal they would also take a look at other non-posted roads such as the Colockum Pass area. **PAT TAYLOR** said he was a farmer and questioned how it would affect him and if he would have to go through all the licensing requirements. **DAVE MOLSON** said he spent time in Okanogan and they are able to ride in town and trails were available in a lot of areas. He would like to see it opened up in Kittitas County and hoped even more would be opened up in the future. **NIKA MIHALOV** felt it may be setting people up for failure when the roads dead end. **DANIEL BRAMSTEAD** spoke in favor of the proposal. **DUANE RICE** said businesses may charge upwards of around \$500.00 to put on safety equipment and explained how he went online to purchase parts for approximately \$120.00. He said the instructions were informative and was able to put everything on within two days. A local shop charged him \$40.00 to have it inspected and certified and wanted people to know it does not have to cost a lot for the licensing requirements.

**UNDERSHERIFF MEYERS** said the proposal does not take away from farm exemptions. He said in order to open up more County Roads they would have to revisit speed limits. **JAN OLLIVIER, TRANSPORTATION MANAGER** addressed how speed limits were set on County Roads and how they must conduct a speed study, review road conditions, look at the safety aspects and then present it at a Public Hearing for the Board of County Commissioners to consider.

**COMMISSIONER BERNDT** moved to continue the Public Hearing to Wednesday April 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Upper County District Court, noting the record was open for additional public testimony. **CHAIRMAN JEWELL** seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

  
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Julie Kjorsvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
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Paul Jewell, Chairman