

**KITTITAS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
UPPER DISTRICT COURT - CLE ELUM, WA
SPECIAL MEETING**

WEDNESDAY

6:00 P.M.

APRIL 16, 2014

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Christina Wollman, Planner; Clayton Myers, Undersheriff; Karra Bailey, LE Information Technologist and approximately 20 members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING ALL TERRAIN WHEELED VEHICLES SHERIFF

At 6:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN JEWELL** opened a Public Hearing continued from April 15, 2014 to consider adding a new section to the County Code authorizing properly licensed, "All Terrain Wheeled Vehicles" on all County Roads that meet the requirements outlined in ESHB 1632.

CLAYTON MYERS, UNDERSHERIFF reviewed information on the proposal to allow properly licensed "All Terrain Wheeled Vehicles" on County Roads that meet requirements in ESHB 1632. He presented information on the equipment requirements and safety certification. He explained how All Terrain Wheeled Vehicles would only be allowed on public roadways having a speed limit of 35 mph or less; all operators are to be licensed drivers and all current enforcement and penalties would apply. He said not all County roads are not marked or posted and those are deemed 50 mph so he indicated the Board of Commissioners could consider modifying those to a lower speed.

THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: JEFF ANDERSON said he was the owner of Sportland and spoke in favor of the proposal. He felt it would enhance the recreational opportunities for Upper County. **RON McCLAIN** spoke in favor of the proposed Ordinance and explained how they go to Idaho to ride as they have good road connections for ATV's. **NATHAN WEIS** said he was a member of the Park & Recreation Commission and questioned if the County could somehow benefit from any other licensing taxes. **HOWARD CARLIN** suggested creating an ATV warning sign, similar to the snowmobile signs and post them around the County. **DAVE THOMPSON** spoke in favor of the proposal and recommended the Board's approval. He said he lives on Sparks road where snowmobiles are allowed and felt ATV's should be as well. **DON MOUNTJOY** explained how he goes to Canada to ride where roads go on for hundreds of miles and no vehicles are seen. He felt it would be a benefit for the County to have more areas available to ride. **BOB SEELY** said he was in favor of the proposal and there would be a lot of people who would benefit from it. He suggested requiring a

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provision in the Code for headlights to be on. **MATT CHAMBERS** felt the proposal would be great for revenue in the County. **TOM WHITAKER** said his main concern was noise and questioned how it would be enforced. **MS. WHITHOFF** questioned if agriculture activities would be exempt. **DAVE DEHOPE** was in favor of the proposed Ordinance and thought it would be great to recreate without having to trailer them from one point to another. He felt the safety concerns had been addressed. **THERE BEING NO ONE ELSE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

UNDERSHERIFF MYERS answered questions from the Board and indicated having a muffler is a requirement. He said the language does not change relating to agriculture uses and did not foresee it having a negative impact. **CHAIRMAN JEWELL** noted how the County already benefits from taxes on licensing and that most of the funds go to the State anyways, but was unaware of any other allowable tax benefits.

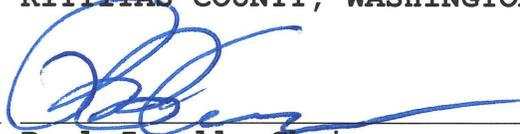
COMMISSIONER BERNDT moved to continue the Public Hearing for Board Discussion & Decision to May 6, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Auditorium, Room 109, Kittitas County Courthouse, noting the written record would remain open until Friday May 2, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN JEWELL** seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD


Julie Kjorsvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**


Paul Jewell, Chairman