

**KITTITAS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM
SPECIAL MEETING**

WEDNESDAY

3:00 P.M.

APRIL 30, 2014

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

Others: Doc Hanson, Kittitas County Planning Official; Holly Myers, Environmental Health Supervisor; Robin Read, Public Health Administrator; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney; Tom Tebb, Department of Ecology (DOE) Regional Director, Maia Bellon, DOE Director; Debbie Myers, Clerk and one member of the public.

SPECIAL MEETING

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

COMMISSIONERS

At 3:05 p.m. Chairman Jewell opened a Special Meeting to meet with the Director of Ecology, Maia Bellon and discuss procedures.

Director Bellon said the proposed settlement is a great model, has been a long time coming and is a path forward. She said it embodies leadership and that Kittitas County is providing a better future while still honoring the first water holders.

Tom Tebb, DOE Regional Director, also thanked the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and staff and agreed that the water settlement is a path forward and that the platform looks forward and back. He spoke on the Tributary Report and the two different efforts trying to transition into one being expensive but would like it to be friendly.

Chairman Jewell thanked Mr. Tebb and the team for all their hard work to support the County's efforts. He said that he has done a great job. He also said he would like to streamline the process to make it easier for the consumer.

There was discussion on applying lessons learned regarding water issues, responsibilities, and mapping needs.

Vice-Chairman Berndt brought up the discussion on partners in Kittitas County and how the goal is to be able to work together even when they don't always agree on water issues.

2014-04-30 MINUTES

APPROVED

6-17-14

The DOE representatives gave examples of water issues other counties are dealing with across the U.S. They said it is important to keep track of the water usage or it will go away. Downstream users will use or purchase any water not allocated in this basin.

Commissioner O'Brien brought up grant funding. Mr. Tebb thought it was a great opportunity.

There was discussion on exempt wells up to 5,000 gallons a day and Mr. Tebb commented that any new ground water use will be mitigated.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Debbie Myers, Clerk


Chairman Paul Jewell