

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONER'S AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING**

MONDAY

3:00 P.M.

MAY 8, 2017

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Craig Mabie, Kittitas County Parks & Recreation District Commissioner and approximately 12 members of the public.

SPECIAL MEETING

TOWNS TO TEANAWAY CORRIDOR

COMMISSIONERS

At 3:00 p.m. Chairman Jewell opened a Special Meeting to hear a presentation on the Towns to Teanaway Corridor project.

Craig Mabie provided an overview of the Towns to Teanaway Corridor project. He said there are multiple stakeholders who are interested in developing an award-winning trail master plan and design for a recreational corridor connecting Ronald, Roslyn, Cle Elum and South Cle Elum to the Teanaway Community Forest. He said the project ties to the Kittitas County Tourism Infrastructure Plan and the Kittitas County Recreation & Open Space Plan as well as other local and regional plans. A request for proposals for the development of a plan and design was released on March 17, 2017 and there were six responses received ranging from \$48,000.00 to \$163,000.00. They anticipate beginning work on June 1st. He reviewed other funding that's been committed by entities and are requesting funding from Kittitas County in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Darcy Batura, Community Coordinator for The Nature Conservancy, said they have held 3 public meetings with an average of 25 people coming to each one including various agencies, elected officials, media, and will be identifying additional stakeholders.

Pat Simpson, Director of Community Associations for Suncadia, said she works with both residential and commercial property owners. She said she had never met anyone opposed to the project. The number one thing that people seem to be interested in is trails as they are for everyone's use.

The timeline of the project was reviewed. Chairman Jewell felt hiring a consultant was a good foundation and would be beneficial for the project. He thought the funding could possibly be applied for from the Lodging Tax Fund for Tourism-Related, Small Scale Municipality-Owned Capital Projects and Operations however they would need to file a grant application. The grant applications will

be available in the next couple of weeks and can request up to \$50,000.00. He said General Lodging Tax funds could be another possibility, but those applications are not available until the fall. Chairman Jewell said he was not comfortable funding it from the County's General Fund. He'd also like to have the same level of funding commitment from the Cities of Roslyn and Cle Elum.

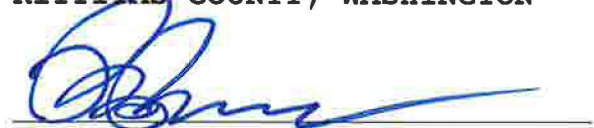
The Board expressed support of the project and felt it would be a benefit to Kittitas County. The County may not be able to get back to the group until July as of the grant application timeline. They are not trying to hold the project up but just want to make sure they are able to use the right funds.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD


Julie Kjorsvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**


Paul Jewell, Chairman