

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING**

MONDAY

2:00 P.M.

OCTOBER 7, 2019

Board members present: Chairman Cory Wright; Vice-Chairman Brett Wachsmith; and Commissioner Laura Osiadacz.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Mark Cook, Public Works Director/Interim Engineer; Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager; Mike Hougardy, Assessor; Arden Thomas, WRP Manager; and 7 members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING

PROPERTY TAX

AUDITOR

At 2:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN WRIGHT** opened a Public Hearing to consider possible tax increases for Tax Levy Rates and amount for the Taxes Levied in 2019 to be collected in 2020 for the General Fund, County Road and the Flood Control District.

JUDY PLESS, BUDGET & FINANCE MANAGER provided a Staff Report on the County Property Taxes to be Levied for the 2020 County Budget. She provided a Power Point presentation with various information on the assessed and estimated actual value of taxable property; how the 2018 tax dollars were spent; property tax rates; property tax levies and collections; general government tax revenues by source; principal tax payers; 2020 preliminary budget information; highest levy calculations for the General Fund, County Road and Flood Control. **MIKE HOUGARDY, ASSESSOR** reviewed financial information on Levy calculations. **MARK COOK, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/INTERIM ENGINEER** provided information on taking banked capacity and rational behind it for the 2020 budget. **ARDEN THOMAS, WRP MANAGER** reviewed information on the 6 Year Capital Facility Plan and the Flood Control Zone Advisory Committee's work and highlights of their proposed budget.

THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: JON MORROW, STORMWATER UTILITY MANAGER FOR THE CITY OF ELLENSBURG reviewed projects they've been working on as well as property acquisitions. **SCOTT NICOLAI** provided testimony on the Whisky Creek project and the Yakima River Corridor Plan. **URBAN EBERHART** spoke in support of the Yakima Flood Control Zone District projects. **JERRY MARTENS, CHAIR OF FLOOD CONTROL ZONE ADVISORY COMMITTEE** said he was not advocating for more taxes just because, but rather the efforts to overcome deficiencies of flooding in the future. He encouraged the Board to fund it a little more so there's the capacity to react if needed in the future. **JEFF DUNNING, MEMBER OF THE FLOOD CONTROL ZONE ADVISORY COMMITTEE** felt the County

has been dealing with playing catch up with projects and how more money was needed. He was in support of increasing the Levy rates.

MS. PLESS said since there were no final figures available she recommended continuing the Public Hearing until November 25, 2019.

COMMISSIONER WACHSMITH moved to continue the Public Hearing to November 25, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Auditorium, noting the record to remain open. **COMMISSIONER OSIADACZ** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD


Julie Kjosvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**


Cory Wright, Chairman