

**KITTITAS COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS STUDY SESSION MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109
Regular Meeting**

MONDAY

1:30 PM

February 27, 2023

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

Others: Mark Cook Josh Fredrickson, Darren Case, Rebecca Cruse, Public Works; Dan Carlson, Community Development Services; Neil Caulkins, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Bryan Elliott, Auditor's Office; Mike Hougardy, Assessor's Office; 3 members of the public.

At 1:30 pm Chairman Cory Wright opened the Public Works Study Session.

No Citizen Comments.

At 1:30pm the Board of County Commissioners announced they would recess in Executive Session for 15 minutes with Mark Cook, Dan Carlson, and Neil Caulkins per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency. Action anticipated.

At 1:45pm the Board of County Commissioners reconvened out of Executive Session; Direction to Staff was given to meet with the City Staff.

PUBLIC FACILITY DISTRICT FEASIBILITY STUDY PROPOSAL

Mark Cook asked the Board of County Commissioners to contemplate the creation of a Public Facility District. The formation of a Public Facility District has several requirements prior to being presented for voters. The first step is to perform an Independent Feasibility Study to determine the bond capacity for the district. Members of the Upper Kittitas County Recreation Center Alliance were present, and Gary Berndt spoke on behalf of the non-profit stating preliminary work has been done, but approximate \$40 million in additional funds would be required to bring the project to fruition. Discussion was held. The Board directed staff to move forward with the feasibility study.

APPROVED

3-7-23

VANTAGE HIGHWAY OVER CASCADE CANAL BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT ROAD CLOSURE

Josh Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners on construction at the Vantage Highway over Cascade Canal Bridge Replacement Project. Contractors have reached a point in construction that Public Works must close the bypass and issue notice of a detour for the final work to be complete. The Board directed staff to provide the Board with the press release for the temporary road closure.

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT FISH AND WILDLIFE FRANCHISE REQUEST

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on a franchise agreement request received by Public Works from Department of Fish and Wildlife to erect elk fencing along the county road right of way. The intent is to deter elk from I-90 and interfering with agricultural land. Staff was directed to schedule a public hearing.

TAX PARCEL 11251 SURPLUS REQUEST

Mark Cook requested that Public Works surplus parcel 11251 and stated it is unbuildable and is burdensome to the county. The Board of County Commissioners agreed there is not value in retaining the land. Direction to Staff is to consult with the legal team on preparing enabling documents.

COVE ROAD PARKING

Mark Cook shared that Justin Turnbull, Kittitas County Surveyor has identified unused right-of-way close to the Manastash Trailhead. Staff has tried to work with landowners to acquire land to increase parking at the trailhead and finds this as a solution. Mark Cook foresees the County Road Crew could complete the additional parking area by the end of the summer with budgeted funds. Direction was given to prepare a parking proposal.

ASSIGNMENT OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS DISCUSSION

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners that Suncadia Resort looks to reassign development rights for use as collateral as the new ownership proceeds to complete the rest of the resort. Direction was given to prepare for consignment of the investments and enabling documents for Board consideration.

2023 KITTITAS COUNTY ROAD SAFETY PLAN

Josh Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the 2023 Kittitas County Road Safety Plan and the criteria for identifying road safety projects in the county. The Safety Plan is used to apply for grant safety funding. The top 4 projects have been

identified. The Board of County Commissioners directed staff to prepare documents and bring forward at future agenda.

SURVEY MONUMENT PRESERVATION POLICY

Josh Fredrickson presented a draft of Public Works Survey Monument Preservation Policy to the Board of County Commissioners. The policy is a new requirement of the County Road Administration Board (CRAB). The proposed policy is reflective of the current practices performed by the Kittitas County Surveyor regarding Survey Monument Preservation. Staff was directed to finalize and prepare resolution for approval.

Mark Cook added that CRAB requires an ER&R policy and staff is currently drafting the ER&R policy for Board consideration.

Mark Cook notified the Board of County Commissioners of ongoing conversations discussing non-functioning hydrants supplied by private utility in Cascade View Estates.

Meeting concluded at 2:27 pm

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



**Rebecca Cruse, Administrative
Assistant**



Cory Wright, Chairman