

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

MONDAY

1:30 PM

April 24, 2023

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

Others: Mark Cook, Josh Fredrickson, Rebecca Cruse, Public Works; 6 members of the public.

At 1:32 PM Chairman Cory Wright opened the Public Works Study Session.

No Citizen Comments.

MCELROY BRIDGE UPDATE

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the status of McElroy Bridge accessing the Elk Meadows Community and the impending deadline to bring the bridge into compliance. Currently, no action has been taken by the community to remedy the bridge issues and Mark Cook asked for the Boards support to use County Staff and expertise to create a response plan and coordinate with regulatory agencies on behalf of community members to repair or replace the bridge. Mark Cook added that Arden Thomas, Water Resource Manager has met with Regional FEMA staff and outcome of those conversations is that Kittitas County doesn't have the authority to grant this bridge variance without jeopardizing the Flood Rate Insurance Program that benefits property owners throughout flood prone areas in Kittitas County. Mark Cook requested the Boards support of a short-term land use moratorium as previously discussed. The Board was not in full support of a Resolution placing a temporary Land Use Moratorium on the far shore properties dependent on the failed bridge. Several members of the public were present and commented. Discussion pursued and Commissioner Laura Osiadacz suggested another meeting with landowners to see how well disposed they are to the ideas. Direction was given to Staff to prepare a scope of work and fee estimate for county staff support. Ken Wilson, a private bridge structural engineer, presented a letter to the Board.

SURPLUS TAX PARCEL NO.11251

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on tax parcel 11251 located at the intersection of Dry Creek Road and Reecer Creek Road. The Flood Control Zone District requested to burden the lot with a 50-foot easement around Whiskey Creek for future habitat enhancement. Mark Cook recognizes the easement will impact the value of the property and requested the Board set a minimum sale price to

reflect this easement. Direction to Staff was given to bring forward staff report and solicitation for approval and to set Public Hearing.

AMERICAN RECOVERY PLAN ACT REQUESTED APPROPRIATIONS

Mark Cook requested the Board of County Commissioners to allocate \$275,000 of American Recovery Plan Act Funds to the improvement of the Roslyn Cemetery irrigation system. The Board of County Commissioners informed staff that the Board supports awarding the grant and approved this item at a previous Finance Meeting. Mark Cook then briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the Kittitas County Parks & Recreation District 1 desires to improve the Evergreen Sno-Park. Direction to Staff was to prepare a cost estimate for soil stabilization and rehabilitation of the park and a revenue model for future maintenance of the Evergreen Sno-Park.

PUBLIC ACCESS OF KITTITAS COUNTY LANDS

Mark Cook presented the Board of County Commissioners with a draft letter to The Nature Conservancy conveying the County position on allowance of motorized opportunities on land The Nature Conservancy manages on Cle Elum Ridge. The Board of County Commissioners directed staff to bring back this item for consideration when all Commissioners are present.

OTHER BUSINESS- ROAD VARIANCE COMMITTEE

Mark Cook shared correspondence received by Community Development Services pertaining to the level of safety considered by the Road Variance Committee. Commissioners directed Mark Cook to respond to a reporter with road standards questions.

Meeting concluded at 2:38 PM

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Rebecca Cruse, Administrative
Assistant



Cory Wright, Chairman