

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
STUDY SESSION**

THURSDAY

9:30 A.M.

FEBRUARY 6, 2003

Those in attendance: Commissioners Max Golladay, Perry Huston, and Bruce Coe

Others: Shannon Carlson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Warren Beed, Facilities Manager; and approximately 10 members of the public.

STUDY SESSION 8th STREET ENTRANCE TO FAIR/RODEO FAIR/RODEO BOARD

At 9:30 A.M. a study session was held to discuss the proposal of a new 8th Street Entrance for Rodeo ticket holders.

COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY opened the study session by referring to a letter they had received from the Rodeo Board requesting permission to build a Rodeo ticket holders entrance.

KEN PETERSON from the Rodeo Board explained that Scott Repp had brought the idea to the Board to create a usable site entrance for the importance of sponsors as well as the public that is not attending the fair. The hope is to make it more convenient and decrease the long lines at the front gate. Mr. Peterson showed the Board proposed drawings of what the entrance would look like. There would be bathrooms that could be accessed from the John Wayne Trail during off-season with showers. There would be two bathroom entrance/exit doors. One door would lead from and to the rodeo grounds and one from and to the John Wayne Trail. The door leading to the rodeo grounds would be closed during the off-season so the public that uses the trail could use the bathrooms and showers. This idea was also part of the master plan. Mr. Peterson explained that he viewed this site as a place for many pictures to be taken and since the rodeo would be televised two nights on ESPN this spot would be a great place to show as an opener to the rodeo.

MEL SCHINER from the Fair Board said the concept came from the master plan and agreed that the concept is a good idea but doesn't agree with the location. Where the site is proposed, it is in the 500-year flood plan. He wasn't sure if the City would allow them to build in the flood plain since the creek does get high. Also the duplex that the fair owns is turning it into ticket sales and the fair board was proposing to make one combo gate that is a lot wider next to the ticket sales duplex. Mr.

Schiner expressed concerns over parking because in building a new Rodeo entrance they would be losing additional parking. There was also a concern with the livestock and where the pens were going to be located.

COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY clarified that the two main issues that he understands is: 1). Entrance for Rodeo ticket holders and Fair ticket holders, 2). Where to put the livestock. He suggested that the two boards get together and come to a compromise about what they would like to do. He doesn't want to see something built and then having to tear it down because it doesn't go with the Fair master plan.

KEN PETERSON expressed the concern of a timeline because they have people waiting to make contributions to the construction of the new entrance and he doesn't want to lose them. He also expressed using one gate to funnel everyone through there is still a great deal of congestion. He agreed that turning the duplex into a ticket sales office is a good idea, but he still feels there needs to be a separate gate. He explained the idea of where to put the pens for the livestock and also the possibility of moving some of the pens in the back of the Gold Buckle Club to make a warm up arena that the Fair has wanted.

There was a request by a citizen that when constructing the entrance, to make a large maintenance closet so the materials to maintain the area will be close by, instead of on the other side of the grounds.

COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY expressed appreciation for the two Boards coming together and he thought a lot of progress has been made and now the only issue would be the rodeo entrance location. He suggested the Boards get together and report back to the Board of Commissioners February 25th at 4:00 P.M.

At 10:45 A.M., the Study Session was adjourned.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD


Shannon L. Carlson

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**


Max A. Golladay, Chair