

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITTTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
PUBLIC HEARING**

**TUESDAY**

**4:00 P.M.**

**AUGUST 5, 2003**

Board members present: Chairman Max A. Golladay, Vice-Chair Perry Huston & Commissioner Bruce Coe.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; David Taylor, Community Development Services Director; Paul Bennett, Public Works Director; Nancy Goodloe, Public Health Administrator; Allison Kimball, Community Development Services Department, and approximately 30 members of the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**TRAP & SKEET CLUB LEASE EXTENSION**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

At approximately 4:15 p.m. **CHAIRMAN GOLLADAY** opened a public hearing to consider a lease extension of County Property located at the Bowers Field/Kittitas County Airport for Parcel No. 0600-001 & 1100-001, including buildings No. 1101, No. 1005 located in Section 26, of Township 18N, Range 18E. W.M.

**PAUL BENNETT, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR** reviewed a Staff Report and the proposed Lease between Kittitas County and the Ellensburg Trap & Skeet Club, Inc. He said on January 7, 2003 the County signed a renewal lease agreement for six-months with the Trap & Skeet Club. Since the permitting process for relocation has taken longer than expected, they have not been able to meet their June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline, thus the proposed one-year lease to allow for the relocation process. **THERE BEING NO PUBLIC WISHING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**COMMISSIONER HUSTON** moved to approve a lease extension between Kittitas County and the Ellensburg Trap & Skeet Club Inc., beginning July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004, for property located at the Kittitas County Airport (Bowers Field), Parcel No. 0600-001 and 1100-001, including buildings No. 1101 & No. 1105. **COMMISSIONER COE** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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At approximately 4:19 p.m., **CHAIRMAN GOLLADAY** opened the public hearing to consider placing a Stop Sign at the Intersection of West Easton Interchange and Sparks Road.

**PAUL BENNETT, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR** reviewed an Engineer's Report, and said there is an increased traffic volume that has created safety concerns at the intersection of Sparks Road, West Sparks Road and the I-90 Interchange, Exit #70. He outlined requirements of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, from the US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration and reviewed several options for the Board of Commissioners consideration. Based on the facts prepared to date, he recommended that the placement of stop signs at the Sparks Road and West Sparks Road would improve safety for the current traffic volumes and the anticipated higher traffic in the future, in addition, the stop signs meet the current MUTCD requirements. **THERE BEING NO PUBLIC INTERESTED IN TESTIFYING THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**COMMISSIONER HUSTON** moved to approve "Option C" as presented by the Public Works Director, and to direct staff to prepare enabling documents for the Boards consideration at the August 19<sup>th</sup> Commissioner Agenda. **COMMISSIONER COE** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

At approximately 4:25 p.m. **CHAIRMAN GOLLADAY** opened a public hearing to consider the Planning Units recommendation for adoption of the Yakima River Watershed Plan. Title 90.82 RCW Watershed Planning includes specific adoption procedures for watershed plans. Specifically, RCW 90.82.130 requires the individual Board of County Commissioners to hold a public hearing and convene in a joint session to consider the proposed plan. The individual counties may approve or reject the plan, but may not amend it and approval of the plan can only be reached if a majority vote of each of the individual Boards is achieved.

**DAVID TAYLOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR,** acknowledged a faxed letter received by Mary Burke dated August 5, 2003. He recognized the countless hours spent by members of the Planning Unit. He felt after review of the document, the impacts outweigh the benefits and recommended the Board take no action, and to direct staff to obtain a legal opinion for consideration at a later date.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: DUANE CALVIN, CITY OF YAKIMA, CO-CHAIR OF THE PLANNING UNIT,** submitted a copy of a power-point presentation he

prepared to provide assistance to the Counties, during the public adoption process. It included Watershed Plan Coverage; Identification of Planning Process; Participation, Public & Other; Planning Unit Goals; Plan Development Stages; Plan Elements; What the Plan Can Not Do and the Current Status & Schedule. **PAT DENEEN** said he serves on the county's Water Conservancy Board. He applauded the work and countless hours spent on the Plan, but said he could not support it, due to several concerns and unanticipated consequences. He said the Plan gives up a lot of local control to Non-Elected people, as well as to the Tribe and State. He felt the document was extremely complex and asked how the County could adopt a document for a community that it cannot understand. **JIM WILLARD, CO-CHAIR OF THE PLANNING UNIT**, spoke in favor of the Plan, and said it was put together by various citizens from the Basin, and said it was built from the ground up. He felt it provided better management of resources, and noted the Plan included alternatives/suggestions included for the County's consideration. **SENATOR JOYCE MULLIKEN**, said she was not in favor of the Plan, nor was she against it. She reviewed the implementation requirements.

**REPRESENTATIVE BILL HINKLE** said he opposed the Bill for several reasons. He urged caution and felt the Board of Commissioners should obtain a good legal opinion before making any decisions. He agreed there were several unanswered questions to be answered. **BERNIE SIMS, TRI-COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY** expressed his appreciation for Commissioner Golladay and Commissioner Benitz time and work while Chairing the TCWRA. He encouraged the Board to adopt the Plan, and use it as a road map for the basin's future. He said it did not obligate the County, but basically sets out a plan, and failure to act on the Plan puts counties in double jeopardy (Department of Ecology would take over in basin). He did not want the Plan to get bogged down with unfair paranoia.

**STEVE ROSBACH**, member of the Planning Unit, Chair of the Habitat Committee, urged the Board to adopt the Plan, if the Board could figure out HB1336. He acknowledged the Plan was not perfect, but it was the best they could do. **KEVIN ESLINGER** submitted a letter into the record. He recommended the Board to not adopt the Plan until it is fully understood. **RICK DIEKEI** spoke in favor of the Plan. He felt the County could not wait to find out what could "possibly" happen, and instead, they need to move forward. He questioned who would be giving a legal opinion on HB1336. **MARK CHARLTON** said he had been involved with the issue for a long time and Kittitas County's involvement was greater than any other County. He felt there was no reason to rush into adopting the Plan, without being sure of the ramifications. **CAROL READY, KITTITAS COUNTY WATER PURVEYORS** explained she had not been able to meet with her Board members yet, but did express several concerns with the proposed Plan. **TIM KUNKA, WASHINGTON CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION** submitted a letter into the record. He urged the Commissioners to not adopt the

Yakima River Watershed Management Plan, and if they did approve it, they will request that their name be removed from any documents pertaining to the Plan. **ALLAN BJORGE** felt there were uncertain consequences for the County if they adopted the Plan. He expressed concern if the County opted out? **STEVE GEORGE** said the Board needed to decide if they would rather be involved and support the goals, or decide not to adopt the Plan. Should they not adopt the Plan, they will need to decide what to do for the Basin, and it could cause great problems. **PAUL GEORGE, YAKIMA CITY COUNCIL MEMBER** said he represented the Yakima City Council, and encouraged the Board to adopt the Plan, and to work together with other two Counties on the issues. **JIM SCHNEBLY** encouraged the Board not to rush into adopting the Plan, and they should review it in depth. **JIM MILTON, TRI-COUNTY RESOURCES AGENCY COORDINATOR** discussed the intent of the Plan and said the Legislature was trying to keep the Plan on the local level and have local control. The Plan does not create any new obligations to agencies beyond those currently required by law. **DAVID GERTH, ROSLYN MAYOR AND REPRESENTING THE CITY OF ROSLYN** said he reviewed the Plan, and felt it was a well-executed, conceived document, with all work clearly shown. He felt it was a bottoms-up approach and had a large diversity of users, and thought the County would not lose the local control. **GREG SCHULER, DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY/YAKIMA** clarified some of the information contained in HB1336. He said he didn't blame the County for being nervous for going into new territory. He felt the proposed Plan was drafted cooperatively and at the local level. He said SEPA was initiated under a Determination of Non-significance and the only way it could get through that, is if all parties were assured that there were no action items that would come out in the near future.

**COMMISSIONER HUSTON** spoke of the elements within the Plan and questioned Section 5 of HB1336, that if the Department of Ecology, can if they choose write rules delegating the County's obligations under that section. **MR. SCHULER** said obligations need to be covered by a rule making process, but in addition, with the permission of the Planning Unit, policies, agreements and some other tools may be used for implementation.

**CHAIRMAN GOLLADAY** said he was nervous because the Plan was not created locally, but by Governor Lock and Mr. Waldo. He questioned the process and said someone should have asked Kittitas County for their thoughts. **DUANE CALVIN** recognized how the implementation funding had always been a concern. **URBAN EBERHART** supported additional storage in the basin, but said the Plan needs to be appropriate for the area. **KAREN POULSEN** did not want the Board to put the farmers in a worse position than they already are, and to review the consequences before any decision is made.

**COMMISSIONER HUSTON** moved to continue the public hearing until 4:00 p.m. Tuesday September 2, 2003, in the Commissioner's Auditorium, Room 109, County Courthouse, the record to remain open to all testimony, and to direct the Community Development Services staff to send a written request to each initiating government asking each to provide a legal review of the impacts on 1336 on the Watershed Plan, if adopted, and to send a request to all identified active members of the Planning Unit asking their perception of the impacts of the proposed Watershed Plan. **COMMISSIONER COE** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

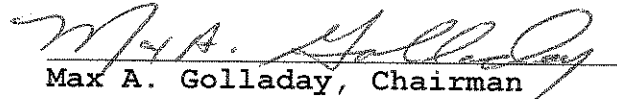
**COMMISSIONER HUSTON** announced he had no reason to stall the Plan, but felt the argument's he heard were not compelling. He wanted to make sure that everyone had an opportunity to voice an opinion on the impacts. **CHAIRMAN GOLLADAY** wanted to ensure he makes an informed decision with all the opinions possible. **COMMISSIONER COE** explained reasons of why he's suspicious of the Plan. He said he is not against adopting a Plan, it's just the document that's currently in front of them.

Meeting adjourned 6:42 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Julie A. Kjorsvik

  
Max A. Golladay, Chairman