

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

**TUESDAY**

**4:00 P.M.**

**FEBRUARY 24, 2004**

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Paul Bennett, Public Works Director; Joy Potter, Public Works Staff; John Nixon, Public Works Staff, and approximately 10 members of the public.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**PAYNE ROAD**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

At approximately 4:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** opened the special meeting to consider the ownership of Payne Road. **PAUL BENNETT, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR** read his Engineer's Report dated February 24, 2004. He reviewed Payne Road's history of establishment and right-of-way. He said the road was currently included on the County Road System, but County records are unclear as to the establishment of the road. Although no dedication papers had been located for the Payne Road alignment, there were sections that have had additional right-of-way dedicated to the County, through platting process. However, county code only allows for the acquisition of right-of-way through the platting process. He gave the Board options including pursuing prescriptive rights in accordance with RCW 36.75.070, which would require a Court action and a determination by a Judge as to the status of the roadway; adjoining landowners could voluntarily dedicate the minimum right-of-way by quit claim deed to Kittitas County; the County could remove Payne Road from the county road system, to become a private road and privately maintained; or do nothing at this time.

**PAULINE DEIFENBACH** did not feel the County should be spending money on something that is not "broke". She said she would like to see the Sheriff's department out on Payne Road more often. She supported invoking the RCW and having the County continue maintaining the road. **TOM DODGE** felt there were numerous hazard factors on Payne Road, including a narrow road. He was in favor of the County continuing to maintain the road.

**COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY** if the County were to continue maintaining the road, they would need to get the necessary right-of-ways in place. He indicated there were several areas within the County, in the same situation, which needs to be addressed, before further development.

**COMMISSIONER COE** said he was concerned with the increase in development and population density, while recognizing those issues are addressed in a different process. **MR. BENNETT** said the plats would need to have 30 feet dedicated to the County, from the centerline of the existing roadway. **JOHN NIXON, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT STAFF** said other counties usually take on those types of roads "as is" until a widening project, then they deal with any fences, wells, etc. that may be in the way. **BEN KERN** said he was concerned with the speed limits increasing, if the roadway is paved and widened. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** explained that the County does not automatically come in and widen or pave the roads once it has taken a road on to the maintenance system, and said there were other processes to deal with those issues. **MR. BENNETT** said the costs relating to recording, surveys, etc. would be absorbed by the County. **COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY** advised the Public Works Department to ensure all the trees within the right-of-way were taken out. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** recognized the majority of the public in attendance was in favor of having the County continue maintaining the road.

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**RESOLUTION 2004-25**

**CALL FOR BIDS-BULLFROG ROAD**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**COMMISSIONER COE** moved to approve Resolution No. 2004-25, Approving a Notice of Call for Bids, for the Bullfrog Road Bridge Rehabilitation project, to be accepted until 2:00 p.m. March 11, 2004 at the Kittitas County Public Works Department, 411 North Ruby, Suite 1, Ellensburg, Washington, and to authorize the Clerk to publish said notice. **COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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**Julie A. Kjorsvik**

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**Perry D. Huston, Chairman**