

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

TUESDAY

4:00 P.M.

MAY 4, 2004

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Nancy Goodloe, Public Health Administrator; Catherine Dunn, Administrative Supervisor, Community Development Services; Allison Kimball, Operations Supervisor, Community Development Services, and two members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING

SATELLITE OFFICE-HEALTH DEPT.

HEALTH DEPT.

At approximately 4:11 p.m. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** opened the continued public hearing to consider a satellite office in the Upper County for the Public Health department.

NANCY GOODLOE, PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR presented a Lease Agreement between Kittitas County Public Health Department and Scott S. Rollins. She explained the terms of the lease, stating it is for one year commencing June 1, 2004 and terminating on May 31, 2005, and in the amount of \$500.00 per month. She said the agreement had been reviewed and approved by the Prosecutor's office, the Auditor's office and the county's insurance risk pool.

THERE WAS NO ONE IN ATTENDANCE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, SO THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

COMMISSIONER COE moved to approve the Lease Agreement as presented, between the Kittitas County Public Health Department and Scott S. Rollins, for building space located at 415 East First Street, in Cle Elum, Washington, effective June 1, 2004. **COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC HEARING

BUILDING PERMIT FEES

CDS

At approximately 4:16 p.m. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** opened the public hearing to consider Building Permit Fees, which were amended and effective January 1, 2004.

ALLISON KIMBALL, CDS OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR, reviewed a staff report. She explained that due to the decrease in staff and the influx of

project and permit applications, the Community Development Services was proposing additional staff in order to maintain their level of service to the public. She said the building permit revenue budgeted for 2004 was \$703,000. The new revenue projection for 2004, based on the increase in both permit activity and fees is \$838,369, leaving a remainder of \$134,869 to pay for the proposed positions. She explained each proposed position, which included a Planner, a Plans Examiner and a Building Inspector. She said their department would be scheduling a public hearing for possibly June 1, 2004, to discuss adopting the International Building Code, since it needed to be adopted by the County before July 1st.

THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: **JERRY GILMOUR** felt the builders got "blindsided" by the County, with the significant increase in building fees. He explained the original proposal was an increase of 5%, which was acceptable, and when the Board of County Commissioners finally approved it, it was increased by 33%. He said he was assured that the Building department would be publishing a newsletter, and as of this date, there has not been one published. He felt if the County was going to charge such high fees, they should be providing a higher level of public service. He asked if it were possible to set up a meeting between the Community Development Services representatives and the homebuilders to review the fees. **MS. KIMBALL** said it would not be a problem to schedule a meeting to discuss the fees. **MICHAEL JACKSON** explained he had recently paid the County \$1,400 for four hours of a plans review, in which they had already been reviewed previously, so the review was for essentially double-checking the plans. He said the builders don't mind amendments to the fees, but felt the process was unfair, stating the builders were not aware of such a large increase. He explained how the new International Code says fees are to be established "as needed", and there were no "set standards" for fees. **ELLEN HOWE, REPRESENTING THE CENTRAL WASHINGTON HOMEBUILDERS ASSOCIATION** said the fee increases directly impacted the consumers, and she would like to see examples of the CDS's budget reflecting the need for such high increases. She said their association assisted with setting up a development committee with the City, and felt that type of concept may also benefit the County as well. **THERE BEING NO ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

COMMISSIONER COE discussed the level of service, and felt the need to invest in the future. He said the Community Development Services department has requirements to react immediately, while other departments may have a little more time. **COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY** did not want to delay the staffing issues, claiming it needed immediate attention.

CHAIRMAN HUSTON moved to approve the three positions requested by the Community Development Services department (Planner, Plans Examiner and a Building Inspector), and direct staff to prepare the necessary paperwork in cooperation with the Auditor's and Human Resources office to move forward. **COMMISSIONER COE** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Julie A. Kjorsvik

Perry D. Huston, Chairman