

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
SPECIAL MEETING
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM**

TUESDAY

9:30 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2005

Those in attendance: Perry Huston, Chair, Vice-Chairman David Bowen, and Commissioner Alan Crankovich.

Others: Shannon Carlson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Scott Bradshaw, Public Works Director, Darryl Piercy CDS Director, Joy Potter, Public Works; and 2 members of the Public.

At 9:35 A.M. Chairman Perry Huston opened the continued Agenda Session from September 6, 2005. The purpose of the continuation is to receive comments from Public Works on the Wellhead Protection Area Variance Request and consider a letter to the initiating governments regarding the Watershed Plan.

Scott Bradshaw Public Works Director, reviewed his letter he drafted in response to the request for the wellhead protection area variance. Mr. Bradshaw explained that the proposed variance will result in an approximate 24 foot encroachment on the 60 foot Third Ave. right of way. Increased traffic volumes on Third Ave may have negative effects on buffer zones. New developments within Kittitas County are not allowed to have well head buffers in the county right of way due to potential contamination, and Third Ave is located in the area that is next to the City Limits of Ellensburg and should it be consider for annexation in future years, it may not meet City Code. He is recommending that the Board deny the request because it is not in the best interest of the public.

Jeff Slothower asked if the material he had submitted last week during the appeal hearing was available for this issue. Commissioner Huston explained that it was made part of the record of that hearing and the Board could review that information at any time. Mr. Slothower continued to explain that the Department of Ecology ruled that Mr. Blazinski had to get a variance from them on one condition of the variance which was doubling of the tight seal around the well. Seals are required on 18 foot wells but in this case it is sealed at 36 feet deep. He doesn't believe there is a risk with the potable water supply. He is willing to indemnify the County and hold them harmless if there is any issues that occur with the well and is willing to place the disclosure on title. Mr. Blazinski spoke with City of Ellensburg staff about any possibilities of the City annexing the Grasslands into the City Limits. The staff member he spoke with stated that there are no plans of

annexing the Grasslands into the City Limits. Mr. Slowthower explained that the roads affected are not on the 6 year transportation improvement plan to complete any road improvements. He sees little risk to the county on this request especially if Mr. Blazinski is willing to hold the county harmless. There will be no impact on Lyle Creek or to other water systems in the area. Most of the water is return flow or water being transported from irrigations. Commissioner Huston questioned if Mr. Blazinski was willing to add to the disclosure should city water be adjacent would he connect to the City water and also hold the City harmless of any issues that may occur with the well. Commissioner Crankovich asked should future improvement deemed necessary in using the County Right of Way to the full extent if Mr. Blazinski had any issues with that and he said he didn't. Mr. Bradshaw clarified that Pfenning Road is in the 6 year plan and the intersection of 3rd Ave and Pfenning is being pursued for grant funding.

Commissioner Huston discussed the concerns with the request, but that he was comfortable with the indemnification. Commissioner Bowen discussed his concerns with the well location. He questioned the placement of the well in the furthest northwest corner. Jeff Slothower will draft documents with the conditions set forth of the Board's concerns to be reviewed at the September 12th study session. Mr. Piercy clarified that the comments are to be worded as the property owners response since the County was a property owner.

Commissioner Huston explained that he had a draft response to the initiating governments regarding Kittitas Counties withdrawal of the watershed plan. Commissioner Huston reviewed his letter. Commissioner Bowen said he reserved the right to write his own letter if needed but supports the letter drafted over Board signature. Commissioner Bowen moved for Board signature on a letter to initiating governments and entities regarding Kittitas County withdrawing from the watershed plan process. Commissioner Crankovich second. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Bowen moved to adjourn. Commissioner Crankovich second Motion 3-0.

The Special Meeting was adjourned at 10:06 A.M.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

Shannon L. Carlson

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Perry Huston, Chair