

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITTTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY**

**2:00 P.M.**

**AUGUST 18, 2009**

Board members present: Chairman Alan Crankovich; Vice-Chairman Paul Jewell and Commissioner Mark McClain.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Kirk Holmes, Public Works Director/Interim Community Development Services Director; Tom Kelly, Public Works Construction Manager; Phil Hess, Consulting Forester and 6 members of the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING                      OPEN SPACE TIMBER APPLICATIONS                      COMMISSIONERS**

At 2:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH** opened a public hearing to consider two requests for reclassification as Open Space Timber Land for current use tax assessment under the Open Space Taxation Act from Phillip C. Lesh & Elita A. Lesh and James A. Lesky.

**MANDY ROBINSON, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD** reviewed a staff report on two separate applications for Open Space Timber classifications. She indicated she received information that the Lesh's were unable to attend the public hearing. She explained that Christy Garcia from the Assessor's office had reviewed both applications and said the Lesky's application would need to be sent to the surrounding cities for their approval.

**COMMISSIONER JEWELL** said he read through both Forest Management Plans and had enjoyed reading them, claiming they were informative. **PHIL HESS, CONSULTING FORESTER** said all criteria have been met for both applications. He submitted a letter regarding the Lesky application, from Matthew Morton of the City of Cle Elum, stating their proposed tree farm and preservation area were acceptable and did not require any additional City approvals, unless the scope of their business model changed.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING ON THE LESH APPLICATION: PHIL HESS, CONSULTING FORESTER** said he had examined property, prepared Forest Management Plan and confirmed it met all the criteria for the County's approval as being classified as Open Space Timber.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING ON THE LESKY APPLICATION: PHIL HESS, CONSULTING FORESTER** said he had examined the property, prepared the Forest Management Plan and confirmed it met all criteria for the County's approval as being classified as Open Space Timber. **THERE**

BEING NO ONE ELSE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

**AGREEMENTS                      OPEN SPACE TIMBER APPLICATIONS                      COMMISSIONERS**

**COMMISSIONER JEWELL** moved to approve a request for Open Space Timber Classification from Mr. Phillip C. Lesh & Elita A. Lesh (Map Number 19-15-09050-0006) and from James A. Lesky (20-15-27020-0011, 20-15-27020-0019, 20-15-27010-0002, and to authorize the Chair to sign Agreements with the parties. **COMMISSIONER McCLAIN** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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**PUBLIC HEARING                      FRANCHISE VANTAGE WIND ENERGY                      PUBLIC WORKS**

At 2:05 p.m. **CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH** opened a public hearing to consider granting a Non-Exclusive Franchise with Vantage Wind Energy LLC on Vantage Highway in Section 13, Township 17, Range 21, Kittitas County, Washington.

**TOM KELLY, PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION MANAGER,** reviewed a staff report and indicated the proposed Non-Exclusive Franchise Agreement was similar to the other ones that have been approved in the past. He said the DNR had also reviewed the document and did not have any comments.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: CHRISTINE McCROSKEY** said she lives adjacent to where the proposed Franchise is located and was curious of what the agreement was, since she had only become aware of the public hearing a couple of days ago. **COMMISSIONER McCLAIN** explained what the franchise agreement was and noted it was for the applicant to actively conduct work within the County right-of-way. **JEFF McCROSKEY** said he was curious why they were going under the Vantage Highway. **COMMISSIONER JEWELL** said it was not necessarily under the Vantage Highway, but in the County right-of-way. **CLINT BROOKS, CONSTRUCTION MANAGER FOR VANTAGE WIND ENERGY** project explained the work they were going to be performing and noted the agreement would be for the fiber-optic lines. **THERE BEING NO ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**RESOLUTION 2009-117      FRANCHISE - VANTAGE WIND ENERGY      PUBLIC WORKS**

**COMMISSIONER JEWELL** moved to approve Resolution No. 2009-117, granting a Non-Exclusive Franchise to use County Roads, Rights-of-Way and other County property within Kittitas County, to Vantage Wind Energy LLC, for Vantage Highway, and to approve signature on the Non-Exclusive Franchise Agreement. **COMMISSIONER McCLAIN** seconded. Motion carried 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

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Julie A. Kjorsvik

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Alan Crankovich, Chairman