

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

**TUESDAY**

**2:00 P.M.**

**JUNE 15, 2010**

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

Others: Catherine Dunn, Deputy Clerk of the Board, Brenda Larsen, Fire Marshal; Jeff Moore, Deputy Fire Marshal; Kirk Holmes, Public Works Director and Interim Community Development Services Director; Jan Ollivier, Transportation Manager; Dan Davis, Plans Examiner; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; Jim Miller, Wayne Nelson, Pat Deneen and Lindsey Ozbolt.

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**PUBLIC HEARING    FEES FOR PERMITS/LANDUSE/PUBLICATIONS    PUBLIC WORKS**

At 2:00 p.m. **VICE-CHAIRMAN JEWELL** opened a public hearing continued from May 18, 2010 to consider adopting fees for Permits, Land Use Applications and publications for Community Development Services, Department of Public Works and the Fire Marshal.

**JAN OLLIVIER, TRANSPORTATION AND PLANNING MANAGER** explained the updated schedule of fees and the differences in the fees from the previous schedule.

**THOSE PRESENT AND TESTIFYING:**

**PAT DENEEN, 1890 Nelson Siding RD, Cle Elum,** said he thought the Board should just say no to fee increases because the higher fees are driving the builders and developers out of business.

**NATHAN WEIS, 601 R&R Heights RD, Roslyn,** said hiking up the fee charges was not the answer. He said he thought the County should look for cuts.

**JIM MILLER, 581 Strange RD, Ellensburg** said he has struggled to keep one person working for his firm. He said the County should work against mandates.

**MARLEN MCCORMICK, 2156 Stampede Pass RD, Easton** said the Water Moratorium has already hit the Upper County hard and increased fees are not needed. She urged the Board to encourage people to spend their money here, not to chase them out of the County.

**APPROVED**  
7/6/2010

**DAVE WHITWILL, CWHBA representative,** said the timing is bad for this increase and he also urged the Board to hold back on fee increases until the economy is better.

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

**COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH** said they have been hearing that this is the wrong time for this increase and they should hold back until a better time. He said the County has been trying to have fees based on a cost recovery system, but, the downturn in development shows the County may have to hold off for some time.

**VICE-CHAIRMAN JEWELL** asked when was the last time they looked at these fees. He expressed concern on running the risk of losing ground on the fees. He said with the levy shift last year, he is always looking for methods to offset the \$1 million that was used to balance the budget. He said they had looked at outsourcing building and planning functions, but the cost was too great and the County would lose money. He said this County has a long history of not raising property taxes and this Board wants to continue in that way. He said he favored fee increases because it targets the user of the service.

**COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH** said he agreed with **VICE-CHAIRMAN JEWELL**. He said if fees are too high, nothing will happen and no fees will come in. He asked Staff to whittle down the fees to what is absolutely necessary. He said what the public considers reasonable is nothing. He said they will revisit the fees in the New Year and see if business has picked up.

**VICE-CHAIRMAN JEWELL** asked **BRENDA LARSEN, Fire Marshal,** if her office is self sufficient after the fee changes made earlier. He asked if these fee changes would be necessary for self sufficiency or would the department be in negative budget numbers. She said it is self-sufficient now.

**COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH** moved to continue the public hearing to the July 6, 2010 Agenda Session with the written record to remain open until Wednesday, June 30, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. He asked Staff to provide an updated fee schedule with the Fire Marshal increases removed. **VICE-CHAIRMAN JEWELL** seconded the motion. Motion carried, 2-0 (**McClain** absent).

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**PUBLIC HEARING                      2009 BUILDING CODES                      COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

At 2:20 p.m. **VICE-CHAIRMAN JEWELL** opened the public hearing continued from June 1, 2010 to consider revising Code Text in KCC

Chapter 14.04 Building Code to adopt the new 2009 Washington State Building Codes and two other codes.

**DAN DAVIS, PLANS EXAMINER** explained that the Washington State Building Code Council completed adoption of the 2009 International Building Code (IBC), Residential Code (IRC), Mechanical Code (IMC), Fire Code (IFC) and the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC), WA ST Energy Code (WSEC), International Property Maintenance Code and Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC). He said on June 8, 2010 Governor Gregoire had requested the State Building Code Council take action to delay the Washington State Energy Code for a period of nine months until April, 2011. On June 11, 2010 the State Building Code Council voted to delay the implementation of this code. Staff recommends that the Board refrain from adoption of this code.

**BRENDA LARSEN, FIRE MARSHAL**, said the Wildland Urban Interface was misrepresented at the last hearing. She said she had done some research after the last hearing, thinking that the WUI zone covered the whole county, and found that the zone covered those areas not included in a Fire District or contracted with a Fire District were in the WUI zone.

**THE PUBLIC TESTIMONY WAS OPENED.**

**PAT DENEEN, 1890 Nelson Siding RD, Cle Elum**, said he did not support adopting the 2009 Energy Code. He said he thought it would add \$20,000 to the cost of building a house.

**THERE BEING NO ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH** said he supported not adopting the Energy Code until it gets settled at the State level. He said he was happy to know that the whole County won't be included in the Wildland Urban Interface Zone, as he had worked to pass this code and to include defensible space in private developments.

**VICE-CHAIRMAN JEWELL** said he felt the Wildland Urban Interface was important to areas outside Fire Districts and he encouraged people to join Fire Districts.

**COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH** moved to adopt the 2009 Building, Residential, Mechanical, Fire, Plumbing Codes as well as the Property Maintenance and Wildland Urban Interface Codes with the exception of the 2009 Energy Codes as proposed by Staff. **VICE-CHAIRMAN JEWELL** seconded the motion. Motion carried, 2-0 (McClain absent).

**COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH** moved to continue the public hearing to July 6, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Auditorium for enabling

documents. **VICE-CHAIRMAN JEWELL** seconded the motion. Motion carried, 2-0 (**McClain** absent).

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

**DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**



Catherine Dunn

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Paul Jewell, Vice-Chairman