

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

FRIDAY

1:30 P.M.

MARCH 4, 2011

Board members present: Chairman Paul Jewell, Vice-Chairman Alan Crankovich and Commissioner O'Brien.

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Patti Johnson, Solid Waste Director/Project Manager; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; and one member of the public.

---

**SPECIAL MEETING      FIRE CODE/LAND USE APPLICATIONS      COMMISSIONERS**

At 1:30 p.m. **Chairman Jewell** opened the special meeting to discuss with County staff the International Fire Code (IFC) application on Land Use Applications. Commissioner Jewell reviewed a memo from Deputy Prosecutor Neil Caulkins dated February 3, 2011.

Deputy Caulkins explained that the question presented to him was whether or not there are provisions of the IFC applicable to the subdivision stage. He explained that while provisions of the IFC can and should be considered as part of the SEPA review, therefore it would become conditions of subdivision approval. The meaning of the terms of the IFC are applicable and relevant only to building and construction, not subdivision. He explained that it would make sense to amend our code to make the IFC applicable at the subdivision stage so as to apply its protection to actions that are SEPA-exempt, and because requirements and installation of certain infrastructure makes more sense at the subdivision stage rather than at the building stage.

Commissioner Jewell indicated that Ms. Larsen and Mr. Caulkins have been working on the proposed language for the County Code. Commissioner Jewell felt a discussion was important to have because there are pending applications that SEPA is not applicable.

Deputy Caulkins reviewed the process to adopt the proposed language and indicated that prior to the Board taking action, the Planning Commission will need to take action and or make their recommendations.

There was discussion on the potential code changes, current impacts and future impacts should the proposed changed be adopted.

Commissioner Jewell gave a brief overview of when SEPA is enforced and gave a brief summary of how they have got to where they are currently. He explained that once these changes are adopted it will help take some of the blame off the Fire Marshal directly, because it will make the rules become law. He also discussed some of the discussions that are taking place in legislature that are being proposed and how those proposals would impact the SEPA threshold.


The Board expressed their support of the advice from Deputy Caulkins.

The meeting was adjourned 1:55.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

  
Mandy Robinson

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Paul Jewell, Chairman