

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
AGENDA SESSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**TUESDAY**

**10:00 A.M.**

**MAY 3, 2016**

Board members present: Chairman Obie O'Brien; Vice-Chairman Paul Jewell and Commissioner Laura Osiadacz.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Mandy Buchholz, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Robin Read, Public Health Administrator; Liz Whitaker, Community Health Supervisor; Doc Hansen, Planning Official/Interim Planning Director; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; Angela San Filippo, Staff Planner; Nellie Chavez, State Certified Spanish Translator; and approximately 45 members of the public.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman O'Brien called the meeting to order.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman O'Brien led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW COUNTY EMPLOYEES - ITEM CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE**

**AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS - ITEM CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Jewell moved to approve the Agenda, as presented. Commissioner Osiadacz seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Jewell moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Commissioner Osiadacz seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**APPROVED**

5-17-2016



Indemnity; and conditioned upon compliance with the recommendations made by the Kittitas County Public Works Department.

**AGREEMENT                      DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL & HEALTH SERVICES                      PUBLIC HEALTH**

Approve Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 1563-32734 Program Agreement-Long Term Payable Agreement between the Washington State Department of Social & Health Services and Kittitas County, for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017.

**RESOLUTION 2016-062                      CHANGING CASH BALANCES                      AUDITOR**

Approve Resolution No. 2016-062, Changing Authorized Cash Balances for Petty Cash, Revolving Funds, Till Accounts, Funds on Deposit, etc. for 2016.

**RESOLUTION 2016-063                      RESTRUCTURE/RENAME MH BOARD                      COMMISSIONERS**

Approve Resolution No. 2016-063, to Restructure and Rename the Kittitas County Mental Health Advisory Board, separating the Mental Health Advisory Board from the Developmental Disability Advisory Board and combine it with the Substance Abuse Advisory Board and rename it Behavioral Health and Recovery Advisory Board, effective July 1, 2016.

**AGREEMENT                      SNAP-ED PARTNERSHIP                      PUBLIC HEALTH**

Approve a Partnership Agreement between the Kittitas County Public Health Department and the Kittitas County Farmer's Market to provide Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) to eligible persons in Washington from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.

**AGREEMENT                      IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM                      PUBLIC HEALTH**

Approve a Provider Agreement between the Washington State Department of Health Office of Immunization and Child Profile and Kittitas County Public Health Department for the Immunization Program from May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017.

**RESOLUTION 2016-064                      FLOODPLAIN BY DESIGN GRANT APPLICATION                      PUBLIC WORKS**

Approve Resolution NO. 2016-064, Authorizing the Public Works Director to sign Task Order No. 13 with the Watershed Science and Engineering preparing three final Floodplain by Design Grant Applications (Reecer, Yakima and Manastash) submitted by July 1, 2016.

**LEASE                      AMENDMENT - STEPHEN BRAZITIS                      PUBLIC WORKS**

Approve an Amendment to a Lease Agreement between Kittitas County and Stephen P. Brazitis, from July 1, 2001 through October 31, 2021, at a rate of \$15.00 per annum, to be paid in advance on July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year during the term.

**SET PUBLIC HEARING**

**FINAL PALOMINO FIELDS SUBDIVISION**

**CDS**

Approve Setting a Public Hearing to consider a Proposed Development Agreement to Phase Completion of the Final Palomino Fields Subdivision, to be held on Tuesday May 17, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Auditorium, Room 109, Kittitas County Courthouse 205 West 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Ellensburg, WA and to authorize the Clerk to publish said notice.

**CORRESPONDENCE - NONE**

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS - NONE**

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Theresa Petrey explained how her law office deals a lot with mobile home transfers and other issues and how there is a big problem with them in the County. She was concerned for the long term residents of the Shady Brook mobile home park if they were to have to vacate their homes and how their community would be disrupted.

Kelli Conner said she was a resident of the Upper County and was not in favor of the County going into debt for RV parking at Fair. She expressed concerns for the Shady Brook residents and how there is not enough low income homes in the County for them to relocate.

Rodrigo Delarisa said he was an owner of one of the mobile homes in Shady Park. He said by moving the mobile homes it would break up the families economy, dreams, history and community. He felt the mobile homes were not a mountain of old trailers, but a community of united families and workers. He urged the Commissioners to think of the welfare of their residents.

Taylor Smith felt an additional 45 RV sites in the current site of the mobile home park would not be a good reason for the County to purchase the property. He felt it could be viewed as a misappropriation of funds.

Lee Bates asked the Commissioners to do what was right in their hearts and that Ellensburg is much more than a rodeo. He said there have been families who have lived in the trailer park for 5 - 6 generations and was ashamed for what is being proposed by the County.

Mark Auslander said he and his students at Central Washington University

have gotten to know residents in Shady Acres and how there are 22 proud home owners. He urged the County to withdraw from the Purchase and Sale Agreement. He felt what the County was doing was not ethical and could face many legal challenges. He felt everyone should work together to come up with a solution and obtain additional affordable housing.

Erica King, a student at Central Washington University, encouraged the County to assist the residents who live on the property. She said there were over 30 families who live and support each other in their community who will be forced to leave with no resources to help them move and encouraged the Commissioners to do the right thing and not destroy a community of hard working people.

Chuck Reasons said he has been involved with public interest law throughout his life. He indicated that he was glad a public entity was purchasing the property rather than a private party, but hoped the County recognized they have a social and moral duty to the residents and do what is best for the public and community interest.

Heather Michael indicated that homelessness is created by big areas needing to be developed by displacing low income residents. She felt sales have dropped each year recently from the attendance at the rodeo and by taking away the mobile home park, it was not going to increase the sales.

Manzo (last name unknown) said he was an advocate for cultural identity. He said in their community family is first and by taking away a residents property it is low to their personal pride and American dream. By having a close knit community it allows them to communicate with others in the same language, eat together and share things. He thought it was a great opportunity to go in and get to know community and realize how good their culture is.

Susi Weis said she was an Upper County resident and she had lived in Shady Acres in the 1970's. She enjoyed living there with the closeness of the college and proximity to other places in the community. She did not believe the County should go into debt to pay to dislocate families for an RV park and if they invest \$1.4 million dollars in the Lower County, they should invest the same amount in the Upper County.

George Bottcher explained how he is obtaining signatures on a petition calling for better government and for free holders to be set up as a different form of County government. He indicated Central Washington University uses a Council Manager system as does the Fire District, City, and School District. He said he would continue to collect signatures and present it at a later date.

Tim Henebry said the only information he knew about the proposed

purchase of Shady Acres is what he read in the newspaper. He walks a lot through their mobile home park and notices how nicely kept the properties are. He asked the Commissioners to reconsider options regarding the purchase which would allow the residents to continue to live there in their community.

Lisa Norris said she was against the eviction and from what she's heard the Shady Brook area is a great neighborhood and community in fact she would propose expanding the community. She would be in favor of increasing taxes to keep people there.

Yasmin Ibbara said she was against the eviction of the residents. She had lived there for 9 years and was concerned with what would happen to the children and older residents who have lived there for many years. She understood the County was not trying to hurt them, but she did not know where everyone would go because there is not any other place around the area which is similar in price as to what they are currently paying.

Meghan Johnson said she was a Central Washington University student majoring in Public Health. She felt it was wrong to evict the current residents in order to place 45 RV spaces in that location. She said families need to feel safe and she was concerned for the children who live in their community.

Commissioner Jewell thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He wanted everyone to know that what was printed in the newspaper and social media is not factual. He addressed various issues and said he and the Public Health Administrator had hand delivered letters last night (in English and Spanish) with information clarifying what was happening now and into the future. He said the County is aware of the shortage of low income housing and has been working on it for several years. It is the County's intent to find solutions for problems prior to any closure of the park and be sure that all are aware of future meetings regarding the issues and decisions. Commissioner Jewell dispelled rumors that the owner was forced to sell his land to the County. The owner approached the County over a year ago to see if they were interested in purchasing it as it was a part of the long range plan for the Fairgrounds from over a couple of decades ago. There was an extensive public process done and was not a plan made over night. He also clarified that the Event Center facility is used all year and the expansion for RV parking would be used for various events as there is not enough space currently.

Commissioner Osiadacz said she was new to her position and was learning more about what was going on within the County. She said as a public servant she appreciated receiving feedback from the citizens and recognized there are sometimes hard decisions that need to be made. She indicated she cared about the families in the Shady Brook community.

Chairman O'Brien said he had worked in the fields and orchards when he was small and lived in trailer parks growing up. He said he would listen to everyone and would speak to them whether it meant going to their homes or having them come into his office. He said there were a lot of resources to deal with the issues and was committed to taking care of everyone.

**BOARD DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS**

**APPOINTMENT**

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

**COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Jewell moved to appoint Robert Martin to the Kittitas County Planning Commission for District #1, to fill a vacancy for a three year term effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2016. Commissioner Osiadacz seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**MISCELLANEOUS - NONE**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - NONE**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Jewell moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:19 a.m. Commissioner Osiadacz seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
Julie Kjorsvik

  
Obie O'Brien, Chairman