KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

IN RE PLUM CREEK TIMBER COMPANY,)	
L.P. ADMINISTRATIVE SEGREGATION (
APPEAL)
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í	ORDER
Ý	011221

This matter came before the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners (BOCC) as an administrative appeal from a denial of a set of applications made by appellant Plum Creek Timber Company, L.P. (Plum Creek). After certification of the record, briefing by the parties, and due notice, the BOCC conducted the administrative appeal at 1:30 p.m. February 23, 2012 in the commissioners' auditorium. Having considered the record, briefing of the parties, and being fully advised in the premises, the BOCC finds and orders as follows:

The BOCC finds that the items included in Plum Creek's motion to augment the administrative record were inadvertently omitted and should be considered part of that record. The motion to amend was granted on a 3-0 vote; and

The BOCC finds that Plum Creek was not requesting a set of administrative segregations (given that the applications do not comport with that code provision), but rather was seeking recognition of government lots, which is something the County has neither a process nor enacted code to perform. The BOCC finds that to act in the absence of adopted code and process would be arbitrary and capricious, and so denial of these applications was the proper response. The BOCC finds that it is precluded from recognizing undeveloped pre-1936 parcels in the absence of subjecting such parcels to the scrutiny of modern land use laws such as the Growth Management Act and the State Environmental Policy Act. The BOCC finds that a Superior Court, not a county,

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has jurisdiction to answer questions of title regarding lots that have been merged or aggregated, and the BOCC declined to determine if the lots involved in this matter were merged or aggregated. The BOCC finds that any past erroneous practices of the County do not create vested rights to the continuation of those errors. A motion to affirm the denial was approved on a 2-1 vote with Commissioner Crankovich voting against.

IT IS ORDERED that the motion to augment the administrative record is granted, thereby adding a letter from Joseph Rehberger dated 10/14/11 and emails from David Sprinkle dated 8/31/11 and 9/1/11 as AR 652-665; and

IT IS ORDERED that the denial of project application numbers SG-10-00003, SG-10-00004, SG-10-00005, SG-10-00006, SG-10-00007, and SG-10-00008 is affirmed.

Ordered this day of March, 2012.

Alan Crankovich, Chairman

Obie O'Brien, Vice-Chairman

Paul Jewell, Commissioner

Presented by:

Neil A. Caulkins, WSBA 31759

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

ORDER