THOSE PRESENT: Perry Huston, Max Golladay, Bruce Coe, John Akers, Paul Bennett, Kelly Carlson

THIRD ELLensburg INTERCHANGE: Paul stated that the City of Ellensburg has received funding for a third interchange. He stated that this will not only be a City project, but the County will be involved also, so interlocal agreements will need to be in place for this. John Akers stated that WSDOT is going to do the feasibility study and if the study finds there is no need for this interchange then the project will probably die. Paul also presented a letter from the FHWA that did not support the third interchange. There was discussion on the political issues surrounding this project.

BOARD DIRECTION: The BOCC approved the feasibility study, and directed Paul to draft a letter of support for the Sept. 7 agenda.

SO. THORP HWY VACATION: Paul stated that he and Joy had met with the KOA property owners and informed them that the City of Ellensburg will have all of the easements that the County had. John Akers stated that the City will manage the area in the same manner that the County has in the past.

BOARD DIRECTION: No Board Direction

FLAGGERS/INMATES: Paul stated that using the inmates as temporary flaggers worked out well for them and the County. He is asking for approval to take two inmates down to YVCC for flagger training. He stated that if the inmate is a good employee then at the end of their term they are given their flaggers card in order to search for employment, if not then they do not receive the card when they leave. Perry again stated his concern that supervision may lack after everyone gets comfortable with their presence. Paul assured Perry that he has expressed his concerns to the Road Supervisors and they are highly aware. Bruce expressed his concern that the inmates are taking jobs from people on the outside and doesn’t want that to happen.

BOARD DIRECTION: Board states they have had no negative feedback on the program so approved Paul to train two more inmates for flagging.

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ACT: Paul stated that the surface transportation program, ISTEA program allocates their funds based on population. The 2004 STP allocation for Kittitas County is estimated at $445K plus a 22% increase. Paul would like to swap federal funds for state funds since the state funds are a lot less restrictive. He proposes to buy out the federal funds for the small cities in return for state funds/local dollars, dollar for dollar.
BOARD DIRECTION: BOCC approved the proposal.

VANTAGE/KITTITAS HWY SAFETY CORR. PROJECT: Paul stated that the kick-off meeting or the Safety Corridor Project will be on Sept. 30, 2004, at the Fire Station from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Paul also stated that he will be spending some time in a booth at the fair answering questions regarding this project.

BOARD DIRECTION: Contact Shannon Carlson and have her put this meeting on their calendars.

WINSTON BRIDGE: Paul stated that there had been a lot of research and meetings on this bridge, and feels there is enough evidence to show public access. Paul stated that there is a Forest Service letter stating the possibility of transferring road to the County and Suncadia will upgrade the road in order for the County to adopt onto the road system. Perry asked what type of documents Paul had found that showed public access, and Paul stated he had found easements/QCD to Roslyn and Cle Elum. Steve Lathrop is asking for a letter establishing public access and all documents. Paul also stated that the land exchange is a point of debate/disagreement between the Forest Service & Suncadia.

BOARD DIRECTION: Directed Paul to draft a letter to Steve Lathrop and bring to the August 30, 2004, study session for their review.

ACCIDENT REDUCTION CLASS: Paul asked for approval to attend a class in California for this Accident Reduction Class. He stated that CRAB & WSDOT both called him stating that this would be beneficial for Kittitas County and would consider granting him a scholarship that would pay for the class and travel.

BOARD DIRECTION: BOCC approved Paul to attend this class if 100% funded.

Adjourned at 2:30

[Signature]
Paul D. Bennett, P.E.
Director of Public Works