COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
PUBLIC HEARING

TUESDAY 4:00 P.M. JANUARY 18, 2005

Board members present: Chairman Perry D. Huston, Vice-Chairman David Bowen & Commissioner Alan Crankovich.

Others: Julie Kjorvsik, Clerk of the Board; Paul Bennett, Public Works Director; Joy Potter, Public Works Staff; Jennifer Steward, Public Works Staff and three members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS I & J COMMISSIONERS

At approximately 4:00 p.m. CHAIRMAN HUSTON opened a public hearing to consider revising Kittitas County Code Chapter 10.12.010 "Stop and Yield Signs" located in Maintenance Districts "I" & "J" which includes the Southeast Areas of Kittitas County.

JENNIFER STEWARD, PUBLIC WORKS STAFF presented a Staff Report. She explained that Kittitas County has various intersections with Yield signs posted. The current Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and American Association of State Highways and Transportation Officials has specific guidelines that must be adhered to for the correct placement of yield signs. The Public Works Department initiated the task of reviewing all the yield signs on a district by district basis to allow complete review of each sign location. She said that following an on-site inspection of each intersection, reviewing distance triangle, accident history, speed and traffic volumes, they were recommending that seven of the twenty yield signs be replaced with stop signs. The intersections recommended were Bently Road at Stevens Road; Stevens Road at Parke Creek Road; Koffman Road at Parke Creek Road; Glover Road at Prater Road; Hemingston Road (Northbound) at Parke Creek Road; Caribou Road at Clerf Road and Recreation Drive (Vantage) at Vantage Highway. She noted that all sites had been posted with the proposed changes since January 3rd as well as notices had been sent to appropriate landowners and legal notice in the newspaper.

THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: MIKE ALBERG spoke against changing the yield sign with a stop sign at the intersection of Stevens Road and Parke Creek Road. He said he had never seen an accident at that intersection in over thirty years of living in the area. BOB CLERF speaking on behalf of himself and Craig Clerf spoke against the proposed change of a yield sign with a stop sign at the intersection of Caribou Road and Clerf Road. He felt there was good vision on
the roadway and acknowledged although it's a rough dirt road people tended to slow down anyways. BILL HANSON opposed to placing a stop sign at the intersection of Caribou Road and Clerf Road. THERE BEING NO ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH questioned the liability to the County if the recommended changes were not made as studies by the Public Works Department. PAUL BENNETT, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR felt the County could be liable for accidents if the recommended changes were not met. He said all of the recommended changes were warranted upon the necessary research that had been previously conducted by his department. COMMISSIONER BOWEN recognized the possible liability to the County. He said although he understood the concerns expressed his job as a County Commissioner was to limit liability to the County as much as possible and would vote in favor of the recommended changes.

ORDINANCE 2005-03 PLACE STOP SIGNS-DISTRICTS I & J PUBLIC WORKS

COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH moved to approve Ordinance No. 2005-03, Placing Seven Stop Signs in Districts I & J (Southeast area of Kittitas County) at the intersections that do not conform to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and the American Association of State Highways and Transportation Officials, at the following locations: Bently Road at Stevens Road; Stevens Road at Parke Creek Road; Koffman Road at Parke Creek Road; Glover Road at Prater Road; Hemingston Road (Northbound) at Parke Creek Road; Caribou Road at Clerf Road and Recreation Drive (Vantage) at Vantage Highway. COMMISSIONER BOWEN seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Julie A. Kjorsvik
Perry D. Huston, Chairman