THOSE PRESENT: Perry Huston, David Bowen, Alan Crankovich, Greg Zempel, Paul Bennett, Kelly Carlson

GUESTS PRESENT: None

TRANSPORTATION PLAN: Paul stated that he had reviewed the transportation plan and the consultant had done what was asked of her. Perry stated that he didn't need a consultant to identify policies for him, he wanted more technical observations, and feels this is a no-growth plan. Paul stated that this plan will shadow the Washington Transportation Plan that is being created right now. The WTP plan will also outline funding priorities. Paul stated that he would like to move forward with this plan and feels that the plan should not tell us if we should or shouldn't grow. Perry stated that we need to depart from the whole growth connection and identify what we have and preserve based on what is happening now. Perry also stated that he is disappointed in the consultant and stated the focus needs to be brought down to a fine point.

BOARD DIRECTION: Commissioners Crankovich and Bowen had not had the opportunity to read the plan so deferred from comment, but asked that this topic be put on next week's study session for discussion.

2004 BRIDGE INSPECTION: Paul stated that annual bridge inspections are required by CRAB in order to get certified. Each year one half of the bridges are inspected which establishes and order of merit for federal funding. Paul summarized what is contained in the report. He stated that there are “other” bridges that do not qualify for BRAC funding that he would like to use approx. $250K unanticipated funding for this.

BOARD DIRECTION: Board approved use of funding for these bridges.
P.S.E. GASLINE: Paul stated that PSE had been fined for sub-standard steel used in their gas lines. He spoke with Larry Tornberg of PSE and found out that Kittitas County is not included in this issue and we will not have to tear up our roads.

BOARD DIRECTION: No Boar Direction

AIRPORT ADVISORY LETTERS: Paul requested that the Board Chair sign letters seeking Airport Advisory members. These letters would go to Airport Lessees, CWU, and Board of Realtors.

BOARD DIRECTION: BOCC approved and Perry will sign the letters on the February 15th agenda.

ADOPT A HIGHWAY: Paul presented the BOCC with a copy of a news paper article in which a Nazi organization had adopted a portion of a highway, and the community was in uproar. Paul asked the BOCC if this program is something they want to continue with and take the chance in running into something like this or discontinue.

BOARD DIRECTION: Board directed to keep as is and continue program.

PERSONNEL POLICY (LEAVE): Paul stated that normally supervisor leave is not an issue other than at Christmas time. The Christmas of 04' there was a preparation meeting that involved an Upper County Lead, Lower County Lead, and Office/Construction Supervisor, that discussed operations while supervisors were going to be out. Commissioner Crankovich stated that this has been an issue before and that one supervisor should be able to be reached at any time. He also stated that there has been an issue with compensation for carrying a phone on their off-time. He stated that this limits what an employee can do on his off time and should be compensated appropriately. His suggestions were: 1) Union Contract change to pay the supervisors to carry their phone on their off time, and 2) Don't allow all supervisors off at the same time.

BOARD DIRECTION: Perry stated that if compensation is the issue, then leave that to the union contract, but if coverage is the issue then need to be sure there is coverage. No change to existing policies and procedures.
**MAINTENANCE MANAGER:** Paul presented a copy of the Haff Report that was done for the Public Works Department quite a while ago, and a possible Maintenance Manager job description. He stated that he would see this as a Senior Management position. Perry stated that unless we have an immediate need for the position it will need to wait until and be put in the next budget cycle and be brought up with specifics at the budget retreat.

**BOARD DIRECTION:** Perry stated that unless we have an immediate need for the position it will need to wait until and be put in the next budget cycle and be brought up with specifics at the budget retreat.

**PLOTTER REPLACEMENT:** Paul stated that our current plotter is getting old enough that replacement parts are difficult to find. What we would like to do is purchase the plotter and rent to CDS so we would “share” instead of purchasing two machines.

**BOARD DIRECTION:** Perry directed Public Works to do their homework and bring proposal back to BOCC.

**VARIANCE REQUESTS:** Commissioner Bowen asked how the Variance process works. Paul stated that it starts with a request form, then staff researches and an administrative decision is reached. Appeals go to the BOCC. Lori Jeffries was present to hear discussion on this and would like to fill out a form.

**BOARD DIRECTION:** No Board Direction

**CREATION OF ISLANDS:** Commissioner Bowed stated concern over “Islands” being left due to city annexations. He brought up Sanders Road as an example. Perry stated that he sees this more of a problem for the cities, and they should be pulling the roads with the annexations so they can maintain.

**BOARD DIRECTION:** No Board Direction.

Adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Paul D. Bennett, P.E.
Director of Public Works