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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Kelly Carlson, Administrative Assistant Public Works Department; John Nixon, Public Works Construction Supervisor; Construction Supervisor and 5 members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING

At approximately 4:12 p.m. CHAIRMAN HUSTON opened the public hearing to consider requests for reclassification as Open Space Land for Current Use Tax Assessment under the Open Space Taxation Act for Babcock and Blanco, LLC; Jim & Cynthia Herbert; Craig Land Company, LLP, and Perry E. & Sandra C. LaCelle.

CHAIRMAN HUSTON reviewed the Open Space Reclassification requests. He reviewed the requirements and said according to the staff report, all requirements had been met.

PHIL HESS, CONSULTING FORESTER said he was representing the applicants and reviewed the location of each application and said he had prepared a Forest Management Plan for each application. He said all the requests were for a transfer from Forest Land to Open Space Timber. He indicated there would be no change in assessed values between the two classifications. He said all applicants had met the necessary requirements and recommended the Board's approval.

THERE BEING NO ONE INTERESTED IN PROVIDING TESTIMONY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

COMMISSIONER BOWEN said the Assessor's office had briefed him on those types of requests last week.

COMMISSIONER BOWEN moved to approve the applications for reclassification as Open Space Land for Current Use Tax Assessment under the Open Space Taxation Act for Babcock and Blanco, LLC; Jim & Cynthia Herbert; Craig Land Company, LLP, and Perry E. & Sandra C. LaCelle and to authorize Chair's signature on the Agreements.

COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH seconded. Motion carried 3-0.
At approximately 4:22 p.m. CHAIRMAN HUSTON opened the public hearing to consider granting a Non-Exclusive Irrigation Franchise on Morrison Road near the Intersection of Ross Road and Morrison Road.

JOHN NIXON, CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR presented a staff report. He said the irrigation water that is currently being used on the south side of Morrison Road could also be used to irrigate land on the north side of Morrison Road and Mr. Jensvold needed to cross the road in order to pump the water to this additional property. He recommended the Board approve the Non-Exclusive Irrigation Franchise as presented.

THERE BEING NO ONE INTERESTED IN TESTIFYING, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH moved to approve the Non-Exclusive Irrigation Franchise to Use County Rods, Rights-of-Way with Carl and Andrea Jensvold. COMMISSIONER BOWEN seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

At approximately 4:25 p.m. CHAIRMAN HUSTON opened the continued public hearing from May 17, 2005 to consider a granting a Franchise with Falcon Video Communications.

KELLY CARLSON, PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT presented a staff report. Two letters were acknowledged in the record both from James K. Brooks from Inland Telephone.

CHAIRMAN HUSTON asked for Board disclosures. He explained that the County wide franchise is what is triggered by a site specific project and that a right-of-way permit must be obtained. CHAIRMAN HUSTON said the Board needs to discuss and be more specific with policy direction with particular document. Level of service, etc. No objections. Bowen - none. No objections. Crankovich - none. No objections.

APPLICANT - PETRA REDCHUCK and JEFF HOPKINS REPRESENTING CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS said they meet with Paul Bennett, former Public Works Director and they came close to having a final draft completed. Ms.
Redchuck had the understanding that it would be presented to the Board for their review at the public hearing. She said the revocation section & the open bond issue. They answered questions that were proposed by the public at the prior public hearing. She claimed their company was heavily regulated.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING:** DAVID BLACK representing Snoqualmie Pass Cable TV requested to be able to add written comments at a later date. He felt small companies could be put out of business from overbuilding. He felt Charter was developing customers by acquisition and not marketing. He reviewed the proposed Franchise and suggested several changes to the document. He urged the Board to deny the request. **THERE BEING NO ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**CHAIRMAN HUSTON** said the Board would discuss the issue further at the Monday Study Session with the Public Works Department. He indicated there would not be any testimony taken, and the only discussions would be related to staffing resources.

**CHAIRMAN HUSTON** explained he was not prepared to make a final decision. He felt the Board needed to discuss the direction they would like to proceed and what the Board would like to regulate as a County. He discussed other issues including if the County should protect the right-of-way, or look at possibly entering into more of a service agreement? He suggested that the Board go back into hearing for board discussion and then move from that date to see when another draft could be created and go back out for public review.

It was noted that the current franchises that the County has does not address the level of service, so all of them may eventually need to be revisited.

**CHAIRMAN HUSTON** moved to continue the public hearing to June 13, 2005 at 1:30 p.m. at the Permit Center (401 N. Ruby, Ellensburg) for purposes of a study session & then continue the public hearing to June 28, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioner’s Auditorium, for Board Discussion Decision only. (It was noted that the record would remain open to all written comments – but not for verbal testimony on those two dates). **COMMISSIONER BOWEN** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.
Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

Julie A. Kjorsvik

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Perry D. Huston, Chairman