TUESDAY 4:00 P.M.  JUNE 14, 2005

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Joy Potter, Public Works Engineering Manager; James Hurson, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor; Patti Johnson, Interim Public Works Director and approximately 6 members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING VACATE PORTION OF FAUST ROAD PUBLIC WORKS

At approximately 4:00 p.m. CHAIRMAN HUSTON opened the continued public hearing from June 13, 2005 to consider the vacation of a portion of Faust Road right-of-way near the intersection with the John Wayne Trail.

CHAIRMAN HUSTON entered into the record a letter dated May 27, 2005 from Jim Harris; a binder with Faust Road documents dated June 2005; cassette tapes from June 3, 2003 & August 5, 2003; as well as the agendas from those dates. He said the outstanding question remained is what the Board of County Commissioners agreed to relating to the Faust Road reconstruction. Chairman Huston disclosed that he had numerous conversations with the County staff relating to getting documents together. He said he had no contact with State Parks or any others who have participated in the process. There were no objections made.

COMMISSIONER BOWEN announced he had had no discussions regarding the issue. There were no objections made. COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH said he had had some contact with staff relating to the issue, but no one else. There were no objections made.

JOY POTTER, PUBLIC WORKS ENGINEERING MANAGER reviewed the contents of the binder which had been provided to the Board. JAMES HURSON, DEPUTY PROSECUTOR brought up issues relating to the funding process. He reminded the Board that part of the grant application was for the removal of the substandard curve hazard. He reviewed the recorded Slope Easement and Agreement the County has with the State Parks and wanted to be sure that the Board was aware of their contractual obligation (#5 - Exhibit B in binder).
CHAIRMAN HUSTON said he went through binder and tried to glean out phrases, statements and documents that would lend guidance to see what everyone expected to happen. He referenced several documents and the statements that were included and relevant to the discussion. He said Mr. Hurson did an accurate job pointing out the County's obligations and acknowledged the County was obligated to remove the hairpin corner and provide realignment to the State Parks for John Wayne Trail, as well as providing access to the property owner. He referenced past testimony, stating the north leg wasn't the best access. He said if it becomes private access, the property owner would need to maintain it and it would not be the County's liability.

COMMISSIONER BOWEN agreed that the County is committed to reconstructing the John Wayne Trail. COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH acknowledged the contractual obligation eliminating the hairpin turn and that it was up to County to complete. MR. HURSON addressed the co-location of trail & access.

JIM HARRIS, REPRESENTING STATE PARKS agreed with the options and said they were interested in having a realigned constructed trail so it's under their ownership. He said they had funds available for the trailhead and they have some flexibility.

ART SINCLAIR questioned why not mirror what's been done on the west side of road which would keep the John Wayne trail in tact and run the trail on the north leg. MS. POTTER said that option had been explored and the Road Supervisor said it would cost approximately $10,000 (2 years ago) and then there would be two road crossings on the trail. LAVONE SINCLAIR felt a guardrail was needed for safety reasons like what had been done on the west side.

THERE BEING NO ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

CHAIRMAN HUSTON said he was inclined to consider vacating the north leg, and then it would not be a through road, which would require placing proper signage. If the south leg was vacated, it would leave the other half to the property owners to maintain.

COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH asked staff if there had been any other plans looked at such as the "mirror" proposal referenced by Mr. Sinclair? MS. POTTER said there had not been other than what was looked into over 2 years ago. Staff offered to look into it and see if State Parks would be interested.

MR. HURSON recommended to the Board that they give direction staff to republish notice hearing to vacate all or a portion of entire
hairpin relating to the north, south or whatever part they were interested in. He felt with the current notice, there was not adequate notice for the Board to take action. He suggested having a broader notice so no one could challenge the County on process.

CHAIRMAN HUSTON said they would find a route for the State Parks. He directed staff to move ahead with a process of creating a mirror route vs. route adjacent to southern leg and to get together with representatives from State Parks to see if they would be able to live with it. He also directed staff to re-notice the vacation.

CHAIRMAN HUSTON moved to direct staff work with State Parks in creating a proposal for the Board's consideration of the "mirror" alignment for the John Wayne Trail, as well as the Southern alignment adjacent to the old Faust right-of-way. COMMISSIONER BOWEN seconded. Staff was directed to bring the work product back to the Board on July 5, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

CHAIRMAN HUSTON moved to issue a Notice of Public Hearing for the vacation of all or a portion of the Old Faust Road alignment right-of-way to be held on Tuesday July 12, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. COMMISSIONER BOWEN second. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Julie A. Kjorsvik
Ferry D. Huston, Chairman

06/14/2005 MINUTES