SPECIAL MEETING

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BOCC

At approximately 1:34 p.m. Chairman Bowen opened the special meeting to discuss the Army Corps of Engineers dealings with Mitch and Debbie Perry, residents of Kittitas County, as requested by Ben George and Shane Jump.

Ben George stated approximately two years ago Mitch and Debbie Perry had obtained a wildlife permit to work on their property. They had the trees down and partially burned when the Army Corps of Engineers contacted them and said they would have to stop work. An exemption was requested for ditches and irrigation from the ACOE jurisdiction. It was denied. The ACOE told Mr. George the Perry’s may need a permit for irrigation modifications, but that they were currently two years behind in issuing permits.

Shane Jump stated it was frustrating because the residents had tried to follow all the county requirements and obtain permits from all local organizations.

Commissioner Huston stated the ACOE interpret all waters fall under their jurisdiction, and that no one has forced a definition of navigable waters.

Discussion followed on who has jurisdiction over irrigation waters: State or Federal, and how best to deal with the situation.

Commissioner Huston volunteered to draft a letter to the Governor and Attorney General regarding these issues. The letter and a resolution will be ready for the April 4, 2006 agenda session.

Meeting adjourned approximately 2:20 p.m.