Board members present: Chairman David Bowen; Vice-Chairman Alan Crankovich; Commissioner Perry Huston

Others Present: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Dr. Wayne Quirk, Associate Vice President of Graduate Studies CWU; Jill Arango, Kittitas County Conservation Director CLC; Jim Armstrong, Kittitas County Trustee (Chair) CLC; and Lisa Bowen, Member of the Public

At 3:00 p.m. Chairman Bowen opened a special meeting to discuss Gladmar Park “A Living Laboratory”.

Jill Arango provided a Power Point presentation for the Board to explain why we were meeting today; she stated we are here to review and discuss the proposal for CWU to sign a lease with Kittitas County for management of Gladmar Park as a “Living Laboratory”. Jill also stated their goal was to leave with all the elements of a fifty year lease which will be available for public review in October.

Jill reviewed the rest of the Power Point presentation that included a map of Kittitas County, and talked about the location of Gladmar Park. She stated Gladmar Park is a thirty acre island located at the end of Gladmar road off I-90 exit 104 and is currently owned by Kittitas County. Jill stated the current project background they have on the project is Central Washington University (CWU) and the Cascade Land Conservancy (CLC) are working in partnership. CWU is interested in holding a long-term lease on the Kittitas County owned Gladmar Park property. CLC is interested in working with CWU on stewardship of the property. Jill stated the current goals they have are to preserve and protect the unique environment of Gladmar Park. Increase access to the Park for: General Public CWU students and faculty, Kittitas County K-12 students and teachers, and CWU scientific research partners. CWU seeks to secure a long term lease to expand natural science educational opportunities in a “living laboratory” in Kittitas County for all educational levels.

Jill went over what elements and suggestions CWU and CLC had considered in a lease: Permitted Uses, Banned Uses, Improvements, Stewardship, Liability, Rent and Term of Lease. Jill stated CWU is requesting a fifty year lease for One Dollar and that CWU will pay
any required "Lease Tax". Jill covered the terms of lease: fifty years, and right of first refusal at the end of the proposed lease. Jill discussed that their next step is: CWU is committed to enter into a long-term lease and immediately begin seeking funds for site clean up and restoration and CWU and CLC will work in partnership to seek restoration funding.

Jill asked for ideas, questions, and or concerns from the Board. Commissioner Crankovich expressed that they need to improve the parking out there along with a foot bridge. Commissioner Huston stated they may want to consider doing some core sampling of the gravel sites to make sure it’s safe. Commissioner Huston stated his reason of concern about this, is the pits are a place where people may choose to bury things giving that they are in a location that is semi hidden. Commissioner Huston recommended that CWU and CLC work on drafting a Lease for the Boards review and have it to them no later then October 2nd in order to get it on the October 5th Agenda, Commissioner Huston also stated they will want to update the Power Point presentation for the Public Hearing presentation for the public.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.