COMMISSIONERS MINUTES  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
SPECIAL MEETING  
KITTITAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS/EVENT CENTER  
TEANAWAY HALL/HOME ARTS BUILDING  

MONDAY  6:00 P.M.  MAY 12, 2008  

Board members present: Chairman Mark McClain; Vice-Chairman Alan Crankovich. The District #1 Commissioner position is currently vacant. 

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Darryl Piercy, Director of Community Development Services; Allison Kimball, Assistant Director of Community Development Services; Scott Turnbull, CDS Staff Planner; and approximately 21 members of the public. 

PUBLIC HEARING  EWGMHB ORDER  CDS  

At approximately 6:00 p.m. CHAIRMAN McClain opened a continued public hearing from May 6, 2008 to consider the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearing Board’s (EWGMHB) Final Decision and Order finding that Kittitas County’s Comprehensive Plan as amended and updated through Ordinance 2006-63 do not comply with the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA). He noted the written record was closed at noon on May 12, 2008. 

DARRYL PIERCY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES reviewed and discussed housekeeping issues regarding the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board’s final decision and order (Case No. 07-1-0004c) finding that Kittitas County’s Comprehensive Plan as amended and updated through Ordinance 2006-63 does not comply with the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), noting all comments received through noon today were a part of the record before the Commissioners tonight. He indicated that it was necessary to consider the issues brought before the Commissioners now that the comment period has closed and staff has compiled a complete record of comments for review. He gave an overview of issues #1 - #14 as outlined in a staff narrative dated April 11, 2008 referencing the Eastern Washington Growth Hearings Board Order Compliance (Case No. 07-1-0004c) and Kittitas County staffs’ response and recommendations to come into compliance with the order. He noted that Issues #8 & #9 were not addressed in the document because they were appealed and the Boards decisions were upheld. 

COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH questioned Issue #3 regarding ag-lands and how we would implement the proposals and also questioned how we got to these suggested proposals. 

DARRYL PIERCY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES expressed his discomfort trying to speak on behalf of the Ag-lands Committee but indicated that the Committee did an analysis and determined what the farmers needs are. He indicated the Ag-Lands Committee is incredibly knowledgeable and really worked hard on what proposals they prepared for the Commissioners. 

CHAIRMAN McClain questioned LAMIRDs and that in Issue #2 it speaks to designateing the subject area, including the Snoqualmie Pass subarea and Gold Creek area, Rural and reflect changes in both its land use and zoning maps to be consistent with the rural area elements. He
also commented on undertaking the task of reviewing areas in Kittitas County, including areas previously designated Urban Growth Nodes, to determine whether the area is better designated as rural or a Limited Areas of More Intense Rural Development (LAMIRDs). He also questioned the types of LAMIRDs.

DARRYL PIERCY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES explained that it’s an element of typing for example’s 1, 2 &3.

CHAIRMAN McClAIN questioned if any work had been done on David Taylors comments submitted to the record.

COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH expressed his understanding of the deadline that the County is coming up against.

DARRYL PIERCY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES felt we could be in the crosshairs no matter what we do. He indicated addressing the issues of non-compliance is now addressed and he felt that would be to our benefit.

CHAIRMAN McClAIN felt the Commissioners would be doing a huge in-justice to not move forward with the Land Use Advisory Committee’s suggestions. CHAIRMAN McClAIN moved to adopt the following as stated; Issue number 1, principally dealing with 3-acre zoning, is under a stay from the Superior Court so we will take no action. Issue number two, dealing with UNG’s and density, is also under a stay and therefore we will take no action. Issue three, dealing with designation and de-designation of commercial forest and agriculture lands, will be resolved at the continued public hearing Wednesday, 6:00 pm at Kittitas Valley Event Center. Issue number 4: we reversed the decision as to de-designation of agricultural lands 06-05, 06-06, 06-13 and will take no action as to 06-16 which had previously been denied. Issue 5, reversed the expansion of the Ellensburg UGA back to its 2006 boundaries, but did uphold (with CTED’s concurrence) the expansion of the city of Kittitas’s UGA expansion. With respect to those issues in item number 5 dealing with the UGN’s we will take no action as that is under appeal and stay. Issue 6, UGA’s as stated above. Issues 7, 10, 11, 12 also stayed by superior court. Issue 13 and 14 are identical of issue number 5. COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH seconded.

CHAIRMAN McClAIN & COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH expressed their gratitude for all of the LUAC hard work and felt it was a document to be proud of. COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH moved to continue the Public Hearing to Monday May 12, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Kittitas County Event Center, Teanaway Room. CHAIRMAN McClAIN seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

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Mandy Robinson,                      Mark McClain, Chairman
Deputy Clerk of the Board

05-12-2008 MINUTES  2