COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY 11:00 A.M  AUGUST 11, 2008

Board members present: Vice-Chairman Alan Crankovich and Commissioner Linda Huber. Absent- Chairman Mark McClain

Others: Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Anna Lael, Kittitas County Conservation District Manager.

SPECIAL MEETING  KCCD UPDATE  COMMISSIONERS

At 11:00 a.m. Vice-Chairman Crankovich opened a special meeting to receive an update from Anna Lael, Kittitas County Conservation District Manager.

Ms. Lael indicated that the purpose of this meeting was to update the Commissioners on current projects that the Kittitas County Conservation District (KCCD) is working on. She explained that they have recently hired an architect that is currently on contract with the KCCD, to do plans for the new administrative building for KCCD, NRCIS, FSA, WSU Extension, Noxious Weed and Fish and Wildlife. She indicated that they have been looking at some property out at the airport and has met with the County Airport Manager for a brief discussion on lease/rental fees. She indicated that they hoped to have a cost estimate and conceptual plan to present to the Commissioners by the end of October.

Ms. Lael reviewed updates for the County Wide Fire Protection Plan. She explained that the schedule that came out in the newspaper is on the conservative side she indicated that the KCCD plans to present the proposal to the Commissioners on November 18th, 2008. She reviewed the timeline for how the information will be presented to the public prior to the Commissioners hearing the Plan at the Public Hearing. She explained that they have recently acquired a forester on board to assist with the County Wide Fire Protection Plan, but there are concerns over personal insurance for the forester which has resulted in the KCCD working on a disclaimer.

Anna explained the current hang up’s with the Manastash Creek project, and indicated that since the last public hearing they have been unable to find anyone to take over the franchise agreement for Barnes Road. She explained that Bonneville Power Administration
(BPA) did not want to sign the franchise agreement. The Conservation District does not want the franchise once the project is completed and indicated they could not take on the liabilities. She indicated that the irrigators had concerns over the clause in the agreement regarding the potential of possible re-locating if need be. She reviewed the issues that have arose regarding the re-ditch up Manastash and explained that the idea is to move the water rights to where the Manastash diversion is however they have been meeting with a lot of un-happy landowners. She explained that they have been fairly understanding once they learned that they do not have water rights.

Ms. Lael gave the Commissioners a draft of the Conservation District’s yearly accomplishments. She indicated that the KCCD was hoping to start scheduling meetings for the Commissioners and legislators to tour the projects.

Commissioner Crankovich asked Ms. Lael where the KCCD was at on the Jack and Indian Creek project. Ms. Lael indicated that the project should pick back up next summer.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Mandy Robinson

Alan Crankovich, Vice-Chairman