Board members present: Chairman Paul Jewell, Vice-Chairman Alan Crankovich and Commissioner Obie O’Brien.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Phil Hess, Consulting Forester and Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board.

PUBLIC HEARING

OPEN SPACE TIMBER – ANGLEMEYER

COMMISSIONERS

At 2:00 p.m. Chairman Jewell opened a Public Hearing to consider a Current Use Open Space Timber Application received from Devin & Christine Anglemyer (21-14-09053-0001 and 21-14-09060-0001).

MANDY ROBINSON, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD gave a staff report regarding the Open Space Timber application from Devin & Christine Anglemyer. She said the application had been submitted along with a Forest Land Stewardship Plan and the required $300.00 filing fee.

PHIL HESS, CONSULTING FORESTER, REPRESENTING THE APPLICANT said he had prepared a Forest Management Plan for the Anglemyer’s and had examined the parcel which qualifies it for Open Space Timber in accordance with the RCW and County Code. He felt the purpose of filing a plan was for the applicant to attest to their obligation and responsibilities for the growing and harvesting of timber. He said he is very cautious of applicant’s intent and does not just “rubber stamp” them so they can get a break in their taxes. He said if the Board would like, he could make the language stronger in future plans, and include some type of schedule that outline when a timber harvest should be done. He felt there should be an audit done every so often to ensure plans are being followed because the only time it’s reviewed currently, is when the property changes ownership.

THERE BEING NO OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

CHAIRMAN JEWELL said he was concerned of intent from this particular land owner and if they will use it to actually grow and harvest timber. Their previous application was for Open Space and the Board notified them of the need of a Forest Management Plan, which had been done. He said without the applicant in attendance to confirm their intent he did not feel comfortable making a decision. COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH said that every Forest Management Plan should be reviewed every five years, and questioned if the County should take a position...
in the future to review and ensure if timber harvests have actually taken place.

COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN said he would also like confirmation from the applicant of their intent for the growing and harvesting in the next five years.

COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH moved to continue the Public Hearing to Tuesday October 4, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Auditorium, and to instruct staff to notify the applicant to respond either in person or in writing of their intent for the property to ensure they are meeting the RCW requirements for both growth and commercial harvesting, noting the written record is to remain open. COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

Julie Kjorsvik

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Paul Jewell, Chairman