

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING**

WEDNESDAY

2:00 P.M.

FEBRUARY 22, 2012

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Mandy Robinson, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Robert & Carolyn Kitchell, Applicants and Vic Monahan, Forest Consultant.

PUBLIC HEARING

OPEN SPACE TIMBER - KITCHELL

COMMISSIONERS

At 2:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH** opened a Public Hearing continued from February 7, 2012 to consider a Current Use Open Space Timber application received from Robert & Carolyn Kitchell. He noted the record was open.

MANDY ROBINSON, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD reviewed a Staff Report indicating the Board of County Commissioners had previously expressed concerns relating to the Kitchell's Open Space Timber application during the February 7, 2012 Public Hearing and requested the applicant to provide an amendment to the Forest Management Plan addressing their concerns. She said a revised Forest Management Plan had been provided by Mr. Monahan, Consulting Forester, for their review.

VIC MONAHAN, FOREST CONSULTANT reviewed the amendment to the Kitchell's Forest Management Plan, as requested by the Board of County Commissioners. He felt the amendments addressed the Board's concerns and believed the plan included more details in addition to language that emphasizes commercial harvesting.

COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN asked how Open Space Timber can be put on top of wetlands. **MR. MONAHAN** said wetlands are a part of all forests and are located throughout the County as well. He indicated the applicants have already begun work cleaning up the forest lands and have made contacts with agencies such as "Northwest Certified Forestry" who will be providing them with assistance and education for future management of their property. **ROBERT KITCHELL, APPLICANT** said after the previous Public Hearing they reviewed the Board's concerns and wanted them to know they intend on making the property productive and will take good care of it because they want to be good stewards of the land. He said it is not just recreational property for them but wanted to do what is good for the land and community. **COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN** noted the applicants would be receiving a

