COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING

TUESDAY 2:00 P.M. JULY 17, 2012

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Kathy Jurgens, Finance Systems Manager; Kelly Carlson, Administrative Assistant/Airport Manager; Mandy Weed, Administrative Assistant; Brenda Larsen, Fire Marshal; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; Doc Hansen, Planning Official; Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager; Kirk Holmes, Public Works Director; Paul Sander, Deputy Prosecutor; Jan Ollivier; Transportation Manager; Christina Wollman, Staff Planner and 4 members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT PUBLIC WORKS

At 2:00 p.m. CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH opened a Public Hearing continued from June 27, 2012 to consider the formation of a Flood Control Zone District. He reviewed the history of the Public Hearing and noted that the oral and written comment deadline had been closed.

COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN commented on the per parcel fees, unique owner ID and percentage value tax. KIRK HOLMES, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR said the Prosecutors office had offered comments and said it was up to the Board's discretion on which avenue to take. He noted the Citizens Advisory Committee forwarded a recommendation to the Board of a "per parcel fee" and when reviewing the information they were given a $500,000.00 annual figure to work with. CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH asked if the proposal would increase personnel in the Public Works Department. MR. HOLMES indicated the seven year work plan did not include additional personnel and noted the funds could not be shifted to any other budgets. He noted they could not require people that are outside of the flood plains to obtain flood insurance. He explained how the proposal has a seven year sunset clause and could be dissolved earlier with action by the legislative body. COMMISSIONER JEWELL questioned the comments that had been expressed by citizens regarding private benefits and taxing the entire County for only the few who would live in the Flood Control Zone District. MR. HOLMES said one of the purposes of the proposal was to have an active flood plan management program. He explained how the program would assist property owners with the process including raising home elevation, buy-outs, removal, etc. but they are not proposing to purchase properties at this time. There would be some staff time paid to
assist the property owners with grant options, etc. COMMISSIONER JEWELL expressed concerns of using private money for public benefit and the type of assessment that was being proposed. He explained while staff and the committee had done an excellent job with their work, he felt the work wasn’t completed yet. He wants to see how the money will be spent in the first year and was in favor to create a Flood Control Zone District, but allow the public to vote on how it will be funded as everyone is somehow affected by flooding.

COMMISSIONER O’BRIEN said he was in favor of forming the district, but felt a budget should be completed first and then put it out for a vote to the public.

PAUL SANDER, PROSECUTING ATTORNEY reviewed the options if the public were to reject the proposal. He indicated they could create it and then disband it.

CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH spoke in favor of the Flood Control Zone District along with the unique owner ID proposal. He said over the past 30 years he has worked with the County (previously in the Public Works Department) and seen a lot of recurring and new areas flood. He said over the past few years there have been several millions of dollars of damage and one cannot rely on obtaining federal assistance. He did not have any opposition to take the proposal to a vote before the public on how to fund it.

RESOLUTION 2012-081 FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT PUBLIC WORKS

COMMISSIONER O’BRIEN moved to approve Resolution 2012-081, Establishing a County-Wide Flood Control Zone District for Kittitas County in Accordance with the Terms, Conditions, and Requirements of Chapter 86.15. CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH seconded.

COMMISSIONER JEWELL moved to Amend Resolution No. 2012-081, Striking the third “Be It Further Resolved” paragraph relating to annual assessment totaling $500,000.00. COMMISSIONER O’BRIEN seconded. He did not feel a target amount should be removed and allow the public to look at a real number and consider. COMMISSIONER JEWELL felt the Resolution should create the zones and boundaries and let staff first develop a budget. CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH said he would support the amendment.

JERRY PETTIT, AUDITOR said if the Board adopted a budget in December they could place the issue on the February 8th ballot, noting it would not be funded until the following year in 2014.

Amendment to the motion was approved 3-0.
COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN to amend the fifth "Be It Further Resolved", striking the words "Department of Public Works and the", so the administration of affairs of the zone district shall be under the office of the Kittitas County Engineer. COMMISSIONER JEWELL seconded. Amendment to the motion was approved 3-0.

Vote on the original motion to approve Resolution 2012-081, as amended was approved 3-0.

PUBLIC HEARING PUBLIC WORKS/CDS/FIRE MARSHAL FEES PUBLIC WORKS

At 3:00 p.m. CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH opened a Public Hearing to consider amending fees collected by the Public Works Department, Community Development Services and the County Fire Marshal.

JAN OLLIVIER, TRANSPORTATION MANAGER gave a Staff Report and reviewed the proposed amendments to fees for the Public Works Department, Community Development Services and the Fire Marshal. KELLY CARLSON, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/AIRPORT MANAGER explained what the proposed fee was for an Airport Facility Use Permit, and reviewed a couple of events that were held this past year (filming a movie, autocross). She indicated there had been a lot of staff time spent in preparation to hold an event at the airport in addition to advertising, inspections and signage. BRENDA LARSEN, FIRE MARSHAL said she had been working towards full cost recovery and reviewed the proposed fees for her department. She proposed a 25% fee reduction on new businesses for having no violations when first inspected, so they do not have to go back out and re-inspect.

THERE BEING NO ONE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

RESOLUTION 2012-082 PUBLIC WORKS/CDS/FIRE MARSHAL FEES PUBLIC WORKS

COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN moved to approve Resolution No. 2012-082, Modifying Certain Permit, Land Use Application, and Publication Fees Collected by the Community Development Services, Public Works Department and the Fire Marshal. COMMISSIONER JEWELL seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m.