

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

TUESDAY

2:00 P.M.

AUGUST 7, 2012

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; Kelly Carlson, Administrative Assistant/Airport Manager; Kathy Jurgens, Finance System Manager; Christina Wollman, Staff Planner; Marsha Weyand, Assessor; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; Kirk Holmes, Public Works Director and 7 members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING

FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT

PUBLIC WORKS

At 2:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH** opened a Public Hearing to consider a Flood Control Zone District.

KIRK HOLMES, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR reviewed proposed Resolutions for the Board's consideration. **KATHY JURGENS, FINANCE SYSTEM MANAGER** reviewed each of the Resolutions including one which would establish Fund 107 "Flood Control Fund".

RESOLUTION 2012-089

ESTABLISH FUND 107

PUBLIC WORKS

COMMISSIONER JEWELL moved to approve Resolution No. 2012-089, Establishing Fund 107 - Flood Control Fund. **COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

MS. JURGENS reviewed a proposed Resolution which would adopt the 2012 Budget for Fund 107 - Flood Control Fund.

THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: DAN FERRELL representing Willowbrook Farm said he was disappointed in the Board of County Commissioners and that the majority of the County was not in favor of a Flood Control Zone or any other taxes. He felt there was no need for an additional financial burden to the citizens and that Public Works has not been spending the FEMA money they received. He thought the issue should have been put before the voters to decide on a Flood Control Zone District. **JERRY GILMORE** said he was having difficulty following the issue and was confused on the pay scale. He questioned how much more money the County needed and was concerned with the cost of administration. **THERE BEING NO OTHERS REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE**

PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING RELATING TO RESOLUTION 2012-090 WAS CLOSED.

RESOLUTION 2012-090 2012 BUDGET - FUND 107 PUBLIC WORKS

COMMISSIONER JEWELL moved to approve Resolution 2012-090, Adopting the 2012 Budget for Fund 107 - Flood Control Fund. **COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

MS. JURGENS reviewed a proposed Resolution Adopting the 2013 Budget for Fund 107 - Flood Control Fund. She reviewed the estimated resources and expenditures for Fund 107 - Flood Control Fund in the amount of \$822,228.00 which included administration, planning, assisting with the activities of the Emergency Operations Center, levee maintenance, surface water management and the restoration of the Gladmar Embankment 2009 flood damages. It also included a line item to begin reserving funds for future mitigation of county wide flood related issues. She said in order to place a measure on the November 6, 2012 ballot the Board must adopt a budget for Fund 107 for the fiscal year 2013. The Board asked staff questions relating to FEMA funding, the importance of levees, damage to facility's during flooding events and the difficulties there can be in trying to comply with all the regulations and obtaining the required permits.

NEIL CAULKINS, DEPUTY PROSECUTOR answered questions about how a proposed budget needed to be established before approving a ballot measure for the November 6, 2012 election. If the ballot measure was not approved by the voters, the Board of Commissioners could still choose to levy the assessment anyway. If the voters did not approve the ballot measure, the Flood Control Zone District would need to be revisited and the Board could either pass the levy themselves or consider dissolving the District. **THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: CATHERINE CLERF** explained how dirt, rocks and sediment can be moved but it will still continue to flood. She felt citizens will disapprove the ballot measure in the election and thought the Commissioners should have gone to the public first for an assessment. **THERE BEING NO OTHERS REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING RELATING TO RESOLUTION 2012-091 WAS CLOSED.**

RESOLUTION 2012-091 2013 BUDGET - FUND 107 PUBLIC WORKS

COMMISSIONER JEWELL moved to approve Resolution No. 2012-091, Adopting the 2013 Budget for Fund 107 - Flood Control Fund. **COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN** seconded.

COMMISSIONER JEWELL explained the next step in the process and how it will be up to the voters to decide. **COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN** said they have currently been paying for the repairs out of the General Fund and wondered how long it would take to get a key structure repaired if they didn't try to do something about it.

COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN moved to amend the motion and to not take it before the voters and for the Board of County Commissioners to take action to fund a Flood Control Zone District. **CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH** seconded for discussion.

COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH explained the need for a Flood Control Zone District and with the previous public hearing and hearing from citizens, the Board decided at that time to take it before the voters and he would be voting in opposition of the amendment. **COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN** said he was willing to make the hard decisions as he was elected to do. The amendment to the motion was defeated by a vote of 1-2 (Commissioner O'Brien voting for the motion).

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-091 was carried 3-0.

KIRK HOLMES, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR reviewed a proposed Resolution approving a Ballot Measure Establishing a Regular Levy for the Operations and Maintenance of the Kittitas County Flood Control Zone District. He reviewed how the budget in the amount of \$500,000.00 was based on the recommendations from the Flood Citizens Advisory Board and would come from property taxes. **CHAIRMAN CRANKOVICH** questioned if in the event there was a significant countywide drop in valuations, could they put an amount not to exceed in the assessments? **MARSHA WEYAND, ASSESSOR** indicated a budget would be provided to her each year and if it got to a point where values were to go down, the Board of County Commissioners could choose to lower the total amount to be collected. **MR. HOLMES** recommended going with the 2011 rates even though it may change in 2013.

THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: JAN HARREL felt the issue has affected a lot of people and there are not many who understand what has been going on and it's not been handled very well. **THERE BEING NO OTHERS REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING RELATING TO RESOLUTION 2012-092 WAS CLOSED.**

COMMISSIONER JEWELL suggested striking the portion of the first sentence that the Flood Control Zone District is responsible for carrying out activities to reduce reliance on general funds for flood fighting, recovery and mitigation. He felt the language was not needed in the ballot measure. **CHRISTINA WOLLMAN, STAFF PLANNER** indicated the current FEMA flood maps were inconsistent and not

accurate. She explained that if someone were to purchase property in the floodplain, they would require the owner to hire a surveyor before issuing a permit noting it was also set out in the FEMA guidelines.

RESOLUTION 2012-092 BALLOT MEASURE--FLOOD CONTROL ZONE PUBLIC WORKS

COMMISSIONER JEWELL moved to approve Resolution No. 2012-092, Approving a Ballot Measure Establishing a Regular Levy for the Operations and Maintenance of the Kittitas County Flood Control Zone District, and to strike "to reduce reliance on general funds for flood fighting, recovery, and mitigation" (line two in the ballot language). **COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN** seconded.

The Board indicated it was now up to the voters to fund it or not. They encouraged citizens to do their research and don't just take someone else's word for it.

Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Julie Kjorsvik



Alan Crankovich, Chairman