TUESDAY 2:00 P.M. MAY 21, 2013

Board members present: Chairman Obie O’Brien; Vice-Chairman Jewell and Commissioner Gary Berndt.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Lindsey Ozbolt, Staff Planner; Matt Anderson, Facility Maintenance/Fair Director; Ron Cridlebaugh, Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce and 3 members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING REGIONAL ECONOMIC PLAN COMMISSIONERS

At 2:00 p.m. CHAIRMAN O’BRIEN opened a Public Hearing to review the final Yakima & Kittitas Counties Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Plan.

RON CRIDLEBAUGH, KITTITAS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE gave a power-point presentation on a proposal to create a new Economic Development Plan for Central Washington which would include the Kittitas-Yakima Economic region. He indicated that an Economic Development District is a federally established region to bring the private and public sectors together, working to diversify and for economic development. The process began approximately 2 years ago and their group is supported by a grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. He reviewed the Steering committee; participating organizations; profile of the Kittitas-Yakima region; key industries for the future; and a summary with goals to strengthen the economy.

Mr. Cridlebaugh urged the Board of County Commissioners to adopt the regional plan by Resolution, as it would allow our County to activate the Economic Development District and bring new economic advantage to the region. COMMISSIONER BERNDT questioned what the plan does and how would the success be measured? Mr. Cridlebaugh reviewed the top 7 projects for 2013 and said the plan identifies the parties responsible for implementation and specific outcomes expected from each initiative. He noted the only ones who are eligible to apply for funding are non-profit organizations or municipalities. COMMISSIONER JEWELL said he read the entire document and it needed to be edited due to various scriveners’ errors. He noted although he was included as 2013-05-21 MINUTES

APPROVED 6/14/2013
being a part of the group, he only made a couple of the meetings and did not really not have much to do with it. He was concerned with including “trendy” language and wanted to make sure it is a living document that is regularly reviewed and researched. He stated he was not in favor of throwing out the TIP strategy. Mr. Cridlebaugh noted the document requires an annual review and the goal is to keep it current and viable. CHAIRMAN O’BRIEN questioned the report and its number of students who are attending CWU. He felt the number seemed inflated.

THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: MATT ANDERSON, FACILITIES DIRECTOR said as the Kittitas Valley Event Center being a potential stake holder, he questioned being identified in the plan and what ownership would they lose or give up by turning over their Master Plan. He questioned why the Master Plan would be included within their plan.

MR. CRIDLEBAUGH said they do not want to advocate over a Master Plan, but it should be included in order to bring the need to the federal level (grandstands, etc.), which does have impacts to the entire region.

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

RESOLUTION 2013-072 REGIONAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONER JEWELL moved to approve Resolution No. 2013-072, adopting a Comprehensive Development Strategy. COMMISSIONER BERNDT seconded.

The Board expressed their appreciation to everyone who had participated and worked on the document.

Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC HEARING AMEND FAIR RATES & FEES FAIR

At 2:56 p.m. CHAIRMAN O’BRIEN opened a Public Hearing to consider Amending the Rates & Fees for the Kittitas County Fair.

MATT ANDERSON, FACILITIES MAINTENCE/FAIR DIRECTOR reviewed the proposed amendments for the rates and fees associated with the Kittitas County Fair. He explained that the Kittitas County Fair Board met on April 18th and they reviewed the existing fees and

2013-05-21 MINUTES
how they compare to other recreational activities as well as other Fairs. He said the Fair Board recommended modifying the rates and fees associated with the Kittitas County Fair.

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

RESOLUTION 2013-073 AMEND FAIR RATES & FEES FAIR

COMMISSIONER JEWELL moved to approve Resolution No. 2013-073, Amending the Kittitas County Fair Rates & Fees. COMMISSIONER O’BRIEN seconded.

COMMISSIONER BERNDT said he attended the Fair Board meeting when they considered the costs and they reviewed everything very carefully. He expressed his appreciation to the Fair Board for their work. COMMISSIONER JEWELL expressed his appreciation to the Fair Board, stating they were a very dedicated and hard working group of individuals and deserved a lot of gratitude. CHAIRMAN O’BRIEN commended the Fair Board for their countless hours of volunteerism and felt the costs were a great value.

Motion carried 3-0

Meeting adjourned 3:00 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

Julie Kjorsvik

KITITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Chairman Obie O’Brien