TUESDAY

KITTITAS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING

APRIL 15, 2014

Board members present: Chairman Paul Jewell and Vice-Chairman

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Jeff Watson, Staff
Planner; Doc Hansen, Planning Official; Susan Grindle, Executive
Director of HopeSource and 3 members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING  CDBG - PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT  COMMISSIONERS

At 2:00 p.m. CHAIRMAN JEWELL opened a Public Hearing to consider
and review Community Development and Housing Needs, inform
citizens of the availability of funds and eligible uses of the
State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), receive comments
on proposed activities, particularly from lower income persons
residing in Kittitas County. Up to $83,359.00 will be available
to Kittitas County and HopeSource to fund public services. There
were handouts available to the public relating to the
application materials including availability of funds and
eligible uses

SUSAN GRINDLE, HOPESOURCE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR reviewed the
proposed Community Development Block Grant Funds application to
the Department of Commerce in the total amount of $83,359.00 and
gave an update on last year’s use of funds. She reviewed the
number of people they serve between Hope University education
which supports housing and energy programs and all other
programs that include basic life skills such as budgeting,
household management, credit and financial crisis money
management. She said the programs provide an opportunity for
their clients to move forward in the community. She said
HopeSource also offers online classes, noting they have been
collecting new curriculum for their life skills program so
people can access Hope University easier. She said without the
CDBG funding they would not be able to provide opportunities for
people in the community, and noted the funding does not support
any of their other programs. It was noted the energy clients
must take a basic/saving money class before obtaining assistance
and if a client is receiving rent assistance they must take a
Hope University class.

2014-04-15 MINUTES
THERE BEING NO ONE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

RESOLUTION 2014-063  CDBG - PUBLIC SERVICES GRANT  COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONER BERNDT moved to approve and authorize signature on the 2014 Department of Commerce Community Development Block Grant, Public Service Funds application materials including Resolution No. 2014-063, Project Summary, Title VI Certification, Project Description, Services Budget and Citizen Participation Documentation. CHAIRMAN JEWELL seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

PUBLIC HEARING  OPEN SPACE CURRENT USE  CDS

At approximately 2:13 p.m. CHAIRMAN JEWELL opened a Public Hearing continued from April 1, 2014 to consider Open Space Current Use Applications: File OC-12-00001 (Tucker); File OC-13-00001 (Resort Creek) and File OC-13-00002 (Gold Creek).

JEFF WATSON, STAFF PLANNER gave a Staff Report on the Tucker Open Space Current Use Application (OC-12-00001). He reviewed the location which is approximately 6 miles south by southwest of Snoqualmie Pass off Forest Service Road 4832. He reviewed the site information and criteria used for analysis. He said the applicant would like to have the property designated Open Space Current Use in order to protect the streams and water supply. He noted the parcel abuts the Southside of the Teanaway Community Forest area.

MR. TUCKER, APPLICANT felt his application met all the Open Space Current Use criteria and recommended the Board’s approval. COMMISSIONER BERNDT said there would be a substantial tax shift and questioned what the public benefit would be if the property were designated as Open Space. MR. TUCKER said the public benefit would be to have no further development on the property and it would be left as it is.

CHAIRMAN JEWELL reviewed the criteria for Open Space Current Use designation and how it relates to the application. He said he did not see a lot of public benefit to grant the request, while noting some of the criteria may be met, he did not feel it was enough to shift the burden of taxes to others. COMMISSIONER BERNDT said he did not see anything in the application that would be a public benefit to grant the request.

2014-04-15 MINUTES
THERE BEING NO ONE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY REGARDING THE TUCKER OPEN SPACE CURRENT USE APPLICATION, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

COMMISSIONER BERNDT moved to deny the Open Space Current Use Application, stating there was no adequate public benefit to justify a tax shift. CHAIRMAN JEWELL seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

JEFF WATSON, STAFF PLANNER reviewed the Resort Creek Open Space Current Use Application (OC-13-00001), for property located approximately 6 miles south by southwest of Snoqualmie Pass off Forest Service Road 4832. He reviewed the site information and criteria used for analysis. He noted the applicant stated the property is integral to the wildlife connectivity corridors along I-90 and had been acquired with Section 6 funding from the US Department of Fish & Wildlife to secure threatened and endangered fish and wildlife habitat and to protect critical wildlife corridors surrounding I-90. He said although the property is open for public use it is not advertised as such.

CHAIRMAN JEWELL questioned if there was any information provided on the specific types of species it would be used for a nesting ground or migration corridor.

DARCEY WHITNEY, AUTHORIZED AGENT FOR FORTERRA reviewed the application, public benefits and the conservation easement in place. She noted how the property was very steep and could not be further developed and would be open to the public. She urged the Board’s approval of the application. CHAIRMAN JEWELL said he explained the criteria he used and the reasons to justify approving the application including how it qualifies as a public benefit promoting conservation principals. He said the property is along I-90 and the view shed is obvious.

COMMISSIONER BERNDT felt the scenic resources were also important.

THERE BEING NO ONE IN ATTENDANCE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY REGARDING THE RESORT CREEK OPEN SPACE CURRENT USE APPLICATION, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

MR. WATSON said the application was for 3 contiguous parcels that could have been developed independently, prior to their Conservation Agreement.

2014-04-15 MINUTES
COMMISSIONER BERNDT moved to approve Resort Creek Open Space Current Use Application (OC-13-00001), as presented. CHAIRMAN JEWELL seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

JEFF WATSON, STAFF PLANNER reviewed the Gold Creek Open Space Current Use Application (OC-13-00002), for property located approximately 2 miles southeast of the top of Snoqualmie Pass at 189 Snowshoe Lane. He reviewed the site information and criteria used for analysis. He said there were wetlands on the property and the property is also covered by a Conservation Easement.

DARCEY WHITNEY urged the Board approving their application. She reviewed the criteria that applied to grant their request and noted that although public access is allowed it is not advertised.

THERE BEING NO ONE IN ATTENDANCE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY REGARDING THE GOLD CREEK OPEN SPACE CURRENT USE APPLICATION, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

COMMISSIONER BERNDT indicated he did not have any issues with the application.

COMMISSIONER BERNDT moved to approve Open Space Current Use Application (OC-13-00002), as presented. CHAIRMAN JEWELL seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

The Board asked Staff to include in their Findings how the majority of the property is located within the 100 year flood plain; Gold Creek's designation of a shoreline of the State to protect streams and water supply; public access is allowed which enhances recreation and they had a self-imposed Easement in place.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.