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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Robin Read, Public Health Administrator; Holly Myers, Environmental Health Administrator; Kirk Holmes, Public Works Director/Interim Building Official; Doc Hansen, Planning Official; Erin Moore, Permit Tech.; Holly Duncan, Environmental Health Supervisor; Lindsey Ozbolt, Staff Planner; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor and approximately 25 members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMPLIANCE EFFORTS

At 3:00 p.m. CHAIRMAN JEWELL opened a Public Hearing continued from May 5, 2014 to consider Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan Compliance Efforts.

DOC HANSEN, PLANNING OFFICIAL reviewed the proposed Ordinance and said they were the enabling documents resulting from the Board’s action on May 5, 2014.

ORDINANCE 2014-05 GMA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMPLIANCE

COMMISSIONER O’BRIEN moved to approve Ordinance No. 2014-05, revisions of Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan and Title 13 and Title 17 of the Kittitas County Code for the Purpose of GMA Compliance regarding Cases 07-1-0004c and 07-1-0015 of the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board and the May 31, 2013 and July 12, 2013 Order by the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board and for Purposes of GMA Compliance regarding Case 11-1-0001 of the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board. COMMISSIONER BERNDT seconded.

COMMISSIONER O’BRIEN explained how it had been a very long time coming for the County to be in compliance and thanked Staff for their hard work in getting to this point. COMMISSIONER BERNDT expressed his appreciation for everyone’s efforts who participated in the process. Motion carried 3-0.

CHAIRMAN JEWELL gave remarks on the documents that he felt reflects the end to a long time of litigation between parties. He said it would be relieving financial burdens that litigation has brought to the County and by coming into compliance it’s creating predictability and reliability for home owners in Kittitas County.
He announced that just prior to the Public Hearing upon the conclusion of an Executive Session, the Board authorized signature on four separate transactions to purchase two water banks and a Public Hearing has been scheduled for May 29, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Auditorium. He thanked everyone from County Staff; Department of Ecology; the appellants; Bill Ross; all of the stakeholders as well as his seatmates. He asked for patience as some of the things they will be doing is unprecedented and will take some time.

TOM TEBB, REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY congratulated the County and said they would stand in full support of the Settlement Agreement in case of any legal action. He said the Agreement allows for the protection of stream flows and Senior Water Right holders.

TIM TROHIMOVIICH felt the Settlement Agreement and land use improvements were good for all residents in Kittitas County, fish, and the State of Washington. He said he worked on these types of issues all around the State and it was the best thing on water for a county-wide basis. He said he was proud of the Settlement Agreement and appreciated everyone’s work making it happen.

DOUG KILGORE, REPRESENTING RIDGE expressed his appreciation for all of the work that went into the Settlement Agreement and was also proud of the work that’s been done. He said it was an end to a long time of litigation.

JAN SHARAR said she was proud of the Kittitas County Conservation Coalition as well as their partners in RIDGE and Futurewise. She did not believe it was a model for anyone else nor was it meant to be, but hoped it would be for the rest of the basin. She thanked the Board of County Commissioners as they seemed to take to heart what the citizens were saying.

The Board of County Commissioners signed Ordinance No. 2014-005, as well as the Water Rights Lease Agreement with the City of Roslyn. The following then signed the Settlement Agreement: Kittitas County Board of Commissioners; Tim Trohimovich, Futurewise; Marge Brandsrud, Kittitas County Conservation Coalition; Doug Kilgore, RIDGE and Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor. It was noted the document would be mailed to the Department of Ecology for the Directors signature.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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