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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; Kaycee Hathaway, Staff Planner; Doc Hansen, Planning Official/Interim CDS Director; Judy Pless, Budget & Finance Manager; and approximately 30 members of the public.

At 2:00 p.m. CHAIRMAN O’BRIEN opened a Public Hearing to consider an application to the Department of Commerce for the Community Development Block Grant Public Service Funds beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, in the amount of $83,177.00. He announced he would be recusing of himself from the Public Hearing as there may be a possible conflict of interest.

JUDY PLESS, BUDGET & FINANCE MANAGER reviewed the application materials for a Department of Commerce, Community Development Block Grant - Public Service funds in the amount of $83,177.00 for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. It was noted that Commissioner Paul Jewell would be the signatory for the documents as Commissioner Berndt will no longer be on the Board after March 31, 2016 and Commissioner O’Brien had recused himself. It was noted that documents had been available at the Public Hearing as well as posted online on the County website for citizens access. There was an opportunity for citizens to comment on the past performance of HopeSource and the use of their 2015 CDBG Public Services Grant.

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

COMMISSIONER BERNDT moved to Approve Resolution No. 2016-041, Certifications of Compliance, along with the Department of Commerce, Community Development Block Grant Public Service Funds application materials beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 noting Commissioner Jewell’s authority to be the signatory of documents. COMMISSIONER JEWELL seconded. Motion carried 2-0.
At 2:05 p.m. CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN opened a Public Hearing to consider the remand of the original Administrative Decision for the McDonald Administrative Conditional Use (File Number CU-14-00005). He noted the record had been closed at the previous hearing.

DOC HANSEN, PLANNING OFFICIAL/INTERIM CDS DIRECTOR indicated he had previously submitted the Findings of Fact on Remand of the original Administrative Decision and reviewed the information.

He said after a more thorough examination of the Code regarding water issues, the original decision of CU-14-00005 and availability of water for irrigation purposes with the McDonald proposal is correct, if the Commissioners accept that McDonald’s proposed operation is agricultural and therefore, not a “new commercial” use. He further explained that if the Commissioners consider the operation as a “new” non-agricultural, commercial use of water, they must rule that Ellensburg Water Company is not a legitimate source of mitigated water per Kittitas County Code 13.35.025(5) in order to override the original decision.

The Board asked questions of Staff and made comments relating to potable water issues; application of land use and buildings; Ellensburg Water Company; Department of Revenue; and the definition and proximity of schools.

COMMISSIONER JEWELL felt the case law provided by Staff and their determination of a school was adequate. COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN agreed with Commissioner Jewell.

COMMISSIONER JEWELL said he would like more time to review the information that was provided at the hearing before further deliberation.

COMMISSIONER JEWELL moved to continue the hearing to Wednesday March 30, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Auditorium, for further Board deliberation noting the record was closed. COMMISSIONER BERNDT seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.