

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
KITTITAS VALLEY EVENT CENTER - ARMORY HALL  
901 EAST 7<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE  
ELLENSBURG, WA  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY**

**6:00 P.M.**

**FEBRUARY 7, 2018**

Board members present: Chairman Laura Osiadacz; Vice-Chairman Obie O'Brien; and Commissioner Paul Jewell.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; Jerry Pettit, Auditor and approximately 25 members of the public.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**CREATION OF PORT DISTRICT**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At 6:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN OSIADACZ** opened a Public Hearing to consider a Petition for the creation of a less than Countywide Port District, to include all areas defined by the boundaries of Kittitas County with the exception of that area encompassed by the Naches School District, and placement on an April 24, 2018 ballot.

**JERRY PETTIT, AUDITOR** provided a report on a Petition they received to create a less than Countywide Port District.

**JIM ARMSTRONG, KITTITAS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND ANN ANDERSON REPRESENTING THE PORT DISTRICT COALITION** provided information on and the benefits of Port Districts and urged the Board to authorize the creation of a less than Countywide Port District in Kittitas County and requested that the Board allow it to be placed on a ballot for consideration by the voters in April 2018.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: JOY POTTER, PRESIDENT OF THE KITTITAS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** expressed their support of a Port District and encouraged the Board to place the issue on a ballot. **RON CRIDLEBAUGH** said he supported establishing a Port District in Kittitas County. **LINDA SCHANTZ** said she supported a Port District and felt it would be a way to allow for more of a diverse array of jobs for young people. **RORY TURNER** said he's a Project Manager of the Elks building in Ellensburg and is a Port Commissioner in Chelan. He provided benefits and the strengths of Port Districts. **DAVID DOUGLAS** said he teaches at Central Washington University and although there are a lot of students who don't want to stay in Ellensburg after they graduate, there are those who want to but realize there are no job opportunities. He felt a Port District would help bring many living wage jobs into the area. **LACI HARRISON** said she has an IT degree from CWU and there are not many job

opportunities in Kittitas County and that a Port District could help bring those into the area. **RANCE DEWITT** felt that fish farming would be something that could be done in Kittitas County and he has a video that could be used to try and sell the idea. **VIRGIL THOVSON** explained how he has a private hangar at the airport and questioned if the Board would be interested in transferring the airport to the Port District if it's approved by the voters. **THERE BEING NO OTHERS REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**RESOLUTION 2018-023                      BALLOT TITLE PORT DISTRICT                      COMMISSIONERS**

**COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN** moved to approve Resolution No. 2018-023, Authorizing Ballot Title for the Formation of a Port District, to be on a special election on April 24, 2018. **COMMISSIONER JEWELL** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

  
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Julie Kjosrvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
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Laura Osiadacz, Chairman