COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING

TUESDAY 2:00 P.M. MAY 1, 2018

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Mark Cook, Public Works Director; and approximately 30 members of the public.

SPECIAL MEETING PUBLIC WORKS PUBLIC WORKS

At 2:00 p.m. Chairman Laura Osiadacz opened a Special Meeting to receive updates from the Kittitas County Public Works Department.

DISCUSSION HYAK & YELLOWSTONE ROAD PUBLIC WORKS

Mark Cook, Public Works Director provided information on the history of the Hyak RID going back in the mid 90’s. He provided information on vacating the roadways in Hyak and Yellowstone. He said the residents have increasingly verbalized their desire for increasing levels of service during winter maintenance operations. In recent years parking has become increasingly problematic and summer traffic creates concerns with speeding and a recent attempt to mitigate was met with opposition from community members. He stated there are two large development proposals coming forward and it expects to further stress the limited Public Works maintenance resources. Over the last 20 years they have exceeded their maintenance obligation serving those communities. Vacating the Hyak road networks would provide private ownership to the Home Owners Association and the ability for the community to manage traffic and speeding issues.

Commissioner Jewell said he was the one who’d asked for the issue to be brought up as it came up as part of a discussion relating to another development in the area of another PUD and how they would be required to maintain the roads privately. He said he’s always questioned why those roads were not privatized. There was discussion of a Transportation Benefit formation and what would the requirements be to vacate the roads and turn them over to the Homeowners Association. Commissioner Jewell felt all options should be considered as the County spends a large amount of money for snow removal and maintenance. There should be
consideration of the entire road network and a financial model, which is determined as expensive and exclusive roads may need to be removed.

Commissioner O’Brien said he’d like to know about the differences between RID and their limits; a Transportation Benefit District; and other options while considering future growth. His intent is to be better informed and understand the options prior to making any type of decision.

Chairman Osiadacz said she would like to look at all the options including a Transportation District and possibly work with a community group through the County.

James Sammet representing the Hyak Property Owners Association Board of Directors provided written comments in response to the Public Works Department’s summary. Various members of the audience provided comments on their views of the subject and asked questions of the County.

Due to the limited time for the meeting the Board asked the Director of Public Works to schedule another meeting to consider the other items on his Agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.