Board members present: Chairman Cory Wright; Vice-Chairman Brett Wachsmith & Commissioner Laura Osiadacz.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Mark Cook, Public Works Director/Interim Engineer; Arden Thomas WRP Manager; Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee members Jerry Martens, Ryan Lyyski, Scott Nicolai; and 2 members of the public.

At 1:00 p.m. Chairman Wright opened a Special Meeting to discuss the proposed Flood Control Zone District Capital Improvement Plan and Levy Rate discussion as proposed by the Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee.

Arden Thomas, WRP Manager provided a power-point presentation including the background of the Advisory Committee; Flood Control Zone District Milestones; and the 2020-2025 Six Year Capital Improvement Plan. She explained that if the current levy rate of $0.07 per $1,000 of assessed value is maintained, implementation of the proposed capital plan would create an annual deficit and the District would run out of funding in 2022, in the absence of additional levy rate. The committee is also aware of the floods in the Upper County and they have been awarded $130,000.00 from FEMA for flood assessments in that area. FEMA is contributing $100,000.00 and the Flood Control Zone District will fund the remaining $30,000.00.

Ryan Lyyski, City of Ellensburg, provided a report on some of the projects they have been working on as well as future projects and their planning efforts.

Jerry Martens provided written information on the history, perspectives, committee thoughts, budget and the committee Chair recommendations. He felt Staff should be commended for their hard work. He personally suggested funding be increased to .21/$1,000.00 over a 3 year period to allow the County to react to the immediate issues and assess needed work. It would also allow for the County to react to the new FEMA charts and recommendations which on the surface will impact various areas of
the County. Ms. Thomas noted Mr. Marten’s recommended increase was not of the committees but rather his own.

Scott Nicolai, Habitat Biologist for the Yakama Nation, said he applauded the efforts and hard work of the committee. He said the information allows for planning and leveraging larger pots of money to assist with projects. The work will assist in reducing the impacts for future floods.

Mark Cook, Public Works Director/Interim Engineer reviewed the upcoming Public Hearing process and how the Board’s tasked with setting the Levy rates, and the current one will sunset on December 31, 2019. He indicated they could work with the Assessor’s office to see what a Levy rate would be to fund the proposed projects. The Board agreed to let Staff work with the Assessor’s office to obtain information on Levy rates. The Board also thanked the committee and Staff members for their hard work.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.