

**KITTITAS COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS STUDY SESSION MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109
Regular Meeting**

MONDAY

1:30 PM

July 24, 2023

Board members present: Chairman Cory Wright and Commissioner Laura Osiadacz.

Others: Mark Cook, Josh Fredrickson, Arden Thomas, Rebecca Cruse, Public Works; Jessica Miller, Jamey Ayling, Community Development Services; 1 member of the public.

At 1:54 PM Chairman Cory Wright opened the Public Works Study Session.

No Citizen Comments.

REQUEST TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO AWARD 2023 REMEDIATION WORK AT THE UPPER COUNTY MAINTENANCE FACILITY

Josh Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the Upper County Road Maintenance Facility and presented Resolution 2023-117 awarding Interwest Construction, Inc. the small works bid for the remediation services for consideration. Commissioner Laura Osiadacz moved to approve Resolution 2023-117. Seconded by Chairman Cory Wright. Motion passed.

REQUEST TO APPROVE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR'S SIGNATURE ON THE LOCAL AGENCY FEDERAL AID PROSPECTUS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE NO. 80181 ON COOKE CANYON ROAD OVER HILINE CANAL, CRP 315-22

Josh Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners on work accomplished by staff to replace the bridge on Cooke Canyon Road over Hiline Canal and presented Resolution 2023-118 for consideration. Josh Fredrickson stated this project is fully federally funded through the 2022 Local Bridge Program. Commissioner Laura Osiadacz moved to approve Resolution 2023-118. Seconded by Chairman Cory Wright. Motion passed. Commissioner Laura Osiadacz commended staff on their efforts to consistently secure funding for county road projects.

WATER BUDGET NEUTRAL DETERMINATIONS

Arden Thomas informed the Board of County Commissioners on the status of Water Budget Neutral Determinations by Department of Ecology that take on average 1-2 years. Arden Thomas asked for the Boards consideration to have county staff begin Water Budget Neutral Determinations for the Lower County area and added participants may

still choose to have determinations made by Department of Ecology. The Board directed staff to plan outreach to water banks.

2023 DROUGHT RESPONSE

Arden Thomas informed the Board of County Commissioners she anticipated an announcement by Governor Jay Inslee declaring drought conditions this year. Arden Thomas requested the Board to consider having water available through lease from emergency wells if crops in our region suffer. Arden Thomas stated Kittitas Reclamation District estimates 72% availability and believes that growers will have sufficient water for the season. Arden Thomas continued that any water allocated through the County water lease would be dedicated for 5 years to the program. Mark Cook added that a 5-year burden on the water bank ought to be strategized to avoid negative implications and policy development is critical. The Board is supportive and directed staff to continue developing for consideration.

DEPARTMENT CONSOLIDATION

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on Public Works and Community Development Services interdepartmental transfer of resources. Mark Cook asked the Board for direction on consolidation of the departments. Discussion was held. The Board was supportive of developing overall consistency amongst the department and can foresee the benefit to customers, streamlining of the permitting process, and finances. Direction to staff to schedule public hearing for consideration.

SEARCH AND RESCUE FACILITY UPDATE

Mark Cook updated the Board of County Commissioners on the status of developing the Search and Rescue Facility including conducting the environmental review for the site. Mark Cook anticipated a structure to be erected 4th quarter of 2024 with the \$1.2 million grant award and fully equipped later when more funding is secured.

CONSOR

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the scope of work for the public outreach firm CONSOR and that task order one developing a 2024 campaign strategy to support a Road Fund Levy is ready for CONSOR to begin. Mark Cook explained the company's local credentials and asked to execute the task order if the cost is under \$50,000 or bring back for Board consideration.

2024-2029 RECREATION TOURISM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the Parks and Recreation Fund and the proposed capital improvement projects including Vantage Boat Ramp Overflow Parking, Dunford Barn, Ellensburg Fieldhouse, Manastash Trailhead Parking, and Gladmar Park.

Discussion was held. Mark Cook stated a Capital Facility Plan will be available soon for review.

Meeting concluded at 2:45 PM

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



**Rebecca Cruse, Administrative
Assistant**



Cory Wright, Chairman