

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

**MONDAY**

**1:30 PM**

**December 23, 2024**

Board members present: Chairman Brett Wachsmith, Vice Chairman Laura Osiadacz, and Commissioner Cory Wright.

Others: Josh Fredrickson, Arden Thomas, Sally Kraft, Public Works; Chad Bala, Jeremy Johnston, Jessica Miller, Community Development Services; Chris Horner, Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

At 1:30PM Chairman Brett Wachsmith opened the Public Works and Community Development Services Study Session.

No Citizen Comments

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

**CRITICAL AREAS UPDATE**

Chad Bala briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the status of Resolution 2024-093. CDS will work with Facet NW Consultants to gather necessary data for a cost of \$13.9K.

**SENATE BILL 5290**

Jeremy Johnston briefed the Board of County Commissioners on Senate Bill 5290 that will go into effect January 1, 2025. This bill primarily focuses on changes to the development review timelines. Chad Bala and Jeremy Johnston will be reviewing the mandate and how it will affect current application fees.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**G4-29290 Water Right Permit Assignment**

Arden Thomas requested direction from Board of County Commissioners on the proposed partnership between Kittitas County and Joyce Palelek, a Vantage Area water right holder, and the subsequent request for Technical Assistance on Assignment of Application G4-29290 to the Department of Ecology. The proposed partnership between Kittitas County and Ms. Palelek would enable the groundwater permit application to be processed and would maintain and provide water mitigation options with Vantage. Kittitas County would enter into a mitigation agreement with Ecology for an annual fee that would initially be absorbed in the 403 Fund. Water user fees would be developed to cover these costs. The Board provided direction to staff to send the technical assistance letter upon addressing Commissioner Cory Wright's direction to verify the use of the term, "Town", with Chad Bala, Community Development Services Director.

**Broadband Planning Update**

Josh Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners about the status of the Broadband expansion. Two of the three projects received grants and are underway. The third project is seeking funding through the NTIA BEAD project for seven identified project areas. The application process is robust and each of the seven projects requires a separate application, due at the end of January 2025. Marc Eyler is assisting in the identification of non-serviceable areas and Josh requested Marc receive a stipend for his work. County Commissioner concurred and suggested a contract amendment to cover this cost.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION 1**

At 1:54PM the Board of County Commissioners announced they would recess into Executive Session for 10 minutes with Josh Fredrickson, Arden Thomas, and Chris Horner per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) - To consider the selection of a site or acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price. Action anticipated.

At 2:04PM the Board of County Commissioners reconvened out of Executive Session.

Vice Chairman, Laura Osiadacz, moved to approve Chair Signature on two Trust Water Right Purchase and Sale Agreements between Kittitas County and Suncadia and to direct staff to prepare enabling documents. Commissioner Wright seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

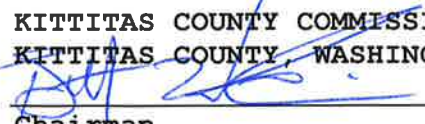
#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION 2**

At 2:05PM the Board of County Commissioners announced they would recess into Executive Session for 10 minutes with Josh Fredrickson and Chris Horner per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) - To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency. No Action Taken.

At 2:10PM the Board of County Commissioners reconvened out of Executive Session.

Meeting concluded at 2:10 PM

  
Sally Kraft, Administrative  
Assistant

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
  
Chairman