

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
COMMISSIONERS AUDITORIUM  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY**

**2:00 P.M.**

**MARCH 1, 2016**

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Mark Cook, Public Works Department/Interim Engineer; and approximately 10 members of the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**STOP SIGNS - HYAK DRIVE EAST**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

At 2:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN** opened a Public Hearing to consider updates to Kittitas County Code Chapter 10.12.010 Stop and Yields Designated for Hyak Drive East.

**MARK COOK, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/INTERIM ENGINEER** reviewed a Staff Report and explained how the Board of Commissioners had previously approved removing two stop signs on Hyak Drive East at the intersection with Snoqualmie Drive in December 2015. He said after removal of the signs they received comments from concerned residents in the area as it had been causing various issues including parking and school busses and that by replacing the stop signs it improves the safety on all three approaches of the intersection.

**THOSE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY: LLYOD HOLMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE HYAK PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION** testified in favor of replacing the two stop signs on Hyak Drive East. He submitted a Petition with signatures to reinstall Stop Signs on Hyak Drive East. **MIKE COROUS** spoke in favor of having the stop signs reinstalled permanently. **BETSY BANKS** testified that the additional signs that have been placed by the Public Works Department are greatly appreciated and was in favor of permanently reinstalling the stop signs. **NANCY HASH** read a letter into the record on behalf of the Lockland family in favor of the Stop Signs on Hyak Drive East. **PAT DENEEN** explained how the stop signs were extremely important to the area. **PAUL BRAULT** said it would be nice to have the area sanded to help minimize sliding. **CINDY KONIGSON** explained how there were a lot of people who walk in the area and the stop signs help with safety. **NORM KRAVEN** described how he has previously had close calls with accidents in the area. **THERE BEING NO OTHERS REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**COMMISSIONER JEWELL** moved to approve Ordinance No. 2016-004, Replacing Two Stop Signs on Hyak Drive East, Amending Section 10.12.010(1) of the Kittitas County Code. **COMMISSIONER BERNDT** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At 2:40 p.m. **CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN** opened a Public Hearing to consider adoption of the Kittitas County Tourism Infrastructure Plan.

**TOM BECKWITH, BECKWITH CONSULTING GROUP** reviewed the draft Kittitas County Tourism Infrastructure Plan. He reviewed the Kittitas County geotourism potentials; geotourism outreach; services and facilities. He indicated the amount of Lodging Tax revenue being generated in Kittitas County has increased significantly in recent years due to the development of additional lodging facilities and tourist attractions. He reviewed results from surveys that were conducted along with trends, profiles, projections, assets, goals and actions.

The Board asked questions of Mr. Beckwith relating to the survey and draft Infrastructure Plan.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING:** **PAT DENEEN** explained his various ownerships and recreational interests. He said he appreciated all the work that's been done, but had a lot of questions about the data collected and the results. He felt it was important to adopt a plan to be able to obtain funding. He suggested adding a power sports park and a mountain bike park to recreational tourism. **BRIAN RITTER** said they own a seasonal operation which caters to weddings from May to October. He said approximately 20% of their residents are from Kittitas County. They would like to expand their operations to allow for agri-tourism, as they believe there is a market for it. **THERE BEING NO OTHERS REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**PLAN**

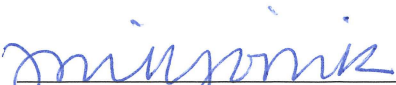
**TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN**

**COMMISSIONERS**

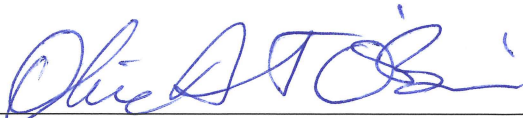
**COMMISSIONER JEWELL** moved to approve the Kittitas County Tourism Infrastructure Plan as presented, including the amendments suggested by Mr. Deneen; noting the final versions to be worked out with Staff; and to direct Staff to prepare enabling documents for the Boards consideration on March 15, 2016. **COMMISSIONER BERNDT** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD

  
Julie Kjosvik

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Obie O'Brien, Chairman