

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITTTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
SPECIAL MEETING  
UPPER COUNTY DISTRICT COURT  
700 E. 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET  
CLE ELUM, WA**

**WEDNESDAY**

**6:00 P.M.**

**JULY 6, 2016**

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

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Jerry Pettit, Auditor; and approximately 25 members of the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**UPPER COUNTY PORT DISTRICT**

**COMMISSIONERS**

At approximately 6:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN** opened a Public Hearing to consider a Petition for the creation of an Upper Kittitas County Port District (all areas defined by the boundaries of the Upper Kittitas County District Court) and placement on the November 8, 2016 ballot.

**JERRY PETTIT, AUDITOR** provided information on the Petition for the creation of a Port District. He indicated the Auditor's office has issued a Certification of Sufficiency claiming that the Petition contained sufficient signatures of registered voters as required by RCW 53.04.023.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: KELLY CONNOR** thought everyone agreed that people in the Upper County were in favor of a Port District for their area. She encouraged the County to approve language to be placed on the General Ballot in November. **BETH MARKER** explained the benefits of creating a Port District for the Upper County. She said she hoped for the Board to take action, as it would be an efficient use of tax money. **GARY HAMMOND** indicated he had organized the Petition and how the majority of the citizens of Upper County seem to be willing to move forward with the ballot measure. He appreciated everyone's support and comments in relation to a proposed Port District. **KEN RATLIFF** expressed his support of creating a Port District and said there was a long list of possibilities and benefits for the community and their rural areas. **DOUG WEIS** expressed his opposition for creating a Port District. He said he was not in favor of taxes other than for schools, fire departments, etc. He did not understand how jobs would be created from a Port District and questioned what type they would be. **ART COLTS** described various economic benefits of having a Port District and encouraged the Board to move forward with the ballot measure. **HELGA JOHNSON** explained how there weren't many jobs in the area for

**APPROVED**

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graduates and a Port District would assist in creating them in the future. **LINDSEY OZBOLT, KITTITAS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** said they were in favor of creating a Port District in the Upper County.

**RESOLUTION 2016-088                    UPPER COUNTY PORT DISTRICT                    COMMISSIONERS**

**COMMISSIONER OSIADACZ** moved to approve Resolution No. 2016-088, Regarding the Creation of a Port District in the Upper Kittitas County, and that a ballot title be submitted to the County Auditor for inclusion on the next General election. **COMMISSIONER JEWELL** seconded.

**COMMISSIONER OSIADACZ** thanked the citizens who worked on the Petition. **COMMISSIONER JEWELL** also thanked everyone and said the Board's action is to provide an opportunity for the voters to make the decision on what's best for their community. **CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN** spoke in favor of allowing the ballot measure to be on the November ballot. Motion carried 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

  
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**Julie Kjorsvik**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
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**Obie O'Brien, Chairman**