



KITTITAS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mark Cook, Director

STUDY SESSION MINUTES

July 11, 2016

THOSE PRESENT:

Paul Jewell, Obie O'Brien, Laura Osiadacz (BOCC), Luke Huck, Candie Leader, Karen Hodges (DPW), Doc Hansen, Steph Mifflin, Rose Shriner (CDS), Candi Blackford (PH), Jim Goeben (IT)

GUESTS PRESENT:

20 Members of the general public

FLOODPLAIN SOLAR PANEL PERMITS AND ASSOCIATED FEE:

Mark reported that numerous solar panel installations are being applied for homes located in various floodplains. Currently, the standard fee for floodplain review is \$180.00 and takes approximately 2 weeks to complete. Staff discussed implementing an "over the counter" floodplain permit supporting solar panels in the floodplain. Staff would look at the assessed value of the property against the value of the solar panel installation. The recommended fee is \$50.00 for solar panel permitting. Commissioner Jewell suggested setting a public hearing to consider the issue on the August 2, 2016 agenda.

Board Direction:

Commissioner Jewell made a motion to set a public hearing on August 2, 2016 to consider floodplain solar panel permitting and to set an appropriate fee. Commissioner Osiadacz seconded the motion.

RCO PROJECT NO. 13-1315 NANEUM, WILSON, CHERRY, WATERSHED ASSESSMENT EXTENSION:

Mark stated that originally the Naneum, Wilson Cherry Watershed Assessment project was to be completed December 2016. With the 2015 drought there was not enough streamflow to collect the necessary data needed. Staff sent in a request to RCO to extend the grant to May 31, 2017 with said request being approved. Commissioner O'Brien inquired if there will be any additional costs with the extension and Mark replied that the project is currently under budget and no additional costs are anticipated.

Board Direction:

No Direction

**WEST NELSON SIDING ROAD
SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION
PROPOSAL:**

Mark presented requests for lowering the speed limit on West Nelson Siding Road. A public hearing was previously held regarding the same issue and the request was denied. Staff placed traffic counters to obtain new information on traffic speeds. I-90 closures and construction are causing the traveling public to detour onto the back roads and are moving at high speeds. The average daily traffic on West Nelson Siding Road is 47.6 mph at three different locations. Discussion was held and members of the general public commented in support of the speed limit being reduced. Mark asked for direction in setting a public hearing to consider the reduction of the speed limit. Commissioner O'Brien would like staff to look into other options prior to setting a public hearing. After further discussion staff was directed to set a public hearing for August 16, 2016 at 2pm.

Board Direction:

Schedule a public hearing for August 16, 2016 at 2pm to consider the reduction of speed limit on West Nelson Siding Road.

**DRAFT LETTER OF INTENT
TO LEASE – CENTRAL
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY:**

Mark stated that staff has been working with Central Washington University and Midstate Aviation to get Central Washington University access to the main hangar at Bowers Field. Under the agreement Central Washington University would lease the ground floor of the main hangar due to the desire of the University to expand the University's flight program. Central Washington University is requesting a letter of commitment from the County in relation to the upcoming agreement with Midstate Aviation.

Board Direction:

Commissioner Jewell requested that the item be presented at another agenda session.

**WESTSIDE AND HUNTZINGER
ROADS PROJECT UPDATE:**

Mark spoke on the Westside Road/Huntzinger Road projects. The plan going forward is to complete Westside Road first and then focus on Huntzinger Road. Previous staff failed to notice the consultant on the project that this is a federally funded project. Staff is working to beat the cutoff date to avoid an additional 20% match for the projects. Amendment documents for the projects have

been sent and staff is moving forward as if the project amendment has been approved.

Board Direction:

No Direction

**LODGE CREEK/VIA KACHESS
ROAD CULVERT
REPLACEMENT:**

Mark reported that currently staff is working with the Corp of Engineers on getting the necessary information to start the project. The goal is to get the culvert placed before snow flies and we were able to skip the normal process of permitting due to the emergency status of the project. We are preparing to purchase the culvert with County funds and Old Castle is not able to deliver a culvert in the time frame necessary so a purchase order was sent to Granite Construction and Atkinson to secure a culvert. Atkinson is the current contractor on the WSDOT I-90 project and will be assisting in the project.

Board Direction:

No Direction



Mark R. Cook
Director of Public Works