



# **KITTITAS COUNTY**

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Mark Cook, Director

### **STUDY SESSION MINUTES**

**November 14, 2016**

**THOSE PRESENT:**

Paul Jewell, Laura Osiadacz, Obie O'Brien (BOCC), Luke Huck, Mark Cook, Kathy Jurgens, Candie Leader (DPW)

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

**Tony Buhr, Daily Record**

**IASCO USE AGREEMENT:**

Mark stated that in 2015, staff was approached by Central Washington University about hiring a private contractor to provide services for the University's flight program. This request brought up the issue of an Airport Use Agreement being agreed upon by the parties involved which ended with the private contractor (IASCO) paying a nominal fee for use of Bowers Field. In summer of 2016, staff had a conversation with Dave Lehman with IASCO about renewing the agreement which had expired. In late summer/early fall staff was given information by the airport consultant CenturyWest that complied the take offs and landings taking place at the airport. With the additional services being requested now by IASCO and general maintenance that has no cost recovery, staff is recommending a new amount be assessed for the use agreement due to these factors. Staff is now dealing directly with IASCO's Finance Department due to Dave Lehman severing employment with IASCO and conversations are still ongoing. Discussion was held.

**Board Direction:**

**No Direction**

**2016 ROAD FUND**  
**BUDGET:**

Mark stated that as staff prepares for the Board presentation, the Management Team in Public Works have been meeting and looking at all aspects of the operation. On the upside in 2016 we delivered the No. 6 Road Improvements, Manastash Bridge Improvements, Lodge Creek Culvert Replacement was moved up a year, the Silica Road Bridge Replacement that was unbudgeted and the Mt. Daniels Drive Extension. In all of those costs we are approximately \$165,000 under budget. On the other side, as we've looked closely at the 6 year plan from last year that we brought you last year we have some issues

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we have seen driven by a couple of infrastructure failures, like the culvert on Yellowstone fail and have put a band aid on it and will have to be completely replaced. We load limited Manastash Bridge which we were not aware of until a bridge inspection. Staff anticipated the Taneum/Thorp Hwy Bridge needing replaced but we did not fully understand the cost implications. Those projects are not capital projects they are preservation projects. As we have looked at all the various funding mechanisms there are very few preservation funding sources. We have asked the County Road Administration Board to fund the Manastash Bridge Replacement. No money for Yellowstone currently and again this is a project that will involve bull trout. Discussion was held regarding the under 20' bridge structures and the funding for this infrastructure. What we now see is that the maintenance program has been overstating the maintenance demand at about 1.5 million a year. We did not see this last year but did this year. Staff spent time to resolve the issue. Discussion was held.

**Board Direction:**

**WATER RESOURCE  
ISSUE UPDATE:**

**No Direction**

Mark gave background on Ringer Loop and the decision to not fight the river anymore. In anticipation of flooding events this fall and winter we made the decision to remove the pavement and reno blankets on the north/south segment of the roadway. Associated with this project we were savvy with our conversation with FEMA and over the last 10 months staff has worked to finalize equipment procurement from the November 2015 flood claim. On a similar discussion with Ringer Loop we have received about \$988,000 from the integrated plan towards some key acquisitions. We have offers out to Sparks and Papineau and have countered an offer to Sparks for review. We anticipate receiving a counter offer from Papineau as well. We expect these properties to play out in some way either by purchase or they go away. A couple months ago we got word that some key properties in the Teanaway are available for acquisitions. We took half the funds for the Ringer Loop acquisitions and will put towards the property in the Teanaway. In November of last year the Schaake Levee sustained damage on Bureau of Reclamation land. Bureau of Reclamation has been working for the last 10 years to setback the levee. The current conversation is whether or not we will be able to repair our levee. Bureau of Reclamation and US Fish and Wildlife are requesting we consider an alternate repair. The current proposal is to setback the damaged levee and staff is working with all

partners to see if a setback is possible. The County Surveyor, Justin Turnbull, examined dedication easement documents for Schaake and does not believe we have a right to set the levee back. Staff is pursuing resolution through Bureau of Reclamation. Several months ago staff submitted three Floodplain by Design grants: Reecer Creek for \$5 million, Lower Yakima for \$5.1 million and Manastash for \$500,000. Last week the notices came out and we are currently #11 statewide for Lower Yakima and it falls at about the \$50 million mark. Currently there is lobbying of the Governor's budget for funding at \$70 million. We won't know more until the Governor's budget comes out. There is a potential downside to the upcoming grant awards. The finance department will likely need a fiscal technician to help cover regular duties and the grant reporting. This means getting rid of other positions that were currently in the budget. Discussion was also had regarding the upcoming FEMA mapping and the technology involved.

**Board Direction:**

**CITY OF ELLENSBURG**  
**FIBER OPTIC PROPOSAL:**

**No Direction**

Mark reported that the COG awarded the City of Ellensburg monies to improve connections city wide. The City was looking at doing internet and other avenues but has decided that the money would best be spent on the fiber optic. The City is asking the question if they are able to recover any costs for connection charges but they are going to have savings in the first year of the project. Discussion was held.

**Board Direction:**

**Get more information from the City of Ellensburg on the project.**



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Mark Cook  
Public Works Director