

**KITTITAS COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS STUDY SESSION MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109 - ELLENSBURG
Regular Meeting**

MONDAY

1:30 PM

June 25, 2018

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

Others: Mark Cook, Sara Folk, Candie Leader, Public Works; Dan Carlson, Steph Mifflin, Lindsey Ozbolt, Community Development Services; Erin Moore, Mark Larson, Public Health; Kayla Bonar, Daily Record; Aspect Consulting; Nine(9) members of the public

WEIHL ROAD RID

At 1:30 pm Chairman Laura Osiadacz opened the Public Works Study Session.

Mark Cook gave background on the project stating that at the last meeting had staff presented new costs for the construction of the road. Mark Cook stated that the new costs from the design and specifications that are complete are significantly higher than previously reported resulting in the county contribution needing to be increased to get the RID formed and the project completed. Mark Cook continued that the project is complex due to the terrain and county forces could perform the work to lower costs however, the road would not be built this year due to the timing of getting the formulation finalized and the construction window is closing. Commissioner Jewell stated he is supportive of moving forward and this has been a long standing issue that needs to be resolved. Chairman Osiadacz called for public comment and there were none. Commissioner Jewell asked about the next steps and Mark Cook replied that he will prepare formulation documents for another study session for BOCC review and comment then move forward to an agenda session for final consideration.

UPPER COUNTY TRAFFIC ISSUES UPDATE

Mark Cook reported that staff held a public meeting on June 18 at the Senior Center in upper county to discuss the ongoing traffic issues from I-90 travelers bypassing the congestion by using county roads. Mark Cook stated that prior to the June 18 meeting the Nelson Siding Road community held a meeting of their

own as well to discuss potential solutions and staff was present at that meeting as well. Mark Cook continued that there were long term and short term solutions discussed including gating the road network, establishing a long term Transportation Benefit District for tolling and forming a citizens advisory group to further research options. Mark Cook added that the measures the county has taken to limit the traffic has included closure of off ramps in partnership with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), signage, message boards and passing a resolution to limit heavy truck traffic on the road network. Mark Cook stated that WSDOT is unwilling to continue with ramp closures, Washington State Patrol cannot support enforcement efforts. Discussion was held. Vice-Chairman O'Brien inquired about speeds in the area as a continuing issue and suggested doing another traffic/speed count in the area to gather new numbers for consideration. Chairman Osiadacz called for public comment on the matter. Three (3) members of the public commented on the issue. Further discussion was held. Staff was directed to develop a plan for a citizen's advisory group and bring it back for review at a July study session for discussion.

**PROPOSED CODE AMENDMENT TO TITLE 12 "ROADS AND BRIDGES"
DISCUSSION**

Mark Cook reported that for the last ten (10) months staff has been working on a road standards revision to go along with the Twenty (20) Year Transportation Plan in development and the last road standards update was done in 2015. Mark Cook continued that the update will be written so new staff can understand the standards, be development friendly and would like to have a stakeholders group review for a final document delivery of late fall. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to get a stakeholders group formulated.

Meeting adjourned at 2:16 pm.

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**


Candie Leader


Laura Osiadacz, Chairman