

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

MONDAY

1:30 PM

JULY 13, 2020

Board members present: Chairman Brett Wachsmith, Vice-Chairman Laura Osiadacz, Commissioner Cory Wright

Others: Mark Cook, Arden Thomas, Public Works; Dan Carlson, Lindsey Ozbolt, Calvana Carper, Jessica Miller, Mike Flory, Community Development Services; Taylor Crouch, Commissioners Office and One (1) member of the Public.

At 1:30 pm Chairman Brett Wachsmith opened the Public Works Study Session.

**UPPER COUNTY MAINTENANCE FACILITY CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDER
DISCUSSION**

Mark Cook gave background on a previous conversation had with the Board regarding incidental change orders for the Upper County Maintenance Facility construction. Mark Cook continued that Public Works currently has a change order process in place and explained the procedures for that. Mark Cook added that the authority amount with the Director of Public Works is currently fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). Mark Cook stated what he is proposing for the small change orders is to make a log of the changes and bring them forward to the Board every month at a scheduled Study Session. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to move forward with process as presented.

HANSEN POND PUBLIC ACCESS

Mark Cook stated that for several years and previous Board members have gone back and forth on the posting of "No Trespass" signs at Hansen Ponds on Canyon Road. Mark Cook continued that there is an obvious risk of people going through locked gates for recreation and there was recently a letter send to the Board complaining that the area has been posted and this is where they walk for exercise. Mark Cook added that there have been fallen trees, parents calling about their children seeing dead animals and Public Works doesn't maintain this site for recreational purposes; and the other big risk is the railroad crossing at Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) is not a permitted crossing. Mark Cook explained that BNSF has allowed Public Works to occasionally cross to access the facility for our needs and it is not a public crossing. Mark Cook continued stating that it has become difficult to address from a liability standpoint and staff has not aggressively enforced the trespassing recognizing the burden on law enforcement. Mark Cook stated he directed the signage to be posted again and wanted to make certain the Board was comfortable

with that decision going forward. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to attend the Public Lands Advisory Committee meeting and get direction before the Board makes action on this issue and leave the signage posted.

COAL MINE TRAIL TRESPASS

Mark Cook gave background on the parking area project at Coal Mine Trail access in Ronald on county owned property. Mark Cook stated that the survey of the area has been done with the design in process. Mark Cook continued that what came out of the survey work was a recognition that a resident is trespassing by storing vintage cars on a portion of the property. Mark Cook added that the area in question is not being utilized or impairing the use of the property but now with the discovery it seems that some action should be taken. Mark Cook stated that his suggestion is to notice the property owner that the county is aware of the trespass and that if the county needs to use that land in the future his cars will need to be removed within a certain amount of time. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to draft a letter to the property owner with an acknowledgement signature line to be returned to Public Works with a copy sent to the Coal Mine Trails Commission.

LETTER OF FINAL MAP DETERMINATION FOR FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS

Mark Cook stated that Arden Thomas and himself would be presenting on this topic. Mark Cook continued that the maps are done but this is about the adoption of mandatory changes to the ordinance to remain in the National Flood Insurance Program. Arden Thomas reported that FEMA has been leading a map update process and there has been opportunity for public comment on the new maps with this process being complete. Arden Thomas stated that a letter of final of determination was expected in April of this year, but FEMA put a hold on the issuance of the letters being mindful of the local community response restrictions due to COVID-19. Arden Thomas added that FEMA may act and issue the letter and the county has six (6) months to make required code updates referencing the date of the new maps. Arden Thomas stated that the Federal Government is asking local jurisdictions for feedback on moving forward with the final letter of determination and being able to conduct the code update and subsequent public hearing. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to return at the next Study Session with an inventory of changes and a discuss a response to FEMA.

OTHER BUSINESS:

SOUTH CLE ELUM WAY QUIT CLAIM REQUEST

Mark Cook stated that several months ago the Board was made aware of an action made by the City of Cle Elum to install a sidewalk and signage in county right of way. Mark Cook continued that as County

Engineer he made the decision to have the signs removed and blackout the crosswalk because of safety considerations. Mark Cook added that this action resulted in conversation of the six hundred (600) feet of South Cle Elum Way and incorporating it into city limits of South Cle Elum. Discussion was held. Staff was directed to draft the enabling documents and present for Board consideration.

Meeting adjourned at 2:17pm

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Candie Leader



Brett Wachsmith, Chairman