

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
WEBEX  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY**

**2:00 P.M.**

**DECEMBER 15, 2020**

Board members present via WebEx: Chairman Brett Wachsmith; Vice-Chairman Laura Osiadacz; and Commissioner Cory Wright.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Mandy Buchholz, Deputy Clerk of the Board II; Neil Caulkins, Deputy Prosecutor; Doug Fessler, Network Administrator; Benjamin West, Director of Airport Operations; Ken Grannan, Airport Coordinator; Dan Carlson, CDS Director; and approximately 15 members of the public.

This meeting was provided to the public via WebEx and they were previously notified on the Agenda as to where they could access and provide public comments.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**ABERLE AG LEASE**

**AIRPORT**

At 2:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** opened a Public Hearing to consider amending Dennis and Jay Aberle's Agriculture Lease.

**KEN GRANNAN, AIRPORT COORDINATOR** provided a Staff Report and details of a proposed Amendment to an Agriculture Lease between Kittitas County and Dennis and Jay Aberle for a 1-year extension from December 1, 2020, to November 30, 2021.

**THERE BEING NO ONE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**RESOLUTION 2020-211**

**ABERLE AG LEASE**

**AIRPORT**

**VICE-CHAIRMAN OSIADACZ** moved to approve Resolution No. 2020-211, Amending the Aberle Grazing Lease and to authorize the Chairman to sign the Lease Amendment. **COMMISSIONER WRIGHT** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**BLAZING TREE CATTLE CO. AG LEASE**

**AIRPORT**

At 2:09 p.m. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** opened a Public Hearing to consider amending the Blazing Tree Cattle Company Agriculture Lease.

**KEN GRANNAN, AIRPORT COORDINATOR** provided a Staff Report and details of a proposed Amendment to an Agriculture Lease between Kittitas County and the Blazing Tree Cattle Company, for a 1-year extension from December 1, 2020, through November 30, 2021.

**APPROVED**  
1/4/22

**THERE BEING NO ONE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**RESOLUTION 2020-212**

**BLAZING TREE CATTLE COMPANY**

**AIRPORT**

**VICE-CHAIRMAN OSIADACZ** moved to approve Resolution No. 2020-212, Amending the Blazing Tree Cattle Company Grazing Lease, and to authorize the Chairman to sign the Lease Amendment. **COMMISSIONER WRIGHT** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**STRAND AG LEASE**

**AIRPORT**

At 2:13 p.m. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** opened a Public Hearing to consider amending the Victor Strand Agriculture Lease.

**KEN GRANNAN, AIRPORT COORDINATOR** provided a Staff Report and details of a proposed Amendment to an Agriculture Lease between Kittitas County and Victor Strand, for a 1-year extension from December 1, 2020, through November 30, 2021. He provided information on a water right that runs inside the aeronautical fence that provides water to the land currently leased by the Strands and access.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: JOHN REEVES** said he appreciated the County taking the opportunity to work on better usage of water. **VICTOR STRAND** said they have been leasing from the airport for over 35 years and reviewed several issues he has relating to the proposed language in the lease including a 3% increase in rent. He also commented on the issues relating water and irrigation issues, as well as how the value of acreage needs to be considered. **LINDA STRAND** said there needed to be a difference between scheduled butchering and emergency kills as they are not able to give 48-hour notice at times, and during calving season, and they try to get them the farthest away from the airfield as possible. **THERE BEING NO OTHERS REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**MR. GRANNAN** responded to concerns and said he met with the Strands and understands some of their issues and explained how their intent was to mitigate water. The Board had additional questions relating to water and the Kittitas Reclamation District and would like additional time before making a decision.

**CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** moved to continue the Public Hearing to January 5, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. noting the record was closed. **COMMISSIONER OSIADACZ** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**MARIAN MEADOWS**

**CDS**

At 2:34 p.m. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** opened the Public Hearing continued from October 6, 2020, to consider the Marian Meadows Development Agreement. He noted the record was closed.

**COMMISSIONER OSIADACZ** announced she would be recusing herself from the Public Hearing due to the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine and left the meeting.

**DAN CARLSON, CDS DIRECTOR** said there was nothing new added since the Public Hearing and record was previously closed.

**COMMISSIONER WRIGHT** reviewed Sections 6, 7, & 8 mitigation measures and asked Staff to clarify some of the provisions relating to the Easton Water District, and Easton School District. He said he could not find any record of any discussions with the Fire District. **MR. CARLSON** said he was not able to find anything in the record that shows that the applicant had contacted the Fire District, as required.

**COMMISSIONER WRIGHT** moved to remand the proposed Marian Meadows Development Agreement back to the applicant for discussion on mitigation for impacts to Easton Fire District #3 under Section 6. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** seconded.

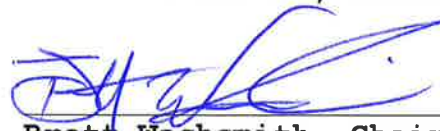
**COMMISSIONER WRIGHT** expressed his appreciation to everyone who participated in the process. He felt it was important to try and balance the needs of the community with the project, and that it was important to show there was work done on both sides in order to have some type of negotiated agreement from the beginning. Motion carried 2-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

  
Julie Kjorsvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
Brett Wachsmith, Chairman

Draft was previously uploaded in error. These are the final version.