

**KITTITAS COUNTY  
PUBLIC WORKS STUDY SESSION MINUTES  
In-Person and Webex  
Regular Meeting**

**MONDAY**

**1:30 PM**

**August 22, 2022**

Board Members Present: Chairman Laura Osiadacz, Vice-Chairman Cory Wright, and Commissioner Brett Wachsmith.

Others: Mandy Buchholz, Commissioners Office; Mark Cook, Rebecca Cruse, Public Works; Jerimiah Cromie, Community Development Services; Neil Caulkins, Prosecuting Attorney Office.

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

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

No Comments

**REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE CHAIR SIGNATURE ON AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT  
EXTENSION REQUEST LETTER WITH KITTITAS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Mark Cook requested Chairman Osiadacz signature on a letter extending the interlocal agreement for design of fish passage at Whiskey Creek crossing of the Ellensburg Water Company canal. Vice-Chairman Cory Wright motioned to authorize signature on the finalized letter, Commissioner Brett Wachsmith seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**2022 GUARDRAIL REPAIR**

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on damages caused to guardrail on Vantage Highway due to a recent wildfire, and damages to guardrail due to a vehicle accident on Westside Road. Mark Cook added that staff has estimated the cost and requested Board approval to contract the repair work due to the extent of damages. The Board of County Commissioners directed staff to move forward with the contracts for repair.

**SKYLINE RIDGE WATER AVAILABILITY**

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on several Water Availability Determinations that were held up due to a minor well alteration made by the developer. Mark Cook appreciated the cooperation between the Building Department and Public Health for assisting to resolve this issue.

**SAFE STREETS FOR ALL GRANT SUBMITTAL DISCUSSION**

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the available grant to improve safety at Snoqualmie Pass. Mark Cook explained that

the infrastructure needs surpass available resources without a grant. Currently, staff is engaging stake holders and spearheading efforts to acquire grant funding. Mark Cook requested Board support to submit the grant. Discussion was held. The Board is supportive of staff moving forward with grant submittal.

#### **USDA COMMUNITY WILDFIRE DEFENSE GRANT**

Mark Cook gave background to the Board of County Commissioners on USDA grant funding available for implementing actions contained within the Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP). Mark Cook stated that the grant requires a 25% match and staff is working with Fire Officials and Emergency Management to prepare the grant. Discussion was held. The Board supports staff efforts toward securing the necessary funding for grant match.

#### **PROPOSED CHANGES TO KITTITAS COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 2.48**

Mark Cook stated he is working on a revision to Kittitas County Code Emergency Management Chapter 2.48. Questions pursued about scenarios allocating Public/Board resources on private land. Staff was directed to schedule a public hearing to consider the change.

#### **MANASTASH RIGHT OF WAY ISSUES WITH DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR)**

Mark Cook gave background on the status of the Manastash Bank Stabilization Project. Mark Cook stated that the project requires cooperation with DNR to secure additional land to support roadside parking and an end of road turnaround and negotiations haven't been successful as DNR is requesting Kittitas County vacate right-of-way along Manastash Road. Mark Cook continued that staff is recommending returning the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) grant to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and proceed with commitments to Fish and Wildlife, completing the bank stabilization project. Vice-Chairman Cory Wright requested staff scheduled another discussion to secure an unencumbered easement with DNR and address the repetitive encumbrances by DNR on road improvements in Kittitas County.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 2:39 pm Chairman Laura Osiadacz announced that the Board of County Commissioners, Public Works Director Mark Cook, and Prosecuting Attorney Neil Caulkins would recess into Executive Session until 2:49 pm. Per RCW 42.30.110(1)(c) To consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of decreased price. However, final action selling or leasing public property shall be taken in a meeting open to the public. Possible action anticipated.

At 2:49 pm the Board reconvened out of Executive Session. The Board gave staff direction to review the airport lease and necessary updates.

Meeting concluded at 2:50 pm.

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



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Rebecca Cruse, Administrative  
Assistant



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Laura Osiadacz, Chairman