

KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION

NO. 2009- 08

**To Disband the Kittitas County Boundary Review Board
as Provided by RCW 36.93.230**

WHEREAS, Chapter 36.93 RCW was first enacted in 1967 to provide for the establishment of Boundary Review Boards within Washington State;

WHEREAS, the purpose of Boundary Review Boards under Chapter 36.93 RCW is to ensure orderly growth of municipalities and urban services, facilitate decisions consistent with the Growth Management Act, chapter 36.70A, provide objective analysis of annexation and incorporation proposals, resolve disputes among municipalities, citizens and districts, assist cities, towns and districts with the annexation process, involve the public early in the decision-making process, and serve as a sounding board for all citizens;

WHEREAS, a Boundary Review Board was established in Kittitas County by Kittitas County Board of Commissioners Resolution No. 93-141 on December 28, 1993;

WHEREAS, RCW 36.93.230 provides that when a county and the cities and towns within the county have adopted a comprehensive plan and consistent development regulations pursuant to the provisions of the Growth Management Act, Chapter 36.70A RCW, the county may, at the discretion of the county legislative authority, disband the boundary review board in that county;

WHEREAS, in 1996 Kittitas County adopted its first comprehensive plan pursuant to the Growth Management Act, chapter 36.70A RCW, and the County's comprehensive plan is updated on a yearly basis;

WHEREAS, the County no longer finds it necessary to have a separate Boundary Review Board in light of the adoption by the County, and its cities and towns, of a comprehensive Growth Management plan and extensive ongoing efforts to update that plan.


NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That it is administratively and fiscally in the best interests of the County and its people to disband the Boundary Review Board consistent with RCW 36.93.230, effective January 21, 2009.

DATED this 21st day of January, 2009.


**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Alan Crankovich, Chair



Paul Jewell, Vice Chair



Mark McClain, Commissioner

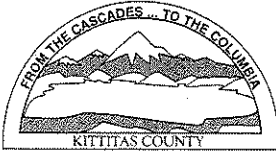


APPROVED AS TO FORM:



CLERK OF THE BOARD

Zera Holland Lowe, WSBA #16084
Kittitas County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney



Kittitas County, Washington

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

District One
Paul Jewell

District Two
Alan Crankovich

District Three
Mark McClain

March 5, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

You may be aware that, as authorized by RCW 36.93.230 and after public hearing and discussion, the Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) voted on January 21, 2009 to disband the Kittitas County Boundary Review Board (BRB) due to fiscal concerns and redundancy of process under the state's Growth Management Act (GMA), chapter 36.70A RCW. Resolution 2009-08, memorializing such action, is attached.

The County is most appreciative of the more than 14 years of service rendered by the Boundary Review Board and its dedicated members. However, the County and its cities and towns are already governed by the GMA. The County voluntarily adopted the GMA in 1990 and adopted its first comprehensive plan in 1996, with subsequent updates, and the County's cities and towns have followed suit. Being already governed by the GMA, the Board believed it unnecessary to duplicate the review functions of the BRB that were designed to help manage growth, which review functions are in consonance with the goals and requirements of the GMA.

In reliance upon legal opinion, the County will proceed without a BRB and also without another review committee that would stand of the shoes of a BRB. After disbandment of the BRB, the County legislative body has no review authority over annexations, which would also be unnecessary in light of the County's (and its cities' and towns') adoption of the GMA. This applies to city annexations as well as to special district annexations. Likewise, the BOCC will have no role in the approval or disapproval of city consolidations or disincorporations. In the case of election method annexations, the County would be involved in the usual manner concerning preparing measures for the ballot, as governed by applicable statute.

As for city incorporations, the BOCC would become involved to a limited extent, with authority to add or delete territory, but could only disapprove a proposed incorporation where the proposal does not meet statutory minimum population requirements. For the foreseeable future in Kittitas County, however, any proposed incorporation would appear unlikely to meet statutory minimum population requirements under the GMA.

Applications pending at the time of disbandment are considered approved as of the date of disbandment.

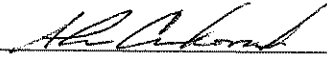
Accordingly, upon disbandment of the BRB, there will be no substituted review committee. Other Washington counties which have disbanded their BRB have also proceeded without a review committee. The cities, towns and special purpose district will simply proceed

under the statutes in place for their own jurisdictions, with the few exceptions above noted.

However, if you have concerns about this process and would prefer to form an ad hoc review committee for each annexation or other application, feel free to contact the BOCC for further discussion.

Again, the BOCC expresses its great appreciation to the dedicated members of the former BRB, and extends thanks for their many years of service to the County.

Sincerely,



Alan Crankovich, Chairman Dist #2

Encl: Res. 2009-08