POPE COUNTY
MINNESOTA

MEETING MINUTES
POPE COUNTY PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION
Thursday, May 23, 2024

The Planning Advisory Commission convened in regular session on Thursday, May 23, 2024 at the Pope County Courthouse, 3rd floor Meeting Room.

Members Present: John Messenger, Roger Isdahl, Ivie Cooley, Ted Kannegiesser, Russell Barkeim, Mark Halls, Paul Gerde (County Commissioner) and Paul Wildman (County Commissioner/Alt)

Other Officials Present: David Green (Land & Resource Management, Director), Jessica Hill (Zoning Administrator), Galen Gruber (Land Use Specialist II)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Messenger at 6:48 p.m.

Acceptance of Agenda

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda noted. Gerde made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. This motion seconded by Barkeim. Motion carries unanimously.

Review minutes of April 25, 2024

The minutes of the Planning Advisory Commission meeting held on Thursday, April 25, 2024 were submitted for approval. Motion by Kannegiesser to accept the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Isdahl. Motion carried unanimously.

General Business

None

Tabled/Old Business/Other Business:

A. Ordinance Amendment Discussion

Director Green recapped the Commission's previous discussion on the proposed ordinance amendments which occurred at the September regular session. Mr. Green reminded the Commission that the proposed changes were recommended for approval by the Commission and that the changes were submitted to the MN DNR for comment. Mr. Green provided an update that L&RM staff are working with the DNR to address their comments and are hoping to have a finalized version of this and the changes that were reviewed at the December and March PAC meeting for the Commissions review at one of the upcoming PAC regular sessions. Mr. Green also noted that there are a few other changes that L&RM staff are working on including updating the floodplain

ordinance and working through addressing the surety type necessary for solar gardens. Director Green looked for an opinion from the Commission as to L&RM staff should be looking to include other energy generating systems and/or other uses that also require assurance such as mining and extractive uses. Discussion was had with the Commission advising L&RM staff to include other energy generating systems, specifically wind turbines, but to exclude mining and extractive uses as these uses have different life spans and reclamation procedures.

Director Green made the Commission aware that there is a special session scheduled for June 6th.

Adjournment At 7:19 p.m. a motion was made by Gerde to adjourn the Planning Advisory Commission meeting. Motion seconded by Kannegiesser. Motion carried with no dissenting votes noted.

Respectfully submitted,

David Green, Director
Pope County Land & Resource Management

pp - Galen Gruber, Land Use Specialist II
Pope County Land & Resource Management