MEETING MINUTES
POPE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
Thursday November 18, 2021

The Board of Adjustment convened in regular session on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at the Pope County Courthouse, 3rd floor Meeting Room.

Members Present: Roger Isdahl, Ronald Feigum, Ivie Cooley, John Messenger and Brian Jergenson

Other Officials Present: David Green (Land & Resource Management Director), Shelley Retrum (Sr. Administrative Associate), Cody Rogahn (County Commissioner), Larry Lindor (County Commissioner)

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Cooley at 6:00 p.m.

Additions and Corrections to the Agenda

There was no additions or corrections to the agenda.

Review minutes of October 28, 2021

The minutes of the Board of Adjustment meeting that was held on October 28, 2021 were submitted for approval. Motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Feigum. Seconded by Jergenson. Motion carried with no dissenting votes noted.

Variance Tim & Laurie Tjaden

Chairwoman Cooley introduces the item. Applicants Tim and Laurie Tjaden are present. Director Green presents staff report and states "staff does not believe that a practical difficulty has been established. The application does not adequately explain what physical characteristic is inherent in the property that does not allow for locating the structure in compliance with the ordinance standards nor explore alternatives that my result in less of an encroachment. However, this public hearing as well as the applicant may offer additional facts that are not yet evident for the Board of Adjustment to consider." Chairwoman Cooley asks for any additional comments from the applicant. Applicant Tim Tjaden states "We want to move up here and build a garage to store our cars. We are limited on space to park anything due to the number of vehicles and such on the neighboring parcel." Applicant Laurie Tjaden states "the reason the old barn was torn down is that it was in terrible shape and condemned. It is not uncommon that the neighbor has 15 to 16 vehicles and when we had a medical emergency with Tim, we had trouble getting out or getting emergency vehicle's in. When the emergency happened, we were unable to get ahold of the neighbors to move the vehicles because they were out on the lake. We have a good relationship with the neighbors but this is just a fact of our neighborhood. We feel this is a good compromise to address the situation with the neighbors' vehicles and allow us to be able to get out if there is an emergency." There is discussion on impervious surface and the location of the septic system. Jergenson mentions that you could gain approximately 6 more feet if you were to flip the length and width of the garage. The applicants acknowledge this and consent to give this consideration. Chairwoman Cooley opens the public meeting and asks "is there anyone speaking in favor of this?" None noted. Chairwoman Cooley asks "is there anyone speaking against this?" None noted. Chairwoman Cooley closes the public hearing.

Chairwoman Cooley asks for comments from the site team. Messenger (site team) states "there are definitely constraints limited to the size and location of the lot. If they, do it as presented it will be back further than the existing building." Cooley (site team) states "After hearing the applicant's situation, I believe it as very important to be able to get in and out especially for emergency situations." Chairwoman Cooley seeks a motion. Messenger states "based upon the information as presented in the staff report and facts as gathered this evening, I move to approve of the variance request to locate the garage structure at a reduced setback of approximately ten feet from the road right of way provided that the structure is no closer than thirty-six feet from the roadway surface." Jergenson seconded. Motion carried with no dissenting votes noted.

Tabled/Old Business

There was no additions or corrections to the agenda.

Adjournment 6:38 p.m. Motion by Isdahl to adjourn the Board of Adjustment meeting. Motion seconded by Jergenson. Motion carried with no dissenting votes noted.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Retrum

Shelley Retrum/Sr. Administrative Associate
Pope County Land & Resource Management