MEETING MINUTES
POPE COUNTY PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION
Thursday November 21, 2019

The Planning Advisory Commission convened in regular session on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at the Pope County Courthouse Community Room.

Members Present: Dave Henke, Ronald Feigum, Ivie Cooley, Mark Halls, John Messenger, Larry Lindor (County Commissioner) and Cody Rogahn (C.C. alt)

Other Officials Present: David Green (Land & Resource Management Director), Shelley Cameron (Sr. Administrative Associate) and Barry Bouwman (Feedlot Officer/Co. Ag Inspector)

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Cooley at 6:06 p.m.

The following items were addressed by the chair:

Additions and Corrections to the Agenda
Director Green stated we are not prepared to have discussion related to Ordinance Amendment A-D but will have a review of the Zoning Map revisions.

Review Minutes of October 24, 2019
The minutes of the Planning Advisory Commission meeting held on Thursday October 24, 2019 were submitted for approval. Motion by Messenger to accept the minutes as written. Feigum seconded. Motion carried.

CUP-Select Genetics LLC & Willmar Poultry Farms

Chairwoman Cooley introduces the item. Applicants Brant Beckman (Willmar Poultry), Angela Peters (Willmar Poultry), and Ben Trochlil (Centrol Crop Consulting) are present. Director Green presents staff report with a recommendation to approve the application with conditions stated in staff report. Barry Bouwman gives an update on his site visit and the conditions of the site with no concerns noted. There is discussion on the clay floor specifications with Commissioner Lindor pointing out the standard for new barns as specified in the MPCA technical guidelines for poultry barn floors. Chairwoman Cooley asks "do the applicants have any additional comments?" No comments noted. Barsness Township makes a request to receive a copy of the staff recommendations with conditions. Commissioner Lindor asks "is there a manure management plan in place?" Applicant Ben Trochlil goes over the manure management plan. Commissioner Lindor points out a correction that needs to be made in the staff report in the Emergency Response Plan to be corrected to Pope County versus Kandiyohi. Applicant Ben Trochlil states "he noticed this and will make this correction." Halls asks "what kind of ventilation will be in the barn?" Applicant Brant Beckman states "it will be forced ventilation." Chairwoman Cooley

asks for comments from the site team. Messenger states "there is no new construction and it looks suitable for the intended purpose." Chairwoman Cooley seeks a motion to close this portion of the meeting. Feigum makes a motion. Messenger seconded. Motion carried. Chairwoman Cooley opens the public meeting and asks "is there anyone speaking for this?" Jim Wulf states "I operate my location about a mile south of there and I don't even hardly know they exist. I am in full support." Allen Braaten states "Phil (Peterson) and I are Barsness Township Officers and our only concern with this is our township road. In the past we have had some concerns with heavy trucks loaded with feed and such doing damage to our roads. We are totally in favor of the barns and they have been around forever. That is our only concern is the township road." Chairwoman Cooley asks "is there anyone speaking against this?" Emily Meyer states "I have concerns about the fact that right beside where this is being proposed is a corridor that many people have been working on for many years as a waterfowl protection area. It is a significant corridor that the county has put money into and local residents have put money into to create a long and wide swamp of preservation land and now we are going to put a large number of domesticated hormone using birds up against this corridor preservation land. I have concerns what that is going to do to the water quality. It can be great for soils until it gets to be too much and causes a lot of damage. It can affect the fishing quality and can affect tourism if lakes and ponds become infested with nitrates that leak into the soil. Air quality is always a question when you are compressing any kind of livestock into a confined area. Soil quality goes down. I have concerns about the drinking water. Do you have a plan in place in case water wells get infected?" Halls states "I would like to respond to your issues on manure. Actually the manure helps protect the soils. The organic matter holds a lot of your nutrients there. You are better off using manure than you are fertilizer." Emily Meyer states "the information I got is from the United Nations and from the Ohio Department of Agriculture and several other sites that I was on. I get that small amounts can be really great but when it get to be too much it can overpower the system. I just want to make sure that we have a plan in place as to where that manure goes." Chairwoman Cooley states "thank you for your comments and we will address your issues and get a better explanation as we go along here." Chairwoman Cooley closes the public hearing. Chairwoman Cooley seeks a motion to reopen our regular meeting. Commissioner Lindor makes a motion. Henke seconded. Motion carried. There is discussion on manure management by applicant Ben Trochlil and he states "every year we are required to test the manure and there are strict guidelines by the MPCA that have to be followed." Chairwoman Cooley asks "does the Committee have any further discussion to add?" Dave Henke states "as far as the township is concerned I would ask to just practice good neighborly respect to the roads." Chairwoman Cooley seeks a motion. Halls states "based upon the Findings of Fact as presented in the staff report and as gathered this evening, I move to offer a recommendation of approval of the Conditional Use Permit provided that the conditions as identified in the staff report are complied with. Feigum seconded. Motion carried with no dissenting votes noted.

Tabled/Old Business

Director Green passes out zoning maps and goes through proposed changes.

Adjournment 7:03 p.m. Motion by Feigum to adjourn the Planning Advisory Commission meeting. Motion seconded by Messenger. Motion carried with no dissenting votes noted.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Cameron

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