MEETING MINUTES
POPE COUNTY PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION
Thursday January 23, 2025

The Planning Advisory Commission convened in regular session on Thursday, January 23, 2025 at the Pope County Courthouse, 3rd floor Meeting Room.

Members Present: John Messenger, Ted Kannegiesser, Russell Barkeim, Mark Halls, Kathy Christiansen, Paul Gerde (County Commissioner) and Paul Wildman (County Commissioner), alt

Other Officials Present: Land & Resource Management staff, David Green (Director) and Galen Gruber (Land Use Specialist II)

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Director Green at 6:38 p.m.

Annual Organization Business
First order of business was to seek nominations for Chairperson. Director Green asked for nominations for Chairperson. Gerde nominates Messenger. Director Green seeks other nominations. With no other nominations, the Board members present vote in unanimous support of Messenger for Chairperson. Chairperson Messenger takes over meeting and seeks nominations for Vice Chair. Barkeim nominates Kannegiesser. With no other nominations, the members present voted in unanimous support of the motion. Kannegiesser is Vice Chair.

Board members discuss site team selection, meeting dates and bylaws. There was no action taken to modify the bylaws or meeting dates as presented. The site team to be comprised of Messenger, Barkeim, and Christiansen with Kannegiesser as an alternate. The PAC members were provided a copy of the bylaws which were adopted unanimously as presented by motion of Barkiem seconded by Gerde.

Acceptance of Agenda
There were no additions or corrections to the agenda noted. On motion by Halls with second by Christiansen a unanimous vote by all members present was made to approve the agenda.

Review minutes of November 21, 2024
The minutes of the Planning Advisory Commission meeting held on November 21, 2024 were submitted for approval. Motion by Gerde to accept the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Barkeim. Motion carried with no dissenting votes noted.

General Business
Director Green summarized some of the subjects that may likely be brought to the PAC for review this year including various sections of the ordinance. Commissioner Gerde commented that Pope/Douglas Solid Waste had invested in legal counsel to provide a draft solid waste ordinance document. Director Green acknowledged that the process to update the county solid

waste ordinance will be a priority. Also, the Planning Advisory Commission took a moment to recognized the nine years of dedicated and excellent service of former PAC member Ivie Cooley.

Tabled/Old Business
There was no tabled or old business to discuss.

New Business
Conditional Use Permit application #CUP-24-006, John Lundebrek (present), PID# 07-0166-001 The applicant is proposing to locate a non-farm residence in a Non-Intensive Agriculture (A-1) zoning district. The property is located in Section 23 of White Bear Lake Township.

Director Green presented the application and staff report.

Gerde asked Director Green about the number of animal units that could be permitted on the property. Director Green noted that pasturing animals is an allowed use in this district and that feedlots would be regulated by the County's feedlot regulations. Halls asks: can you zoom out?

Messenger provided the applicant an opportunity to comment. Applicant Lundebrek noted that he grew up on a farm near Lowry and summarized why they are interested in the property.

Gerde noted that there appears to be an existing drive. Some discussion was had about the properties current use and previous uses. Lundebrek noted that he didn't believe there had been a homestead on the property but there is a well and well house which he believed was used to water livestock.

Messenger opened the hearing for public comment. With no comments offered, Messenger closed the public hearing.

The Site Team, comprised of Barkeim and Messenger, provided comment about their onsite observations stating that the property had some very steep slopes that did not appear to be suitable for crop farming.

Hall noted the gas pipe line easement that appeared to be present and advised the applicant to contact the gas company about future development of the property.

Hearing no more discussion, Messenger asked for motions. Gerde made motion to approve the request with staff recommendations. Christiansen seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment 7:23 p.m. Motion by Gerde to adjourn the Planning Advisory Commission meeting. Motion seconded by Halls. Motion carried with no dissenting votes noted.

Respectfully submitted,

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