

## MINUTES OF THE KNOX COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

April 13, 2021

**Call to order:** The April 13, 2021 meeting of the Knox County Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Dean Wilken at 7:30 p.m. at the Knox County Courthouse Board of Supervisors meeting room.

**Announcement of Open Meeting Act:** Announcement was made where the Open Meetings Act information is in the meeting room and that it is available to the public.

**Roll Call:** Members present: Rob Ganz, Dean Wilken, Neil Clausen, David Arens, Robert Larsen, Greg Kuhlman, and Jim Kotrous. Absent: Keith Nielsen and Doug DeShazer. Also present were Zoning Administrator Liz Doerr, and numerous members of the public.

**Approve Agenda & Public Notice in the Verdigre Eagle and Bloomfield Monitor (Knox County News).** Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Verdigre Eagle and Bloomfield Monitor (Knox County News). Clausen moved, Ganz seconded, to approve the agenda and public notice. Roll call vote showed all present in favor. Absent: Nielsen and DeShazer.

**Approve the Minutes from the March 9, 2021 Meeting.** Larsen moved, Arens seconded, to approve the minutes from March 9, 2021. Roll call vote showed all present in favor. Absent: Nielsen and DeShazer.

**Ex Parte Communications:** Doerr stated that Keith Nielsen had contacted her about the review and said that he does not want to see any changes as he thinks that the regulations are working well.

**Old Business:** none.

**New Business: Review confined feeding setbacks and impact easements and possibly set date for public hearing:** Doerr did a quick basic review of the regulations and process for the public. Ganz stated that the setbacks seem to be working but the Impact Easements are beyond our scope. The Supervisors have the final say and the Planning Commission is an advisory board. He felt that we should leave the regulations as is. Wilken said that the last public hearing for the livestock regulations did not have complaints. Ganz said that as a Livestock Friendly County, we need to avoid having too many restrictive regulations. Marcia Buman was upset with how her new neighbor ran his feedlot and felt that he was not following the rules. Doerr explained the complaint process. There was a review of the past livestock permits and no real issues through the years would warrant changes. Ganz asked the public if they felt that we should make changes. Several members of the public felt that we should leave the regulations as is. The lawsuit is a legal issue not a regulations issue. Impact easements were discussed and can be negotiated. After discussion, Kuhlman made a motion to have a public hearing 6-8-21 on confined feeding setbacks and impact easements at 7:30 in the Board meeting room with no changes proposed. Claussen seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all present in favor. Absent: Nielsen and DeShazer.

**Zoning Administrator's Report:** The March Permit Report was reviewed.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting changed to Tuesday May 18, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. due to Doerr being gone on the regular meeting date.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. by Chairman Wilken.

Liz Doerr, Zoning Administrator

Approved by Planning Commission: 5-18-21

Placed on File with Board of Supervisors: 5-27-21