

MINUTES
CLAY COUNTY PLANNING COMMITTEE
7:00 P.M. TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018

Members Present: Amos Baer, Bill Davis, Andrea Koczur, Jenny Mongeau, Mark Klevgaard, Tom Jensen, Tim Brendemuhl, Randy Schellack

Members Absent: Joel Paulson, Dan Langseth, Curt Stubstad

Others Present: Ben Oleson, Steve Beitelspacher, Steve Larson, Jane Qualey, Colleen Eck, Kathy Ihle

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Bill Davis, seconded by Andrea Koczur, and unanimously carried, the Planning Commission approved the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Tim Brendemuhl, seconded by Randy Schellack, and unanimously carried, the Planning Commission approved the July 17, 2018 minutes.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens to be heard.

BUSINESS ITEM

Clay County Renewable Energy Ordinance Discussion

Ben Oleson, Interim Planning Director, stated he recently received a call from a representative of US Solar asking about Clay County's Renewal Energy Ordinance. Oleson found that former Planning Director Tim Magnusson had been worked with a subcommittee a year ago and had drafted some language for a Clay County Renewable Energy Ordinance.

Commissioner Jenny Mongeau was part of the Planning Commission Subcommittee that worked with Tim Magnusson and Attorney Jenny Samarzja for the new ordinance. Mongeau had brought the item to County Board for a consensus to move forward with it.

Jane Qualey, Project Development Analyst for US Solar, introduced herself and stated she is in favor of Clay County adopting an ordinance for renewable energy. She has some individuals in Clay County who are interested in solar energy on their properties. She handed out a US Solar preapplication with details of their business. She presented a description of the operation of a solar garden, landscape screenings, seeding plans, manufacturer's specifications, interconnection details, decommissioning details, and general information about the company.

Oleson suggested having the subcommittee meet again to review the draft ordinance and have a public hearing scheduled for the Planning Commission next month to move the ordinance forward for final action at the County Board. The Planning Committee Subcommittee, consisting of Commissioner Mongeau, Ben Oleson, Tom Jensen, Randy Schellack, and Bill Davis, will meet next Thursday, August 30th to further discuss the renewable energy ordinance.

On motion by Tom Jensen, the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Planning Commission Secretary