

CROOK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION



March 13, 2019

Crook County Planning Commission Chairperson Michael Warren II called the hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners present in addition to Warren were Linda Manning, Gary Bedortha, Susan Hermreck, and Commissioner Pro Tem Lawrence Weberg. Commissioners George Ponte, Bob Lundquist, and Laquita Stec were not present.

Crook County Planning staff present were Planning Director Ann Beier and Planner Katie McDonald.

Warren led all persons present in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening statements were omitted because a public hearing was not being held.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The Commissioners present reviewed the minutes for the February 6, 2019 meeting.

Bedortha pointed out a correction which needed to be made.

Hermreck moved for approval of the minutes as corrected and Bedortha seconded.

The Commissioners present approved the motion by a vote of 4-0. Weberg abstained as he had not been present at the meeting.

The Commissioners present reviewed the minutes for the February 13, 2019 meeting.

Weberg moved for approval and Manning seconded.

The Commissioners present approved the motion by a vote of 3-0. Bedortha and Hermreck abstained as they had not been present at the meeting.

The Commissioners present reviewed the minutes for the February 20, 2019 meeting.

Bedortha moved for approval and Manning seconded.

The Commissioners present approved the motion by a vote of 5-0.

WORK SESSION

Warren asked if notices had gone out on the changes to the County Code.

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McDonald said that she had sent notice to DLCD.

Beier said that it was not clear whether notice to property owners was required, but that it was too big a risk not to do so. She said that she and McDonald would talk to the lawyers tomorrow. She said that notice would probably go out on March 20. She said that two hearings are to be held, and that no rezonings are involved.

McDonald pointed out that the changes involve combining sections for the EFU zones, adding definitions, and adding new uses to the Forest and Agricultural zones. She said that the current Code references the state statutes.

Beier said that the County Court was to be briefed on the following Wednesday. She reiterated that there is to be no rezoning. She said that about 2500 notices are to be sent out.

Beier said that the permit process is to be opened up, with greater transparency. She said that more applications will be referred to the Commission, and that not everyone may be pleased with this. She said that the Use Table will be helpful to the public.

The Commissioners and staff discussed the issue.

The Commissioners and staff discussed agricultural structures. McDonald said that the Building Department is beginning to track them, although no building permits are required. She said that this is to ensure that they are not converted to unapproved uses.

Bedortha asked when comments on the documents were to be reviewed. Beier said this could wait until March 20, after the consultants' reports are received.

The Commissioners and staff discussed nonfarm residences and income tests in the EFU zones, and land divisions and acreage requirements in the Forest zone.

Beier said that the regulations are defensible.

Warren asked if there were questions concerning the Definitions section.

Bedortha said that rock quarries are defined as involving a minimum of 5000 cubic yards of material.

McDonald stated that she had gotten this definition from DOGAMI, and had taken out references to acreage.

Beier said that the definition of transfer stations had come from DEQ. She said that the state agencies have indicated that they will not look at the document until the consultants' version is available.

Beier said that Grant County had not had many problems with the procedure. She said that Jefferson County had not yet reached the public hearing stage.

Beier reviewed the hearing schedule. She said that hard copies would be available by March 27.

The Commissioners and staff discussed pending site visits, and the schedule of upcoming meetings.

Beier said that decisions are to be put on the web site to make them more accessible to the public.

The Commissioners and staff discussed pending appeals.

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Hermreck moved to adjourn the meeting and Stec seconded.

Warren adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:03 p.m.