

Calhoun County Metropolitan Planning Commission
Minutes
February 25, 2013

Present: Comrs. Daniel Kesselring, Robert Bolton, Larry Rizor, Blaine VanSickle, Kelli Scott and Rebecca Rocho. Staff: Planning Consultant Jennifer Bomba and Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk Chris McComb.

Excused: Terence Lunger

1. The February 25, 2013 Planning Commission Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. Roll was called by the Deputy Clerk.
3. Approval of Agenda

“Moved Scott, supported by Rizor to approve the February 25, 2013 Planning Commission agenda as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

4. Public Comment

There was none.

5. Approval of January 28, 2013 Meeting Minutes

“Moved VanSickle, supported by Rizor to approve the January 28, 2013 Planning Commission meeting minutes as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

6. Public Hearing on the Draft Calhoun County Master Plan

Planning Consultant Bomba stated the Plan had been presented to the Board of Commissioners and had passed unanimously. She stated there had only been one communication received and that was Kalamazoo County stating they were not going to do a formal review.

Chair Rocho formally opened the public hearing on the Draft Calhoun County Master Plan at 4:07 p.m.

There were no comments.

Chair Rocho closed the public hearing on the Draft Calhoun County Master Plan at 4:08.

7. Communication

- a. Notice of Intent to Update the Master Plan, Sheridan Township, February 4, 2013

Planning Consultant Bomba explained Sheridan Township was starting to update their Master Plan. She stated the County Plan differed from their plan in that they identified a larger area of growth north of town. She stated they would be receiving their Plan for review at a later date.

8. Township Planning & Zoning Coordination

- a. 2-13-01, Convis Township: Zoning Text Amendment re: Accessory Buildings

Staff recommended for approval.

“Moved Scott, supported by Kesselring for approval of 2-13-01, Convis Township: Zoning Text Amendment re: Accessory Buildings.”

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

- b. 2-13-02, Burlington Township: Zoning Text Amendment re: Building and Zoning Compliance Permits

Staff recommended for approval.

“Moved Kesselring, supported by VanSickle for approval of 2-13-02, Burlington Township: Zoning Text Amendment re: Building and Zoning Compliance Permits.”

The Commission requested Burlington Township forward information on their permit fees.

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

- c. 2-13-03, Lee Township: Zoning Text Amendment re: Wind Energy System

Staff recommended for disapproval.

“Moved Kesselring, supported by Bolton to disapprove 2-13-03, Lee Township: Zoning Text Amendment re: Wind Energy System with the recommendation that the Planning Consultant meet with them to develop a more comprehensive ordinance and to review the language for consistency with other Township Plans.”

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

9. Department Report

a. Adoption of the Calhoun County Master Plan, as amended

Planning Consultant Bomba recommended adoption of the Master Plan with amendments. She explained the cover of the Plan will show 'Adopted with Amendments' and she would send it to all the local entities again.

"Moved Kesselring, supported by VanSickle to approve the adoption of the Calhoun County Master Plan as amended."

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

b. 2012 Annual Report to BOC

Planning Consultant Bomba explained the annual report was not a departmental report, but a Planning Commission report. She stated it spelled out the tasks and duties of the commission, including Master Plan Changes and Planning & Zoning approvals. She noted they were not required to make a presentation to the Board of Commissioners.

10. Member Comments

Member Rizor stated he had seen a couple public hearing notices that the Ceresco Dam was being looked at for power generation.

Member Rizor stated at the last county BOC meeting it was brought up that the County was looking at selling some property. He questioned why the County was selling riverfront property. He stated the Parks and Recreation Commission should be told about it and the Calhoun County Trailway Association would be interested in easements. He questioned if other options had been looked at, if that was the best use for that land and could the County hold off until all the options were looked at. He stated the DNR Trust Fund was buying some property along Rice Creek too.

Member VanSickle stated he spoke with the neighbors who would like to purchase the land and they wanted to purchase land because it was attached to their properties.

Member Scott stated County Administration had not worked with the Planning Commission in this capacity but the County would be happy to open discussions on how this land fits in with the Master Plan.

11. Public Comments

There were none.

12. Announcements

The next meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

13. Adjournment

“Moved VanSickle, supported by Kesselring to adjourn the November 5, 2012 Calhoun County Planning Commission meeting at 5:12 pm.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Bolton
Secretary