



Jackson County Planning Commission

Staffed by the Region 2 Planning Commission (R2PC)
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MEETING MINUTES

August 11, 2022

17th Floor Commission Chambers • Jackson County Tower Building • Jackson, Michigan

Members Present: Mr. Eric Beda, At Large; Ms. Pat Gallagher, At Large; Ms. Nancy Hawley, At Large; Mr. Ted Hilleary, Education; Mr. Russ Jennings, At Large; and Mr. Corey Kennedy, Jackson County Board of Commissioners

Members Absent: Mr. Timothy Burns, At Large; Mr. Roger Gaede, Environment; and Mr. Jim Videto, Agriculture

Liaisons Present: Mr. Stephen Bezold, Associate Planner, and Mr. Brett Gatz, Intern

Others Present: None

Item 1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance.** Chair Hawley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance rose and joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2. **Public Comment.** None.

Item 3. **Approval of Minutes.** Comm. Kennedy made a motion, seconded by Comm. Hilleary, to **approve** the June 9, 2022, meeting minutes as presented. *The motion was approved unanimously.*

Item 4. **Approval of the Agenda.** Comm. Kennedy made a motion, seconded by Comm. Hilleary, to **approve** the August 11, 2022, meeting agenda as presented. *The motion was approved unanimously.*

Item 5. **Request(s) for Review, Comment, and Recommendation.**

a. **Consideration of Township Zoning Amendment(s).**

(1) **CZ | #22-10 | Leoni Township**

Staff summarized his report regarding the proposed text amendments pertaining to the authorization of Digital Billboards within Highway Business Districts for Off Site Signs. Staff advised County Planning Commissioners to recommend **approval** of the rezoning (please see the staff report).

Comm. Hilleary raised a question regarding what constitutes a nuisance to motor vehicles. Staff suggested that approval should include comments to clarify what constitutes a nuisance.

Comm. Kennedy made a motion, seconded by Comm. Hilleary, to recommend **approval with comments** of the proposed text amendment to the Leoni Township Board. *The motion was approved unanimously.*

(2) **CZ | #22-11 | Napoleon Township**

Staff summarized his report regarding the proposed rezoning of a property (ID #000-14-16-301-001-00) to 'Rural Residentail (RR)'. Staff advised County Planning Commissioners to recommend **approval** of the rezoning (please see the staff report).

Comm. Kennedy raised a concern regarding the proximity of the subject parcel to the waterline of Center Lake.

Comm. Gallagher made a motion, seconded by Comm. Jennings, to concur with the staff advisement to recommend **approval with comments** of the proposed 'RR' rezoning to the Napoleon Township Board. *The motion was approved unanimously.*

(3) **CZ | #22-12 | Napoleon Township**

Staff summarized his report regarding the proposed text amendment regarding accessory structure maximum heights and maintenance of animals conditional uses. If the text amendment is approved, the zoning ordinance would allow for increased heights for accessory structures and allow for the keeping of horses to be permitted as a conditional use. Staff advised County Planning Commissioners to recommend **approval** of the text amendment (please see the staff report).

Comm. Kennedy raised a concern regarding the number of horses to the acreage of the property.

Comm. Kennedy made a motion, seconded by Comm. Beda, to concur with the staff advisement to recommend **approval with comments** of the proposed text ammdements to the Napoleon Township Board. *The motion was approved unanimously.*

(4) **CZ | #22-13 | Napoleon Township**

Staff summarized his report regarding the proposed rezoning of two properties (ID #000-14-18-327-001-02 & ID #000-14-19-327-001-01), located off Brooklyn Road, to 'general commercial (GC)' from 'mobile home park (MHP)'. Staff advised County Planning Commissioners to recommend **approval** of the rezonings (please see the staff report).

Comm. Jennings made a comment regarding a creek that is on the property that the applicant had not made note of. The planning commission would like the township to note any environmental constraints this would pose.

Comm. Jennings made a motion, seconded by Comm. Hilleary, to concur with the staff advisement to recommend **approval with comments** of the proposed 'GC' rezoning to the Napoleon Township Board. *The motion was approved unanimously.*

- b. **Consideration of Master Plan(s).** None.
- c. **Farmland & Open Space Preservation Program (PA 116) application(s).** None.

Item 6. **Other Business.**

a. **Unfinished Business** – *Jackson County Master Plan*

Commissioners reviewed the full draft of the Jackson County Master Plan prior to sending it to the County Board of Commissioners for adoption. Comm. Hilleary made a motion, seconded by Comm. Jennings, to **approve** the master plan. *The motion was approved unanimously.*

a. **New Business** – None.

Item 7. **Public Comment.** None.

Item 8. **Commissioner Comment.**

Chair Hawley reported on the efficacy and lifetime usability of solar panels following questions at the May 2022 planning commission meeting. She provided additional materials that provide more answers regarding the disposal, recycling, and repair of solar panels.

Item 9. **Adjournment.** Chair Hawley adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Stephen Bezold, Recording Secretary