

MERCER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

The Mercer County Planning Commission met Thursday evening February 20th, 2025 at the Beulah Civic Center, Eslinger called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. C.T.

Members Present: Casey Voigt, Mike Eslinger, Rick Bauman, Shane Cole, Chris Renner, Jesse Schiferl, Joey Neumiller

Members Absent: Gerald Bieber, Kevin Hafner

Others Present: Glenn Murray, Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering Group), Jennifer M. Gooss (Donovan & Kaffar, PLLP), Dan Arens (Hazen Star)

Motion by Bauman, seconded by Neumiller, to approve the agenda, all members present voted “aye”, motion passed. Motion by Cole, seconded by Schiferl, to approve the minutes of December 18, 2024. All members present voted “aye”, motion passed.

New Business

ZONING CASE 25-02-01

This an application from Glenn Murray to rezone a parcel of land from Ag to Commercial. The proposed application is to construct 30 – 12X30 storage units, with possibly more in the future. The subject parcel is located approximately 13 miles North of Beulah. It consists of 12.67 acres and is located within the SW4NW4 of Sec 16 T146N R87W of the 5th Principle Meridian, Mercer County ND. The pad will be 60X200 versus the 30x400 that was initially submitted with the application. Murray has his approach approved through NDDOT. The units will have power. Some outdoor parking and storage will also be available. He will have a security type fence and cameras. Eslinger brought up drainage concerns. Board would like Murray to get the water board’s approval. Schiferl expressed his concerns with delays this may cause for the project. Bauman made a motion for approval pending water board approval and storage units only. Schiferl seconded. All members present voted “aye”, motion passed.

Jennifer Gooss and Jennifer Malloy introduced themselves. They will be heading up the rewrite project. They handed out proposed schedule to the board. The board had questions on extra meetings, format, bringing ordinances up to date and having checklists. Discussion on industry in county. Discussion on building permits and fee schedule. Discussion on how specific the county wants the ordinances and enforcement. Much discussion on wind and solar ordinances.

Voigt mentioned the ore moratorium was lifted at the Commission meeting today.

Motion by Schiferl, seconded by Bauman to move Oct 16th, 2025 meeting to Oct 23rd, 2025. All voted aye

Motion to adjourn made by Schiferl, seconded by Cole. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

APPROVED:
Jen Neumiller, Secretary

ATTEST:
Mike Eslinger, Chairman