

**Wabedo Township Planning Commission
Monthly Meeting
August 4, 2016**

Present: Craig Anderson, Marilynne Davis, Al Chacey, Gary Ewald and Tom Lund

Excused: Phil Blott

Call to order: Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve or amend Agenda: M/S/P: Davis/Ewald. The agenda was approved.

Approve or amend minutes: M/S/P: Davis/Chacey. The minutes of the July 7, 2016 meeting were approved.

Public Input

1. No Public Input.

Old Business

1. Variance Enforcement: Commissioner Davis reported on her research with surrounding counties to learn about any existing variance follow-up or enforcement procedures:

Beltrami – done by complaints only.

Hubbard – done by request or complaints up to one year after issue. Complaints referred to county attorney.

Aitkin – Environmental Services responsible for follow-up. Fine for non-compliance or failure to correct is 5 times the initial cost/fees.

Crow Wing – Environmental Services responsible for follow-up within 2 years of issue. After 2 years Land Services is responsible.

Itaska – Created a new position within Environmental Services to manage all variance applications including compliance.

Chairman Anderson researched past variances that may be in need of follow-up and presented a list of 14 from the recent past. Commissioners reviewed these and found most to be sufficiently complex to deserve proper follow-up or monitoring for compliance. One option discussed is to request the County to include a statement in the variance application that allows township planning commission members to access the property and observe that construction is compliant with the original terms of the variance application. Anderson will bring these issues to the Board of Supervisors.

New Business

1. YMCA Camp Olson Variance Request: Commissioners agreed to recommend this request be granted.

2. Possible new communications tower: Chairman Anderson reported that Verizon Wireless is investigating the procedure required for tower construction. Proposed location is unknown. Anderson will respond in writing.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, September 1, at 5:30pm.

Adjournment:

Respectively submitted,

Approved,

Tom Lund, Secretary

Craig L. Anderson, Chairman