

**Barry County Planning Commission  
Minutes  
August 28, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Clyde Morgan at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Tyden Building located at 121 South Church Street in Hastings. The Planning Commissioners in attendance included Morgan, Levi Bolthouse, Jack Miner, Ben Geiger, Robert Vanderboegh, and Jack Nadwornik. Michael Barney was absent. Others in attendance included James McManus, Wes Kahler, John McCain, and Cindy Vujea.

Motion by Geiger to approve the agenda as printed. Support by Bolthouse. All ayes – motion carried.

The Planning Commissioners reviewed the Minutes of the July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Meeting. Motion by Nadwornik to approve the Minutes as printed. Support by Vanderboegh. All ayes - motion carried.

**BUSINESS**

**Election of Officers**

Chair - Geiger nominated Morgan to serve as chair. Support by Vanderboegh.

Geiger motioned to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Support by Vanderboegh. All ayes - motion carried.

Vice Chair - Nadwornik nominated Vanderboegh. Support by Miner. All ayes - motion carried.

Secretary - Morgan nominated Barney to serve as secretary. Support by Vanderboegh. All ayes - motion carried.

**Barry Township Strategic Plan**

Wes Kahler, Barry Township Supervisor, introduced John McCain of Viridis to discuss the Strategic Plan.

McCain distributed a synopsis of the plan and went through a PowerPoint presentation. He noted each segment of the plan had goals and objectives to tie into the overall mission statement.

Mc Cain noted that both Delton and Hickory Corners had concept plans created to illustrate how the township envisioned future growth. He said that there may need to be zoning amendments to make the vision work.

Cindy Vujea, who works for Barry County Economic Development, noted that several projects were in the works including Cadwallader Park in Hickory Corners being redone.

Vujea commented on Barry Township's participation in the Redevelopment Ready Communities initiative. She distributed the township self-assessment to the Planning Commissioners and noted there are several aspects of a certified RRC community. She said the Master Plan and Zoning portions will need to be approved by the County. She estimated that the certification process would take three years to finish.

McManus noted that the Master Plan would need to be amended to incorporate the Strategic Plan into the document. He noted the Delton area has a narrative in the plan that will need to be expanded and a Zoning Plan will need to be added to the document.

McManus referenced the Convis Township Notice of Master Plan and said the County will need to send out a Notice of Master Plan Amendment similar to the township notice.

Motion by Vanderboegh to authorize the Planning Department to send the Notice of Master Plan Amendment to the surrounding communities. Support by Miner. All ayes - motion carried.

McManus noted the goal is for the Master Plan to be amended by March of 2018.

Miner asked if any other counties were assisting communities on their RRC certification. McManus said he was unaware of any.

Miner asked if the Master Plan would need to be redone. McManus said any update would likely be started after the 2020 census was completed.

Bolthouse asked how much funding would be needed for the projects.

Vujea said some of the larger projects, like a water tower, could exceed 1 million dollars, but there are grants and other funding opportunities potentially available.

McManus noted the sewer extension to Gilmore Car Museum could exceed 1 million dollars, but small projects like facade improvements could be a few thousand dollars.

Nadwornik asked if MDOT had been contacted about making M-43 a Class A road. Vujea noted that is not on the MDOT priority list.

Nadwornik asked about the North Country Trail. Vujea noted the wetlands south of Delton are a challenge so the Trail is looking at options.

Geiger asked if Hastings was a RRC-certified community. Vujea said no.

Motion by Geiger to adjourn. Support by Vanderboegh. All ayes – motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



James McManus