

BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
Bridgewater Township Government Center
Thursday, August 29, 2019
Official Minutes

- ❖ John Klockeman called the meeting to order at 7:00
- ❖ Members present were John Klockeman, Ray Larson, Larry Alderks, Jeff Johnson, Kurt Schrader, Frances Boehning, Bruce Morlan, and Jim & Carolyn Braun. Supervisors present were Gary Ebling, Glen Castore, and John Holden.
- ❖ Ray Larson made a motion to approve the agenda with additions to the Miscellaneous section, Bruce Morlan seconded, all approved.
- ❖ Bruce Morlan made a motion to approve the minutes of July 25, 2019, Larry Alderks seconded the motion, all approved.

- ❖ Open Forum: Closed at 7:06.

- ❖ Public Hearings: None

- ❖ Old Business:
 - The Supervisors reviewed the current status of the possible incorporation of the township.
 - Comprehensive Plan Discussion
 - A discussion was held regarding agriculture in the township.
 - It was noted that more small producers are entering the area. For example: Seeds Farm, CSAs, and other hobby farms.
 - The Commission stated that the township needs to be welcoming to small farms.
 - The Comp Plan should state that the township encourages a variety of scales of farming.
 - The Rice County ordinances were reviewed. The ag-related businesses discussed and noted for inclusion in the plan include: Ag tourism, fertilizer plant, ag distribution/rail transportation, multi-modal ad distribution, ag equipment repair, loading facilities, hydroponic farming, aquaculture, food processing, and Rice County Ordinance 507.04 C1 a-f with “f” only in the industrial area. Other businesses to include in the area are: retreat centers, camp grounds, and bed & breakfast.

- ❖ New Business: None

- ❖ Miscellaneous:
 - Compliance Update
 - Jim Braun reviewed the old barn on 145th. It is being taken down.
 - Mr. Braun will continue to follow up with people that do not have permits.
 - A recent conversation with Terry Overn regarding reclamation of the Dundas Wash Plant was reviewed. It was noted that the lakes are part of the reclamation process.
 - John Klockeman noted that there were complaints regarding Jesse Jacobson's property. Jim Braun stated that he looked at the property today and everything looks good. He will continue to monitor the area.
 - Larry Alderks asked that the following be added to future discussion:
 - Race Track at I35
 - Bike Trail
 - Construction/house combination

- ❖ Adjourn – Bruce Morlan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm, Ray Larson seconded, all approved.