



## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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**Minutes of the Public Meeting of the  
Morrow County Planning Commission  
Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 7:00 p.m.  
Port of Morrow Riverfront Center  
Boardman, Oregon**

**Morrow County Planning Commissioners Present:** Chair Jeff Wenzholz, Stacie Ekstrom, Wayne Seitz, Karl Smith

**Members Excused:** Vice Chair Mifflin Devin, Stanley Anderson

**Member Absent:** Brian Thompson, Rod Taylor, Greg Sweek

**Morrow County Staff Present:** Stephanie Case, Planner I/Interim Planning Director; Stephen Wrecsics, GIS Planning Technician; Shambra Cooper, Outreach Coordinator; Justin Nelson, County Counsel; Dianna Strong, Office Assistant.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes of December 10, 2019 were tabled to the hearing on February 25, 2020 due to the lack of quorum.

**Election of Officers:**

Election of Officers for the year was tabled to the hearing on February 25, 2020 due to the lack of quorum.

**Land Partition LP-N-479-20 and Replat R-N-055-20:** Terry Thompson, applicant, and Judith Thompson Schneider and Janet Thompson Bliss, owners. The property is described as tax lot 2801 of Assessor's Map 3S 26; tax lot 2200 of 3S 27; and tax lot 801 of 4S 27. The property is zoned EFU and located approximately 5 miles SE of Heppner on Sanford Canyon Lane. Request is to partition a 748-acre parcel to create two parcels. Criteria for approval includes the Morrow County Zoning Ordinance Article 3 Section 3.010 Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) and Morrow County Subdivision Ordinance Article 5 Land Partitioning. This hearing is continued to February 25, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at the Bartholomew Building in Heppner, Oregon.

**Other Business:**

Interim Planning Director Stephanie Case introduced Shambra Cooper, Outreach Coordinator. Shambra handles all of the behind-the-scenes preparation for our meetings (agendas, public notices) and other business needed by the Planning Commissioners (reappointments, for example). Most of the time when you receive something by mail or e-mail, other than Findings, it comes from Shambra. She also is heavily involved with Code Enforcement.

Interim Planning Director Case handed out the Planning Update that she provided to the Board of Commissioners two weeks ago. Last week, January 15, the Board of Commissioners approved the zone change on Paterson Ferry Road, that was in front of the Planning Commission four months ago (October 2019). The Port of Morrow was the applicant. The second reading and adoption will happen at the Board of Commissioners' meeting on February 5, 2020, at 9:00 a.m., at the Bartholomew Building in Heppner.

GIS Planning Technician Stephen Wrecsics has been working on wind energy development activities. Construction has begun at Orchard Wind. Work is starting for Shepherd's Flat North (Gilliam County), Central and South (Gilliam and Morrow), replacing blades to install longer turbines.

At the request of Chair Wenholtz, Interim Planning Director Case gave a brief update on what's happening in the Planning Department and upcoming changes. She reported that last week a candidate for the position of Community Development Director visited the area and had a second interview. Once the Board of Commissioners makes a decision, we will know more. If this candidate is offered the job, and accepts, it may take two months to make the move. After that, the new Community Development Director may have a part in interviewing and choosing the Planning Manager.

The next meeting of the Morrow County Planning Commission to hear regular business is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bartholomew Building, in Heppner, Oregon.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dianna Strong