

THE MORTON COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION MINUTES JUNE 26, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Kist called the Morton County Planning and Zoning Commission meeting to order at 5:30P.M. June 26, 2024, in the Morton County Commission Room, 210 2nd Ave NW, Mandan, North Dakota. Commissioners present were Zachmeier, Buckley, Tomac, Rohr, Ell Jr, Braun, Berger and Wald. Also present were County Planner Natalie Pierce and Auditor Deputy Eckroth.

Rohr moved and Braun seconded to approve the agenda. All voting aye, motion carried.

Ell Jr. moved and Braun seconded to approve the minutes from April 24 and May 22, 2024. All voting aye, motion carried.

Chairman Kist opened the Public Hearing – request from Chad Gartner for the final plat of a short-form subdivision known as Gwyther Third Subdivision on approximately 1.52 acres in the NW¼ of Section 11, Township 135N, Range 79W, Morton County.

Rohr moved and Berger seconded to recommend approval of the plat of the short-form subdivision known as Gwyther Third Subdivision, as the subdivision conforms to the regulations established in Article 7 of the Morton County Land Use Code and conforms to the land use priorities established in the 2045 Comprehensive Plan. All voting aye, motion carried.

Chairman Kist opened the Public Hearing – second reading of Resolution 30-2024-02 to impose a moratorium on the development of all carbon dioxide direct air capture and sequestration facilities until zoning standards can be developed for said use.

Buckley arrives.

Dawn Shepherd, New Salem would like to thank the board of commission and Planning & Zoning for taking on the task of placing a moratorium on carbon capture and sequestration facility as there is none defined in the Morton County Land Use Code. Shepherd would like to express appreciation to the commission for taking in consideration the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of Morton County.

Representatives from Retract spoke on behalf of the Carbon dioxide direct air capture and sequestration facilities.

Jay Larson, Almont Farmer & Rancher and former power plant worker understands why power plants capture carbon dioxide, stated that the government should not give money to pull carbon dioxide out of the air as we need carbon dioxide for plants, trees, grass and our crops.

Delvin Hitchcock, New Salem stated his concerns with the carbon capture and does not feel it is necessary.

Ell Jr moved and Wald seconded to recommend approval of the moratorium as read to the County Commission. All voting aye, motion carried.

Chairman Kist opened the Public Hearing – first reading of Resolution 30-2024-03 to impose a moratorium on the development of all data centers and cryptocurrency mining facilities until zoning standards can be developed for said use.

Rohr moved and Tomac seconded to adjourned the meeting at 6:15pm.