

**ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE
Department of Land Management**

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
September 17th, 2009 9:00 AM
COUNTY BOARD ROOM**

Chairman Halderson called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

Committee members present: Paul Halderson, Gerry Van Tassel, Dick Kiekhoefer, Roland Thompson, Michelle Haines, Rick Geske and Dave Quarne. Chuck Zauner was not in attendance.

Staff/Advisors present: Kevin Lien and Virginette Gamroth. Carla Doelle was present for the public hearing.

Others present: Kyle Suchla, Dean Suchla, Daniel and Ruth Halama, Tim Geiger from Gold N' Plump.

Chairman Halderson stated that the Open Meeting Law had been complied with through notifications and posting.

Approval of Agenda – Kiekhoefer made a motion to approve the agenda, Thompson seconded, motion carried unopposed.

Public Hearing – Conditional Use Permit – Kyle Suchla – Poultry Breeder Barn - Town of Arcadia
Chairman Halderson opened the public hearing at 9:03 AM. Haines read the public hearing notice aloud. Lien informed the Committee that Suchla's proposal is in Section 32 in the Town of Hale and almost all of Hale is zoned Residential-8 (R-8). Lien stated in the Zoning Ordinance, R-8 states that animals can be pastured, etc, but when livestock is "housed" a Conditional Use Permit is required. Lien added that when he was at the Town of Hale planning meeting he suggested a change to the zoning map. Lien stated the town constituents were very adamant about leaving most of the zoning at Residential – 8 to facilitate housing development. Lien turned the meeting over to Carla Doelle from the Dept of Land Management as she has been working with Suchla on this project. Doelle welcomed any questions from the Committee. Doelle stated Suchla is building a poultry breeder barn for Gold N' Plump. Doelle added the birds are in the barn for eleven months of the year with a one time clean out period. Suchla has obtained "spreading" agreements for the manure. Doelle stated that the operation would contain 184 ½ animal units. Lien added that the public hearing was posted in the newspaper for two weeks and letters were sent to adjoining property owners. Lien received no responses for or against. Lien stated, according to the aerial map, this facility will be located south of County Road E. No residences are in the immediate vicinity. There is an existing cemetery nearby. Van Tassel questioned whether or not this was the Wagner Cemetery? Lien verified that it was.

Testimony in Favor – Dean Suchla registered in favor. Lien read a letter from the Town of Hale, signed by Chairman David G. Berg, which stated the Town does support a Conditional Use Permit being issued to Kyle Suchla.

Testimony in Opposition - No testimony was give in opposition

Quarne made a motion to close the public hearing at 9:09 AM, Van Tassel seconded, motion carried unopposed.

Motion was made by Van Tassel, seconded by Haines to grant the Conditional Use Permit to Kyle Suchla for the building of a poultry breeder barn in the Town of Hale. Motion carried with no opposition.

Budget Update – Lien informed the Committee that he and Vickie Stalheim had attended the budget hearings held shortly after the last E & LU Committee meeting. Lien reported that things went well. Lien added there were a lot of questions about the Surveyors' budget, no money was cut, but there were a lot of questions as to whether the timeline to completion was accurate. Lien stated he talked to the County Surveyor, Joe Nelsen, and Nelsen stated he would try to hold to the timeline as best he could, but Nelsen is learning that the terrain in Arcadia and Ettrick is the toughest in the County. Also, Arcadia has three congressional townships within it and Ettrick has two congressional townships so it is actually like doing five towns. The 2012 deadline for remonumentation completion will remain the focus. Lien continued regarding budgets, \$4.00 per gallon (\$10,000) for gas had been budgeted; the Exec./Finance Committee took \$2,000 of the amount. Lien added the rest of the budget stayed in tact.

Lien informed the Committee that the Exec./Finance Committee has asked for a Joint Meeting date with the E & LU Committee. Several dates were suggested. Lien stated he would notify Committee members of the meeting date after talking to County Board Chair Semb.

Next Regular Meeting Date and tour date was tentatively set for Wednesday, October 14th, 2009 at 9:00 AM in the County Board Room.

Lien reminded the Committee that the public hearing for the County Comprehensive Plan is set for November 4th, 2009. Lien stated County Planner, Andrea Sveen is working on condensing the Comprehensive Plan and if Committee members would like a copy please notify Sveen. Lien also asked that Committee members bring the plan they are provided from Sveen to the public hearing to save copying costs.

Thompson made a motion to adjourn at 9:17 AM, Quarne seconded, motion carried unopposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginette Gamroth, Recording Secretary

Michelle Haines
Secretary