

Latah County Planning Commission

December 2, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Heick at 5:40 p.m.

In addition to Chairman Heick were: Tony Johnson, Kendria Cada, Christine Nauman, and Suvia Judd.

As Suvia had to leave quickly, she reported that she has done some research and will report more at the next meeting. She briefly mentioned that research is showing that there are health concerns for nearby residents of windmill farms as they give off a high frequency noise that humans cannot hear. There are much quieter sounds in some of the different types of windmills such as vertical access blades. She suggested trying residential wind turbines on an internet search.

At this time, Chairman Heick asked for correction to the minutes. As there were none, minutes were approved as read.

Chairman Heick read the agenda overview.

Getting back to the windmill discussion, Tony suggested that we consider a maximum height of 40' and maximum wind blade size of 3'. He suggested that the Zoning Commission will determine any changes based on where the windmill will be located on the property as to how far from the property line and how close to the nearest residence.

The suggested hours of operation might be 11:00 pm to 5:00 pm during the week and if the windmill is not noise-free, be shut off during the weekends. It was also suggested that all new or replaced windmills be subject to a public hearing.

Tom Moore will be our new Planning Commission member from Deary to start in either January or February.

We will have one more meeting to finalize the windmill issue and then it could go to the public hearing. All information will be put on the county website in advance so everyone has an opportunity to review the changes.

We will vote on this at the next meeting

Our guest Brent said that peak energy time is from 5-11 pm for windmills and that we may want to rethink this information. He also said we might want to look at DB radio antennae height and setbacks. Also, he suggested we look through our standards to look for solar panels in historical residential neighborhoods.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm. The next meeting will be December 16.