

**CASTLE ROCK TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION and BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SPECIAL MEETING
June 22, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.**

A special posted meeting for both the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors of Castle Rock Township was held on Monday, June 22, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission members present were Jon Juenke, Chair; Jeff Partington, Vice-Chair; Gerald Larson, Mary Ann Enggren, and Barbara Lang, Secretary. Supervisors present were Sandy Weber, Chair; Russ Zellmer, Vice-Chair; and Dave Nicolai. Also present were Buzz Ehlers, Robert Fashingbauer, Al Singer, Mike Slavik and Rhonda Rademacher, Treasurer.

Jon Juenke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA:

- **Jeff Partington / Gerald Larson made a motion to approve the Planning Commission agenda. 5 ayes. Motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA REVIEW / APPROVE:

1. PC 5-18-15 PC Regular Meeting Minutes

Mary Ann Enggren / Gerald Larson made a motion to approve the minutes. 5 ayes. Motion carried.

REVIEW / APPROVE: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Al Singer, Land Conservation Manager from Dakota County, and Robert Fashingbauer, MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR) were present to provide informational handouts, give an overview, and answer questions regarding property in the Hampton Woods. Two landowners with 190 acres, 61 of which are in Castle Rock Township, and the remaining 131 acres in Hampton Township, have been working with Dakota County for several years to sell their property as fee title rather than as conservation easements. Dakota County has secured state Outdoor Heritage Funds for 75% of this purchase and the remaining 25% is being paid by Dakota County. After the sale is complete, The County Commissioners will establish this area as a Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and the land will be transferred to the DNR, so it will become a State Wildlife Management Area.

Topics/questions discussed were as follows:

The land has been independently appraised and is being purchased at or just below appraisal value. The actual sale price will be a matter of public record once the County Board of Commissioners approves the transaction. PILT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) will come from the State to the Townships involved as an annual payment, rather than property taxes.

The boundaries of the WMA shown on the map provided include more of the Hampton Woods than the specific land that is being purchased at this time to establish possible future boundaries for the WMA. No eminent domain can be enforced to add additional land to the WMA. Future additions to the WMA must be within the boundaries established on the map provided, and landowners within those boundaries must come forward to offer their property for sale to the WMA. The DNR cannot solicit to purchase any additional land.

Access to the WMA will be from State Highway 50 onto Collier Court. A small gravel parking lot will be established for no more than five or six vehicles. The DNR will be working with the nearby residents to establish the best place for this parking area.

Dakota County will be surveying the legal boundaries, and letters will be sent out to all adjacent property owners as well as all property owners within the proposed WMA area explaining the project.

The boundaries will be posted with metal signs placed every 300' to 500'. As many as necessary can be installed to ensure that the WMA is well marked. Conservation officers will patrol the area as often as possible. Normally parking areas are checked once a week, or as complaint/concern calls come in.

Al Singer will provide the handout information in electronic form to the Township Clerk so it can be included on the Township website. Either Mr. Singer or Mr. Fashinger is available for questions if the township receives any calls.

Jeff Partington / Mary Ann Enggren made a motion to adjourn. 5 ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Lang, Town Clerk

Attest: Jon Juenke, Chair Castle Rock Planning Commission