

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
May 28, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the St. Joseph County Planning Commission was held on Wednesday, May 28, 2025 in the MSU Extension Office, 612 East Main Street, Centreville, Michigan. Chairman Horton presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Warren Atkins, Edward Bell, Gregg Dohm, Robert Horton, Lon Huffman, Doug Pagels, Mark Ripplinger, Rick Shaffer and Joe Woodin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Elena Meadows

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Anderson, Paige Willis and Pat Kulikowski

Chairman Horton called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Pat requested correction of the date on agenda to May 28. Chair Horton asked for the following additions: Sturgis Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment; Nottawa Township Farmland Agreement Application. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Joe Woodin, supported by Gregg Dohm. Motion carried. A motion to approve the minutes of April 30, 2025 as presented was made by Joe Woodin, supported by Lon Huffman. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Paige Willis inquired on date of Planning Commission's annual report, why Pledge of Allegiance is not said at meeting and Master Plan hard copy. Chair Horton stated annual report will be presented to Board of Commissioners on June 17 at 5:00 pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

County Master Plan Update. No further updates. Just waiting for public hearing in July.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sherman Township – Zoning Ordinance Amendments. The first amendment pertains to Battery Energy Storage Systems. A motion was made by Warren Atkins, supported by Ed Bell, to forward SMPC's comments to Sherman Township for their review and consideration. Motion carried. The second amendment pertains to swimming pools or spas. A motion was made by Rick Shaffer, supported by Doug Pagels to forward SMPC's comments to Sherman Township for their review and consideration. Motion carried.

Sturgis Township – Zoning Ordinance Amendments. The amendment pertains to keeping of hens. A motion was made by Joe Woodin, supported by Mark Ripplinger, to concur with the Sturgis Township's recommendation. Motion carried.

Nottawa Township – Farmland Agreement Application (PA 116). Two applications were received for Warren Link. Doug Pagels said they appear to be the same parcel and he felt the applications were not complete. A motion was made by Rick Shaffer, supported by Doug Pagels, to get further information. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pat Kulikowski said Richard Anderson was present tonight as he is interested in serving on the Planning Commission. Mr. Anderson introduced himself and gave some background information.

Being no further business, a motion was made by Warren Atkins, supported by Lon Huffman, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Kulikowski".

Patricia Kulikowski
Secretary