

August 6, 2019
HAND COUNTY COMMISSION
ACTING AS THE HAND COUNTY ZONING BOARD
COURTROOM, MILLER, SOUTH DAKOTA

The Hand County Board of Commissioners convened as the Hand County Zoning Board at 1:00 PM for the purpose of holding a public hearing in regards to an application for a Conditional Use Permit (C.U.P.) from Ratio, LLC for a swine production facility to be located in the NW1/4 and NE ¼, Section 32 (111-67, Pearl Township.

Board members present included, Chairman J.D. Wangsness, members Jim Jones, Gib Rodgers, and Greg Palmer. Member Luke Wernsmann was excused. Also, in attendance was Terry Augspurger, Hand County Zoning Director and Arlen Gortmaker, Emergency Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Wangsness explained the format and purpose of the meeting and set out some guidelines for those offering testimony to follow. Wangsness then called for testimony from the proponents of the application for C.U.P.

Kirk Aughenbaugh, landowner introduced himself and turned it over to Nick Fitzgerald of Pipestone Vet Services who explain in detail the project including its location, animal head count, waste disposal, animal disposal, water consumption, storm water discharge, and smell. Several of the items discussed are awaiting approval from state agencies. Fitzgerald said a meeting with the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources is planned for later in August. Fitzgerald asserted that their plans met or exceeded the standards required of such a facility.

The floor was then opened for opponent testimony. Some of the general concerns of the opponents centered on environmental impacts, economic health, health and wellbeing and social issues. The speakers included Jim Eschenbaum, Teresa Eschenbaum, Phyllis Yearous, Gary Yearous, Lori Miller, Sherry VanZee, Tember Beckett, Candice Lockner, Kenette Rogers, Tadd Engelmann, Pat Moriarty, Troy Beckett, Haley Schnathorst Rich Richer, Eleanor Iverson, Kathy Tyler, Renea Morog, Deborah Williams (US-Fish and Wildlife Service), Matt Schwarz (US-Fish and Wildlife Service) and Mitch Peterson, attorney.

The chairman then called for rebuttal testimony.

Nick Fitzgerald recapped information on animal numbers, and some other questioned items.

The board then discussed the testimony and decided to take no action so each may study the testimony and allow for member Wernsmann to return to the discussion.

Chairman Wangsness declared the meeting adjourned.

James D. Wangsness, Chairman
Hand County Zoning Board

(Attest)

Doug DeBoer, Hand County Auditor

Minutes by Terry Augspurger, Director.