

DAKOTA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION: July 15, 2025 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Dakota County Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Martin Rohde and the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Roll Call: Present were: Scott Bousquet, Ron Collins, Tim Decker, Ron Gill, Gordon Hegge, Steven Lieber, Dick McCabe, Harold Moes and Martin Rohde. Absent: None. Also, present: Planning and Zoning Administrator Joe O'Neill and Dakota County Commissioner Rick Bousquet. Public present: See Attached List

Notice was made regarding the Open Meeting Act posted on the wall.

Moved by Ron Collins, second by Scott Bousquet, to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2025 meeting minutes. Consent unanimous. Motion carried.

At 7:04 Chair Martin Rohde opened a public hearing for the purpose of giving citizens the opportunity to offer support, opposition, or make neutral comments regarding a request from Sternwheeler Solar Project, LLC for a Conditional Use Permit at the property located at Section 10-11, 14-16, 21-23, 25, 26-28, Township 28 N, Range 8E on approximately 2,900 acres for a Solar Overlay District (SOD) as well as a request from Sternwheeler Solar Project, LLC for a Conditional Use Permit at the property located at Section 10-11, 14-16, 21-23, 25, 26-28, Township 28 N, Range 8E on approximately 2,461 acres for the construction and operation of the Sternwheeler Solar Project comprising of a solar photovoltaic and battery energy storage system. There were a lot of questions presented to the Planning Commission and to the Mission Energy representatives regarding the solar farm. The majority of the public present was against the solar farm. Public hearing was closed at 8:39

Moved by Tim Decker, second by Ron Gill to table the planning commission's recommendation for a conditional use permit for a SOD until the public has an opportunity to get all their questions answered and voice their concerns. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Moved by Tim Decker, second by Harold Moes to table the planning commission's recommendation for a conditional use permit for a solar photovoltaic and battery energy storage system until the public has an opportunity to get all their questions answered and voice their concerns. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Ethan Frazier with Mission Energy stated that he will set up an open house for questions and answers for the public. If anyone present wants notification of the meeting to make sure they signed in with an email or a way for them to be contacted.

Miscellaneous and old business. Tabled item regarding the 66 Conditional Use Permits from Summit Carbon Solutions will remain tabled. Permits: Anthony Gill- storm shelter-Jackson, Randy Jessen- storage shed-Hubbard, Kevin & Sue Leinart – storage shed – Dakota City.

Marty opened up the floor to public comment. No comment

Moved by Steven Lieber, second by Scott Bousquet to adjourn. Consent unanimous. Motion carried
Meeting was duly adjourned at 9:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Jolene Gubbels