
**PLUMAS COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Minutes of the Meeting of March 7, 2019

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Dr. Robert Abbott, *Chair (District 1)*
Moorea Hoffman Stout, *Commissioner (District 2)*
Jeff Greening, *Commissioner (District 3)*
Larry Williams, *Commissioner (District 4)*
John Olofson, *Vice-Chair (District 5)*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice- Chair John Olofson calls the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Dr. Robert Abbott, Jeff Greening, Larry Williams, John Olofson
Commissioners Absent: Moorea Hoffman Stout

Also in attendance (*Supervisors and staff*)

Sharon Thrall, Supervisor District 3
Jeff Engel, Supervisor District 5
Charles White, Building Official
Randy Wilson, Planning Director
Rebecca Herrin, Assistant Planning Director
Tim Evans, Assistant Planner
Gretchen Stuhr, Deputy County Counsel III

IV. CONSENT ITEMS

A. *There are no changes to the agenda.*

B. *M/S/C: Williams/Olofson/4-0 to approve the minutes from the meetings of February 7, 2019 and February 21, 2019.*

V. PLANNING COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS/COMMENTS: *None.*

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

There are no public comments.

VII. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM: PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING PLUMAS COUNTY CODE SECTION 9-2.407 OF ARTICLE 4 OF CHAPTER 2 OF TITLE 9.FENCES

The proposed ordinance will amend the zoning code regarding fences to bring the code into line with provisions of the California Building Code and will add language encouraging the use of wildlife-friendly fencing in order to implement General Plan policy COS 7.2.9.

Assistant Planning Director Herrin introduces the fence ordinance. Commissioner Greening objects to the section regarding smooth wire fencing on lowest position ten (10") inches above ground level (Section 9-2.407(i): *If the perimeter fence is for the purpose of enclosure of sheep, the lowest wire shall be no more than ten (10") inches above the ground that was added at the workshop.*

Commissioner Williams asks when building permits are required. Building Official Charles White responds that any fence above seven (7') feet or any fence above eight (8') feet in industrial zones require building permits.

M/S/C: Olofson/Greening/4-0 to approve the amendments to the fence ordinance.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM: PROPOSED ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING A PERMANENT BAN ON THE CULTIVATION OF CANNABIS (MARIJUANA) IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF PLUMAS COUNTY

The proposed ordinance will establish a permanent ban on cannabis cultivation, providing exceptions for cultivation of industrial hemp, in compliance with State law, and for personal cultivation of cannabis of not more than six plants. The adoption of this ordinance is in compliance with Board of Supervisors direction of December 11, 2018 and the temporary moratorium ordinance adopted by the Board of Supervisors (17-1107).

Herrin gives presentation on the proposed ordinance. Planning Director Wilson explains that this ordinance is specifically for the commercial cultivation of cannabis, but other use for cannabis, such as manufacturing and retail sales, are not permitted as they are not listed in the zoning code. Commissioner Greening is concerned that requirements for cultivation of hemp are not listed in this ordinance. Herrin explains that hemp is exempt under certain conditions of state law. Personal cultivation of six plants is also exempt under this ordinance.

Chair Abbott opens the public hearing at 10:20 am.

Joseph Munoz of the Cannabis Citizens Group speaks to the Commission. His group is concerned with commercial activity but this ordinance only covers cultivation. His group is very pleased that the ordinance represents the overwhelming number of the population against cannabis.

The public hearing is closed at 10:23 am.

M/S/C: Williams/Greening/4-0 to approve the ordinance banning commercial cultivation of cannabis.

IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/ON-GOING PROJECT UPDATES:

None.

X. CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Wilson explains that Assistant Planner Tim Evans is doing research on the proposed backyard chicken ordinance. Herrin will bring forth an ordinance establishing land use density and

intensity standards. Evans is preparing a staff report for the Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance to go before the Board of Supervisors.

Commissioner Greening asks about the Flood Plain Ordinance. Commissioner Abbott inquires how the Flood Plain Ordinance would impact the City of Portola. Wilson responds that the City has its own FEMA FIRM maps and the County's regulations do not apply within the City.

Wilson discusses the dam inundation map for area of Greenville located below the Round Valley Reservoir. Wilson adds that the County tried to get copies of the dam inundation maps for the General Plan Update but were told they were confidential. Supervisor Thrall explains that the Greenville maps were prepared under a grant to the university and that is why there were made public.

Commissioner Williams mentions that the Land Use Update provided to the Commission mentions the High Sierra Rural Alliance appeal on pages 19-21. Wilson states that staff is compiling a potential consultants' list for the Housing Element update. He has had conversations with Housing and Community Development (HCD) and will budget for the update in the next fiscal year. There will be a need for hearings and workshops.

Discussion takes place on the Camp Fire and the ability of local builders to get through approvals subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Wilson states that he will email the list of new state legislation to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Williams wants to discuss the zoning code updates that are remaining on the list at the next meeting.

Supervisor Engel expresses concerns about personal cultivation and impacts to neighbors. Security is also a concern. He would like the remaining cannabis ordinances to be brought before the Board of Supervisors before October.

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

M/S/C: Greening/Williams/4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 am. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission will be held on March 21, 2019.



Dr. Robert Abbott, Chair
Plumas County Planning Commission



Rebecca Herrin, Assistant Planning Director