

1 **YAKIMA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**

2 **Regular Meeting Minutes**
3 **Wednesday, January 9, 2019, 5:30 PM**
4 **First Street Conference Room**
5 **223 N. First Street, Yakima, WA**
6
7

8 **I. Call to Order:** Ashley (Chair) called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
9

10 **A. Roll Call:** A quorum was present.

- 11 1. **Commissioners Present:** Ashley Garza, Doug Mayo, Jerry Mellen, Doug
12 Miller, and Jerry Craig. Jerry C. joined the meeting at 5:35 p.m.
- 13 2. **Commissioners Absent:** Mike Shuttleworth and Joe Walsh. (Both had
14 provided prior advance notice to the Planning Commission Coordinator of
15 their anticipated absences.)
- 16 3. **Yakima County Planning Staff Present:** Lisa Freund, Tommy Carroll, Noelle
17 Madera, Phil Hoge, Jacob Clay, Bridget Pechtcl, and Nate Paris.
18

19 **II. Old Business:** None.
20

21 **III. New Business:**

22 **A. Introduction of Lisa Freund – Public Services Director.**

23 Tommy introduced Lisa Freund. Lisa spoke of her experience working in Yakima
24 County Planning, appreciation and support for the planning commission.

25 **B. Introduction of Jacob Clay, Bridget Pechtcl, and Nate Paris – New Planning
26 Employees.**

27 Tommy introduced Jacob, Bridget, and Nate. Each of them spoke about their
28 current job experience and education.

29 **C. Coordination of meeting between Yakima County and City of Yakima Planning
30 Commissions.**

31 Tommy informed the planning commission (PC) that Yakima County got a request
32 from the City Yakima’s Planning Commission for a joint meeting with the county
33 planning commission, to discuss the city of Yakima’s Urban Growth Area
34 development. Tommy told the city’s planning manager that he would ask the
35 county planning commission if there was any interest. Jerry M. brought up a
36 comment made by the city planning commission chair, from the previous night’s
37 city council meeting, about a collaborative effort on H-2A housing issues and
38 concerns. Ashley commented on the agenda behind the joint meeting and that
39 the PC should not lose focus or get distracted from mission as determined by the
40 Board of Yakima County Commissioners (BOCC).
41

42 Discussion among the group concluded that H-2A housing issues in the city are not
43 the same as the county's issues. The PC agreed that Tommy could schedule a
44 possible joint evening meeting with the city at the First Street Conference Room.

45 **D. PC Officer Elections.**

46 Nominations for chair were opened. Ashley motioned to nominate Doug Mayo as
47 the chair and Jerry M. seconded the nomination. There were no further
48 nominations, nominations were closed, and there was no further discussion. The
49 chair called for the vote to elect Doug Mayo, with four in favor, no one opposed,
50 and Doug Mayo abstained from the vote. Doug Mayo was elected Chair, 4-0 in
51 favor and 1 abstained.

52
53 Nominations for vice-chair were opened. Doug Mayo nominated Doug Miller as
54 the vice-chair and Jerry C. seconded the nomination. There were no further
55 nominations, nominations were closed, and there was no further discussion. The
56 chair called for the vote to elect Doug Miller, with five in favor and no one
57 opposed. Doug Miller was elected Vice-Chair, 5-0.

58 **E. 2019 Long Range Work Plan.**

59 Tommy informed the PC about the layout of the work plan for the year. The work
60 will be staggered, and paperwork provided to the PC in binders. Ashley suggested
61 addressing the most critical and pending issues first. Tommy said the work entails
62 all that has been decided to bring forward but pending full approval. Doug Mayo
63 proposes to spend time on having longer, two to three-hour meetings, instead of
64 short half hour/hourly meetings in the summer.

65
66 **IV. Communications:**

67 **A. Reports of subcommittees and study groups.** None.

68 **B. Status report of cases before the BOCC - Ordinance No. 6-2018.** Staff informed the
69 planning commission that all of the 2018 biennial amendments were adopted and
70 approved by the BOCC. Doug Mayo asked if there were any questions or
71 concerns? Noelle mentioned that the only concern was the PC's
72 recommendation for the Williamson/Miocene Mineral Resource Overlay.
73 Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) submitted a letter with the
74 main concern of applying the Mineral Resource Overlay (MRO) on the entire 610-
75 acre parcel instead of the proposed 186 acres. WDFW felt that the SEPA review
76 did not adequately cover the entire parcel and interfered with their valuation
77 on the land exchange, if the entire parcel was in the MRO. They recommended
78 that staff move forward with the original proposal and staff took WDFW's
79 recommendations to the BOCC. At the board hearing, staff recommended to
80 apply the MRO only on the 186 acres and WDFW got up and spoke in favor of
81 supporting the proposal. All of the PC's recommendations were carried forward.
82 The amendments will not be effective until February 23, 2019 due to the 60-day
83 appeal period.

84 C. **Secretary's report.** More discussion about this year's staff proposed text
85 amendments for code fixes occurred. The Shoreline Master Plan (SMP) two-year
86 timeline (deadline of 2021), process, community participation plan, dedicated
87 website, and Water Resource mapping were also discussed.
88

89 Doug Miller asked about the county's well program. Tommy provided details
90 about the water rights program and procedural clarification. Doug Miller spoke
91 about his main concern with having to get his water metered for replacing an
92 existing residence. Planning staff informed the PC that county code exempts and
93 grandfathers in existing residences without having to get their water metered.
94

95 V. **Adjournment or continuance to a date, place, and time:** The next meeting to be held
96 on February 13, 2019, 5:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.
97

98 Minutes approved by the Planning Commission on 3/13/19.

99
100 Signed: 
101 Planning Commission, Chair
102

103
104 \\Nt2\Planning\Planning Commission\2011 - 2020\2019\Minutes Final\2019-01-09_Minutes_Final.docx