

**STEARNS COUNTY FEEDLOT REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
AT STEARNS COUNTY SERVICE CENTER WEST, ROOM 121B**

APPROVED MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2019 MEETING

Committee Members Present: Chair BethyJo Juetten, Dale Job, Dale Hegland, Ken Massmann and James Hemmesch

Committee Members Excused: Nathan Hylla, Brenda Postels, James Weller

Committee Members Absent: None

Others Present: None

Staff Members Present: Alyssa Westergren

The meeting was called to order by Chair BethyJo Juetten at 1:01 p.m.

Introductions of Feedlot Review Committee members and Environmental Services staff were made.

Approval of June 26, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the June 26, 2019 meeting. **James Hemmesch made a motion to approve the June 26, 2019 minutes, which was seconded by Dale Hegland. The motion carried unanimously.**

Anderson Family Farm Partnership – Crow Lake Township (P-012916)

Chair Juetten reviewed the status of the Anderson Family Farm Partnership CUP application. A petition was turned in to the Environmental Quality Board and the MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) was identified as the body who would review the petition. The MPCA determined that the site had the capacity to be larger than the application stated and would require an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW). Stearns County Environmental Services Department staff returned the application to the applicants because the proposed plan needed the EAW and approval through the state of Minnesota. There will be no action taken on the CUP application by the County Board.

DM Dingmann Farms LLC – Collegeville Township (P-013218)

Chair Juetten reviewed the Planning Commission recommendation for the DM Dingmann Farms LLC CUP application. The Feedlot Review Committee had recommended approval of staff conditions. On July 18, 2019, the Planning Commission recommended approval with the staff recommendations to the County Board. On July 30, 2019, the County Board approved the application with the Planning Commission recommendations.

John & Dorothy Funk LLC – Grove Township (P-014086)

Chair BethyJo Juetten gave an overview of the CUP application and staff report.

Staff Recommendations

If this application is approved, staff recommends the following conditions:

1. The owner shall maintain facilities that are in compliance with Land Use and Zoning Ordinance #439.

Feedlot Review Committee Discussion/Recommendations

Ken Massmann questioned if they have been doing their manure management plan since Environmental Services staff stated that they have been non-compliant. Chair Juetten stated that since the owners have over 300 animal units, the MPCA does not require that they submit a manure management plan, but the plan must be made available. The prior CUP from the County for the facility required the plan submittal to the Environmental Services. Chair Juetten also wanted to note that the manure management plan was submitted and will need to meet the MPCA's four-page checklist.

Chair Juetten noted that the applicant may also submit a proposal to amend the third condition of the 1999 CUP.

James Hemmesch stated that he believes that by submitting this request, they are trying to come back into compliance. Chair Juetten stated the CUP application submitted and approved in 1999 allowed for an animal unit increase, but the feedlot permit was not applied for. Chair Juetten stated that this CUP application does not propose any construction as the construction was done in 1999, so they are just requesting that the animal units be increased to what was approved in the prior CUP. Doing so would bring them back into compliance.

Motion was made by Dale Job, seconded by Ken Massmann, to recommend to the Planning Commission to approve the application with staff's condition as outlined. Motion carried unanimously.

Middendorf Family Farm LLC – Millwood Township (P-014174)

Chair BethyJo Juetten gave an overview of the CUP application and staff report.

Staff Recommendations

If this application is approved, staff recommends the following conditions:

1. The owner shall construct all proposed improvements according to plans, specifications, and guidelines submitted with the application, unless otherwise approved by the Environmental Services Department.
2. The applicant shall contact the Environmental Services Department within three days of construction completion so a post-construction inspection may be completed.
3. The owner shall not further encroach to a property line with proposed construction than what currently exists. If survey stakes are necessary to confirm this, the owner shall provide that for Environmental Services Department staff prior to the start of construction.

Feedlot Review Committee Discussion/Recommendations

James Hemmesch asked for further clarification on the staff's third condition. Chair Juetten responded that because there is only a two-foot space between the breezeway and the property line, it is difficult to see on the map. Survey stakes would allow a surveyor to mark the distance. As long as the breezeway does not get any closer to the property line, the Middendorf family will be allowed to have the breezeway in that space.

Motion was made by Dale Hegland, seconded by James Hemmesch, to recommend to the Planning Commission to approve the application with staff's conditions as outlined. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Discussion Items

August 13, 2019 Feedlot Tour

Chair Juetten shared that the surveys that were returned had positive feedback. Most said that it was put together and run very well. There was plenty to see and they enjoyed learning.

James Hemmesch shared that he thought it was interesting to be able to see some of the projects they have reviewed in the Feedlot Review Committee meetings completely finished.

Adjourn

With no further discussion, a motion was made by Dale Hegland, seconded by Dale Job, to adjourn the meeting at 1:46 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.