

Cato Township Planning Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The Cato Township Planning Commission met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 10 2023 at the Lakeview Community Center

**Meeting Called to order:**

Chairman Morrow called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:**

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Phil Morrow, Chairman                            | 3-year term ending December 2024 |
| Quannah Striker, Vice Chairman, acting Secretary | 3-year term ending December 2023 |
| Joe Main, Commissioner                           | 3-year term ending December 2025 |
| David Behrenwald, Cato Board Liaison             | Board term ending November 2024  |

**Others present:**

Danielle Bouchard, McKenna Land Planning  
6 members of public (all from Cato)

**Approval of Agenda:**

Morrow requested adding “complaint forms” to the new business section of the agenda. Striker motioned and Behrenwald supported to the approve the meeting agenda as amended. All in favor, motion carried

**March 8<sup>th</sup> 2023 Meeting Minutes:**

Behrenwald motioned and Striker supported to approve the March meeting minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried

**Public Comments – Agenda Items:**

No public comments were given during this time

**Zoning Administrator Update:**

Kelsey was not present and forwarded on the following permits for April to the Planning Commission

|                |                  |                                   |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| John Barber    | 10610 Bale Rd    | Pole Barn                         |
| David Kasinski | 11396 Hickory Dr | Variance for 23' Pole Barn Height |

**Board Liaison Update:**

Behrenwald reported the township board would like for the P.C. To appoint a new Zoning Board of Appeals member from the Planning Commission. He also stated that the Board has advertised the Planning Commission vacancy in the paper and website to get candidates to fill the open seat.

Behrenwald motioned and Striker supported appointing Joe Main to the vacant Zoning Board of Appeals position. All in favor, motion carried

**Old Business:**

Master Plan

Danielle Bouchard of McKenna Land Planning provided an in depth report of the project status, survey results, information about the public engagement appointment and the upcoming steps for the Master Plan. This report also included goals and objectives currently in our Master Plan and suggestions to improve the wording and verbiage in our Master Plan to better suit the townships needs.

Next steps for the Master Plan to include:

Public open house, on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Lakeview Community Center, this will allow the completion of the survey.

Public engagement results and analysis.

Finalizing of Goals and Objectives.

Draft of Master Plan to be ready at P.C. September meeting.

There was also discussion on mailing concerns on the survey post cards and low survey responses. A large number of surveys were undeliverable and concerns that some residents never received a survey were discussed with Bouchard.

### **Solar Ordinance:**

Work session will continue at the July 12<sup>th</sup> commission meeting.

### **New Business:**

**Blight** Discussion was given during Board meetings. They are working on getting a system or procedure together for having an enforceable process.

**Open Seat** The Board will appoint someone to this open seat before the next Planning Commission meeting.

**Complaint Form** Morrow presented an old form for filing complaints in Cato. He also included some other townships forms as examples and ways to improve our form and make the process for filing complaints and enforcing complaints better for the citizens of Cato Township

### **Public Comment:**

Morrow opened public comment at 7:10pm. The commission heard from the following:

Marcy Myers : Suggested having an ad run in the local paper for the open house and trying to get word out to our senior citizens that don't have technology access. Also wondered if the Village of Lakeview might help in spreading the word for the open house as well.

Lynne Bowen: Thoughts on how to get Cato Township and our facilities updated with technology. There was then a discussion about previous concerns and that the new Supervisor is on board with getting things updated and more with the times and technology that is available.

Jamie Snyder: Expressed security concerns at the Community Center. Explained a situation that involved a single employee working during the weekend for the Clerk for the election and having to lock the doors because of security

concerns while working in the building alone. She explained that having some form of security system could alleviate this concern and make it easier for the public to do business at the center.

Genny Towne: Asked that a Planning Commission member be present at the Township Boards budget workshop meeting. Also pointed out that the dates posted outside the Community Center are inaccurate.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the commission is a regular meeting scheduled for July 12<sup>th</sup> 2023.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the commission, a motion was made by Striker and supported by Behrenwald to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:22pm. Motion carried

Recorded by:

Quanah Striker

Vice Chairperson, acting Secretary, Cato Township Planning Commission