

ISABELLA COUNTY  
PLANNING COMMISSION

October 9, 2025

A regular meeting of the Isabella County Planning Commission was held on October 9, 2025 at the Isabella County Commission on Aging Building, 2200 S. Lincoln Rd., Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kelly Bean, Tim O'Neil, Ann Silker, Bob Campbell, Phillip Vogel, Kyle Camp, Russ Hyde, Lisa Hoisington

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

SUPPORT STAFF PRESENT: Ray Johnson, Planner/GIS Analyst

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bean at 6:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the members.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Bean indicated that an amended agenda was presented by staff.

A motion was made by Mrs. Silker, supported by Mr. Hyde to approve the amended agenda.

Yes: Kelly Bean, Tim O'Neil, Ann Silker, Bob Campbell, Phillip Vogel, Kyle Camp, Russ Hyde, Lisa Hoisington

No: None

Motion to Approve Carried

**PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Minutes of the July 10, 2025 regular meeting were circulated to the members prior to the meeting for their review.

A motion was made by Mr. Hyde, supported by Mr. O'Neil to approve the minutes.

Yes: Kelly Bean, Tim O'Neil, Ann Silker, Bob Campbell, Phillip Vogel, Kyle Camp, Russ Hyde, Lisa Hoisington

No: None

Motion to Approve Carried

**LIAISON REPORTS**

Zoning Board of Appeals – Mr. Vogel indicated the Board heard and approved two variance requests in July.

Parks & Recreation – Mrs. Silker stated that work at Herrick Park on the bath house has begun and there have been many improvements to Herrick Park this year. She stated the Parks Board is working on a solution to address the problem of homeless campers at Herrick Park.

Board of Commissioners – Mr. Campbell stated that a 2026 FY Budget was approved on-time. He stated that Nottawa Township turned down the sewer project on Monday citing budget issues. Mr. Campbell stated that the Board is working on determining if they County Building will be rebuilt or a new building will be built by the jail. He also indicated that the Board is working on long term staffing for the Sherriff's Office.

## **TOWNSHIP CONCERNS**

Denver Township – Ms. Jackie Curtis indicated that the Township is quiet but is having discussion around early voting requirements.

Sherman Township – Mr. Richard Schmidt indicated that Denver is quiet other than the zoning violation on the corner of Coldwater and Drew Rds. that Ray has been handling.

Mr. Johnson followed up that this violation was sent to the County Prosecutor's office for review and action.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Opened at 6:05 p.m.

Closed at 6:05 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** – None

## **OTHER BUSINESS (NON-PUBLIC HEARINGS)**

### **Village of Shepherd – Draft Master Plan**

Mr. Johnson indicated to the members that staff received a notice that the Village of Shepherd has completed and made available a draft master plan. He stated that the notice was received by staff in early August.

Mr. Johnson stated that staff has reviewed the master plan and has no concerns with uses or compatibility. He indicated that even though the review period has lapsed and the Village has already held their public hearing, as a courtesy staff would forward a letter back to the Village informing them of the Planning Commission's review with no comments.

### **Gratiot County – Draft Master Plan**

Mr. Johnson stated that a notice was received by staff in early September that Gratiot County had made available a draft master plan. Staff indicated that Gratiot county borders Lincoln Township to the north but after a review of the plan, staff has no concerns.

He indicated that a letter will be sent back to Gratiot County indicated that the Planning Commission had reviewed the plan and had no concerns.

### **Farmland Agreement – DeVos Farms LLC – Isabella, Nottawa, and Gilmore Townships**

Mr. Johnson indicated that four applications for Farmland Agreements had been submitted from the County Clerk to the Planning Commission for review. He indicated that all applications appear to be complete with the exception of three where the number of years DeVos is applying for in Isabella and Gilmore Townships were missing.

Mr. Johnson stated that following the meeting, staff will forward a letter back to the County Clerk informing them of the review and the missing information.

### **Village of Lake Isabella – Draft Master Plan**

Mr. Johnson reported that a notice was received at the end of September that a Draft Master Plan from the Village of Lake Isabella had been made available for review and comment. He stated that Lake Isabella borders Broomfield and Sherman Townships to the south and north, respectively. Mr. Johnson stated that after a review of the plan, staff had no concerns or comments.

He indicated that a letter would be sent to the Village informing them of the Planning Commissions review.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Opened at 6:11 p.m. Closed at 6:11 p.m.

**STAFF COMMENTS** – Mr. Johnson indicated that staff has received an application for the January regular meeting and will schedule a public hearing for that meeting.

**PLANNING COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS** – Mr. Brookens indicated that the Deerfield Township Board held a vote to rescind their zoning ordinance and the motion failed by a narrow margin.

Mr. Hyde asked about not replying to consensus agenda items within the state required timeline.

Mr. Johnson informed the members that the waiting period is mandatory for the municipality or applicant to receive comments or review. He stated that once the period is over, the municipality is able to move forward therefore the Planning Commission's review is not causing delay.

Mr. Bean asked if Mr. Miller fulfilled all conditions from the July site plan approval.

Mr. Johnson indicated that he did and the permit was issued by staff.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Bean adjourned the meeting at 6:15 PM

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Ann Silker, Secretary  
Ray Johnson, Recording Secretary