

## AGENDA

### Solar Farm Ordinance Work Group

#### Work Group Meeting: Wednesday June 2, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.

The Wright County Solar Work Group will meet on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at **2:30 p.m.** via TEAMS to consider the following items\*:

#### **I. Organizational Items**

- A. Approval of the agenda or additions to the agenda
- B. Approve May 5, 2021 minutes

#### **II. Production Taxes and County Assessor Classifications/Taxes**

Tammi Vaith and Tony Rasmuson will be answering questions regarding these items. Attached a list of solar farms that currently pay production taxes.

#### **III. Other Counties – Shoreland Restriction**

A. Staff contacted other counties that prohibit solar farms in the Shoreland District, and this was what they said the reasoning was:

- Was to mirror what they were finding in other county ordinances around the time they created their ordinance.
- A few environmental people thought additional protection measures should be incorporated into our solar language.
- The thoughts/ideas pertained to the appearance would take away from the natural setting, potential impact on wildlife/waterfowl, additional glare off the water, etc.
- It was the aesthetics of solar panels and they are more of an industrial use which that county did not allow in shoreland.
- Shoreland is more valued for residential. This County saw the potential for development of housing around the lakes. People who already live on the lakes weren't fans of being surrounded by solar.

#### **IV. Public Lands Setback**

This was brought up by legislature, but it may not go anywhere. However, our County Parks Director had requested that we implement a setback to public lands and wildlife preservation areas like how we have a setback to residences.

#### **V. Land Alterations and Water Mitigation– stormwater, drainage, excavation**

Sean will speak to how our current ordinance and process work on this subject. Dan Nadeau from SWCD will be speaking to water mitigation and answer questions.

#### **VI. Transportation Corridors vs. Solar**

Sean will speak to our current major corridors, ordinances in place, etc.

#### **VII. Other Items of Discussion/Next Steps**

Schedule next meeting if needed.

#### **VIII. ADJOURN**

Wright County  
Office of Planning and Zoning

SR:sm

\*Note: A quorum of the Wright County Planning Commission may be present. To get information on attending the meeting please contact the Wright County Planning and Zoning Office.