

**Becker County Planning Commission**  
**May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

An audio recording of the meeting is available at:

[https://www.co.becker.mn.us/government/meetings/planning\\_zoning/planning\\_commission/](https://www.co.becker.mn.us/government/meetings/planning_zoning/planning_commission/)

**Members Present:** Chairman Dave Blomseth, Commissioner Erica Jepson, Commissioner Phil Hansen, Kim Mattson, Steve Lindow, Harvey Aho, Jeff Moritz, Kohl Skalin, Craig Hall and Zoning Administrator Kyle Vareberg. **Members Absent:** Nick Bowers, Tommy Ailie, Tom Disse, and Mary Seaberg

Chairman Dave Blomseth called the Planning Commission meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Introductions were given. Becker County Zoning Technician Nicole Bradbury recorded the minutes.

Harvey Aho made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting. Moritz second. All members in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Dave Blomseth explained the protocol for the meeting and stated that the recommendations of the Planning Commission will be forwarded to the County Board of Commissioners for final action.

**Old Business:**

1. **APPLICANT: FUM Trust** 7388 S Ireland Cir Aurora, CO 80016 **Project Location:** 13946 260<sup>th</sup> Ave Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 **LEGAL LAND DESCRIPTION:** Tax ID Number: **19.0314.001** Section 16 Township 138 Range 041; PT LOT 1 BEG AT NE COR TH W 660' S 227.87' E 660' & N 227.87' TO BEG. **APPLICATION AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:** Request a Conditional Use Permit to operate a non-profit makerspace and woodturning school with an onsite hostel.

Jerry Blahut shared concerns about increased traffic, noise, and safety.

Heather Schmit shared her concerns about noise and health concerns regarding a family member.

Steve Stromsted, Lakes Woodturners group, shared his support for the application.

Debbie Janzen shared concerns about this being a commercial operation in a residential setting, parking, and safety.

Rick Janzen shared concerns about the size of the septic system and well.

Letters received regarding this application are on file with the Becker County Zoning office and available upon request.

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48  
49 **MOTION: Hall motioned to approve the application with the condition that the**  
50 **applicant put in a tree fence between them and the neighbor to the south. Skalin**  
51 **second. Roll Call; All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.**  
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55 **New Business:**  
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- 58 **1. APPLICANT: Michael D Anderson** 213 Willow St E Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 **Project**  
59 **Location:** TBD Co Hwy 4 Lake Park, MN 56554 **LEGAL LAND DESCRIPTION:** Tax ID  
60 Number: **06.0833.155** Section 27 Township 138 Range 043; Block 001 Lot 006 IDA NORTH  
61 SHORE ADDITION LOT 6 BLK 1. **APPLICATION AND DESCRIPTION OF**  
62 **PROJECT:** Request a Preliminary Plat for ten (10) units to be known as IDA LAKE  
63 STORAGE.  
64  
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66 **MOTION: Aho motioned to approve the application. Moritz second. Roll Call;**  
67 **All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.**  
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- 71 **2. APPLICANT: AnnaRose Steger** 28219 Co Rd 135 Osage, MN 56570 **Project Location:**  
72 28219 Co Rd 135 Osage, MN 56570 **LEGAL LAND DESCRIPTION:** Tax ID Number:  
73 **34.0151.001** Section 33 Township 141 Range 036; N1/2 W1/2 SW1/4 SW1/4.  
74 **APPLICATION AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:** Request a Conditional Use Permit  
75 to operate a small engine repair business.  
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77

78 **MOTION: Mattson motioned to approve the application. Skalin second. Roll**  
79 **Call; All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.**  
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81  
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- 83 **3. APPLICANT: Prairie Lake Investments LLC** 30871 Sunset Rd Detroit Lakes, MN  
84 56501 **Project Location:** TBD Heimark Ave Audubon, MN 56511 **LEGAL LAND**  
85 **DESCRIPTION:** Tax ID Number: **17.0368.043** Section 31 Township 138 Range 042; S 990'  
86 OF SE1/4 NE1/4, NW1/4 OF SE1/4, NE1/4 SE1/4 LESS 10 AC IN SE COR LESS REC  
87 DOC NO 711615. **APPLICATION AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:** Request a  
88 Conditional Use Permit for mining operations.  
89

90 David Douglas, Lake Eunice Township Resident, is concerned about how a mining operation  
91 will alter the community and affect residents in the area and feels it would be better to just move  
92 what is needed for the property and not a full mining plan. Douglas submitted more concerns in  
93 writing. Those written concerns are on file in the Becker County Zoning office and are available  
94 upon request.

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96 Monica Douglas shared her concerns about the health risks associated with a gravel pit from dust  
97 and particles.

98  
99 Bennet shared his concerns with the application.

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101 Christopher Kopca shared his concerns on the impact of a project like this.

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103 David Morinville, President of Lake Maud, submitted a petition with signatures from over fifty  
104 (50) residents in the area who are against the proposed project.

105  
106 Diane Disse shared concerns about traffic.

107  
108 Dan Wilson, an adjoining neighbor, shared his concerns about safety for residents in the area.

109  
110 Sue Spitzer shared her concerns about noise and fine dust.

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112 Dennis Smithwick said if this project moves forward that he hopes it's only temporary and for  
113 use of the applicant property. He also shared his concerns of underground damage and damage to  
114 the lakes.

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116 Cheryl Schmit shared her opposition to the application.

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118 Julie Nelson shared her concerns about noise, dust and the duration of the project.

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120 Anna Frissell suggested an environmental review be done.

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122 Jeff Zeltinger shared his concerns about noise, dust, and the proposed duration of the project.

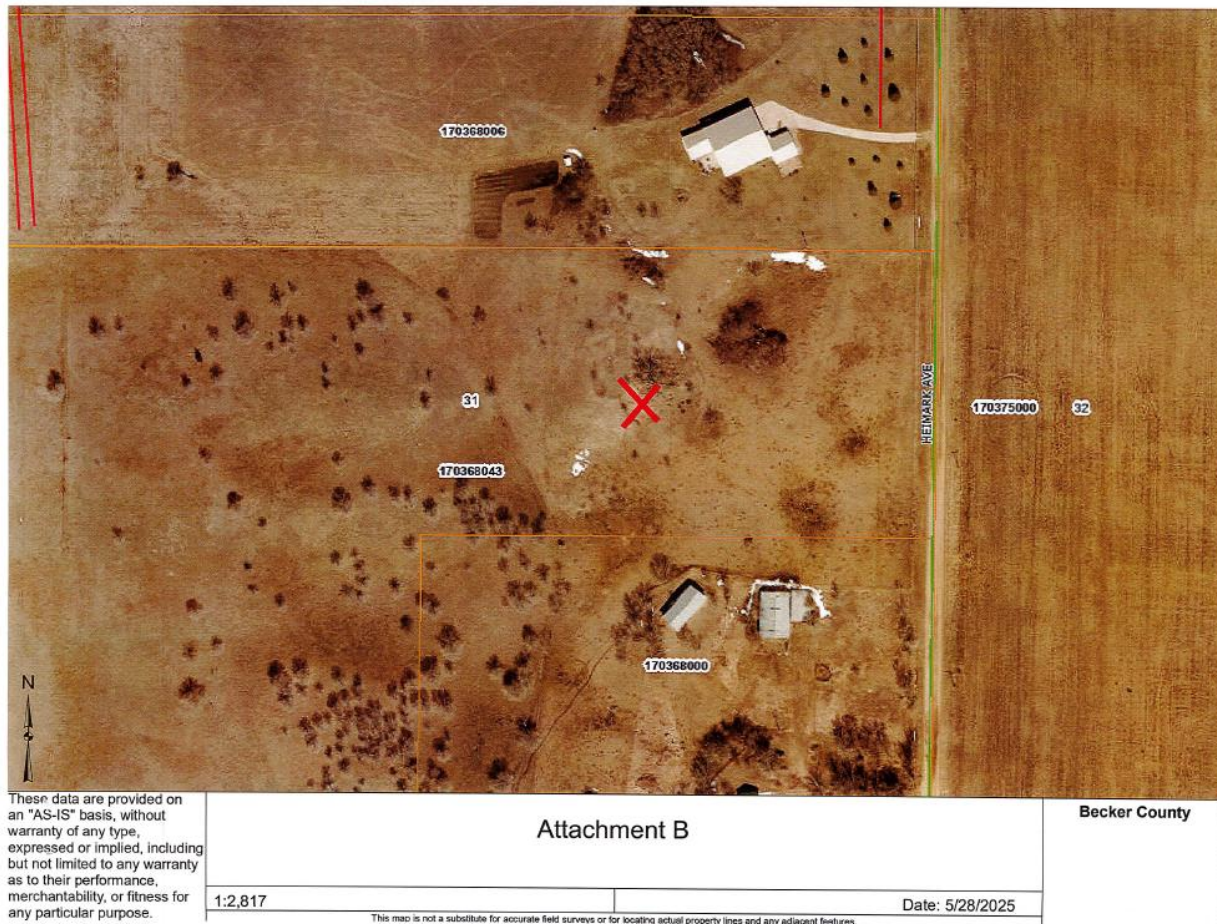
123  
124 Mike Smithwick shared his concerns about ethics with a Planning Commission member being a  
125 part of this project.

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127 Ed Clem with Lake Eunice Township stated that they will be reviewing a road agreement with  
128 the applicant.

129  
130 Petitions were submitted at the hearing. The petitions are on file with the Becker County Zoning  
131 office and available upon request.

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133 Letters received regarding this application are on file with the Becker County Zoning office and  
134 are available upon request.

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137 **MOTION: Skalin motioned to approve the application with the condition that**  
138 **the location on attachment B (entered below) only be excavated before Memorial**  
139 **Day and after Labor Day. Aho second.**  
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Vareberg suggested that they hold a special meeting to consider conditions and findings of fact to be consistent with the motion. It was recommended that this meeting take place at 8:30 am in the Third Floor Meeting Room of the Becker County Courthouse on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**Skalin accepted the amendment to the motion to include the recommendation that a special meeting be scheduled to consider conditions and findings of fact consistent with motion and that those conditions and findings of fact be included with the recommendation submitted to the County Board on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Aho seconded the amended motion. Roll Call; Skalin, Mattson, Moritz, Blomseth, Hall, and Aho in favor. Lindow opposed. Motion carried.**

#### **Other Business:**

- I) Tentative Date for the Next Informational Meeting: June 18, 2025; 8:00 am; 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Meeting Room in the Becker County Courthouse, Detroit Lakes, MN.**

162 Since there was no further business to come before the Board, Aho made a motion to  
163 adjourn. Moritz second. All in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.  
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168 **David Blomseth, Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Jeff Moritz, Secretary**

169  
170 ATTEST

171 \_\_\_\_\_  
172 Kyle Vareberg, Zoning Administrator