

**EATON COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
May 23, 2023**

Call to Order: Ben Tirrell, Vice-Chair of the Eaton County Planning Commission called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room, Eaton County Courthouse, 1045 Independence Blvd., Charlotte, MI.

Pledge: The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Roll Call: Tim Catron Michael Hosey, Frank Holmes, Ben Tirrell, Scott Hansen, Bruce Porter and Lisa Lawitzke

Absent: Brian Ross and Zachary Dillinger

Staff Present: Brandy Miller

Master Plan Presentation: Mr. Ball asked when the Planning Commission received the materials for this evenings meeting. **Commissioner Hosey** stated they received the packet today. Mr. Ball stated he will do a brief overview because everything is new to the Planning Commission; they will meet again on June 6th to further discuss. He stated they would be going through Chapter 1 Introduction, Chapter 5 Natural Features & Resources and the Goals and Objectives.

Mr. Ball asked if the Planning Commission would like to keep the designation of Resource Conservation; many of the properties are publicly owned or are in large wetland areas. He stated they took the natural features inventory and put it in the Master Plan.

Commissioner Catron stated the USDA map for prime farm lands could be used. **Commissioner Tirrell** asked how the potential conservation score was determined. Mr. Ball stated Eaton County didn't have anything that scored very high; the presents of wetland, water features, vegetation would be the same now as it was in the 1800's. He stated he could forward the data to Brandy to be sent to the Planning Commission.

Mr. Ball stated the goals and objectives from the 2011 Master Plan need to be reviewed, have the previous goals been met, are they in process or have they not been started. He stated he will go through the goals and objectives with Claudine and Brandy to determine what the new goals and objectives might be. **Commissioner Catron** stated it seems appropriate to have some of the other county departments review and take on some of the tasks. Mr. Ball stated the Eaton County Road Commission has their own plan. **Commissioner Catron** stated the Planning Commission does not have control over what ETRAN does, but a goal could be created that states we will work with them to ensure good public transportation services.

Mr. Ball stated the survey is still circulating, we have one-hundred, eight-seven responses. He stated the last Master Plan had sixty-five responses. He stated this is still a small number; most of the responses are from people who have lived here for a long time and are over the age of fifty. Mr. Ball asked about posting the survey on other county departments Facebook pages and community pages. **Commissioner Hosey** asked if the survey could be shared on multiple pages. Mr. Ball said yes. **Commissioner Lawitzke** asked for the link to the survey. Ms. Miller stated she emailed the link to the survey to the Planning Commission just now.

Commissioner Hosey asked if the Planning Commission will be meeting on June 6th. Mr. Ball said yes.

Public Comment: Ms. Lindsay Barchard, 131 E. Washington, Dimondale, asked what is the number of years the plan is intended for. Mr. Ball stated the plan is reviewed every five years, but the intended time frame is twenty years.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hosey** to adjourn the meeting. **Commissioner Tirrell** supported. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.