

## REDWOOD COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

### MINUTES

Meeting Date: September 24, 2024



A meeting of the Redwood County Planning Commission convened on Tuesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024, at the Redwood County Government Center.

The following members of the Redwood County Planning Commission were present: Mike Kaufenberg, DaVonna Zeug, Mark Madsen, Jeff Huseby, Ed Carter, and County Commissioner Dave Forkrud. Also present were the following individuals: John Essame, Deidra Lecy, Mary Preuss, Joyce Anderson, Eric Linsmeier, Heidi Linsmeier, Rod Paskewitz, Lucas Mueller, Mike Preuss, Duane Paskewitz, Cindi Huseby, Nick Lecy, Joey Lecy, Betty Lecy, Deb Dirlam, Peg Fershong, Brian Skogen, Brent Lang, Hope Lang, Rick Morris, Teresa Peterson, Will Smith, Land Use and Zoning Supervisor Jeanette Pidde, and Environmental Director Nick Brozek. Mike Scheffler was absent.

At 1:00 p.m. the September 24, 2024, Redwood County Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Chair Madsen.

Chair Madsen read the Planning Commission rules and procedures. Printed copies were available to the public.

At 1:02 p.m. Chair Madsen called to order a public hearing on Conditional Use Permit Application #8-24, submitted by Eric Linsmeier of Eric Linsmeier Trucking LLC and landowner O&E Properties LLC.

Prior to the Planning Commission meeting, the Planning Commission members were provided an informational packet, which included the following information regarding the matter:

1. Eric Linsmeier is seeking to construct a 60' x 104' pole barn, which is 25' high, to store and service his "Ag Hopper trucking business that provides a hauling service of grain, feed, and fertilizers to local farms/farmers/coops in Redwood County and greater Minnesota." He seeks to construct the pole barn on Lot 3, Linsmeier Addition, Paxton Township.
2. The site is located in the "A" Agricultural District. A Rural-Oriented Commercial Use is a conditional use in the Agricultural District. Rural Oriented Commercial Use is defined as, "A business or commercial use directly related to agriculture that either provides an agricultural product or agricultural service to local farmers, or that sells a locally-produced agricultural product to consumers."
3. The nearest county open ditch is 2,800 feet southwest of the site, and there are no nearby county tile lines. Crow Creek is 900 feet south of the site.
4. The adjacent properties consist of residential homes to the south (R-1 district), bare lot and homes to the west (Agricultural district), and agricultural land to the east and across 340th Street to the north. The property is located within 2 miles of the City of Redwood Falls.
5. The three closest residential dwellings to the site, other than the landowner, are as follows:  
Brent and Hope Lang, 37219 337th St., about 350' south of the site;  
Renee Paskewitz, 37140 337th St., about 580' south of the site;  
and Robert and Lori Rebstock, 37407 340th St., about 800' east of the site.

Redwood County Government Center - Environmental Department

P.O Box 130 Redwood Falls, MN 56283

(507) 637-4023 redwoodcounty-mn.us Environmental@co.redwood.mn.us

6. The MPCA published "A Guide to Noise Control in Minnesota," in 2015. For residential locations (including farm houses), the daytime (7 a.m.-10 p.m.) noise limits are 65 dBA for not more than six minutes per hour (10% of the time) and 60 dBA for not more than 30 minutes per hour (50% of the time) for non-impulsive noises. Local governments "are required to take reasonable measures to prevent the approval of land use activities that will violate the state noise standard immediately upon establishment of the land use (Minn. R. 7030.0030)." Generally, doubling the distance from a noise source reduces the sound level by 6 decibels. Doubling the source of the sound increases the measured sound by 3 decibels.
7. A copy of the Conditional Use Permit application, maps, plans, and proposed permit conditions are enclosed.

Eric Linsmeier was in attendance to present the project to the Planning Commission. Eric Linsmeier made the following statements to the Commission:

- He is seeking a Conditional Use Permit for a 60'x104' pole barn for his commercial ag trucking business for hauling grain and fertilizer for farmers and coops.
- The pole barn would be built on the existing gravel pad on Lot 3, Linsmeier Addition.
- The property is on 340<sup>th</sup> St., which has easy access from Highway 71.
- He would put in a well and septic if needed in the future.

The Planning Commissioners had the following questions and comments:

- Would there be doors only on the north side of the building?
- Would the building be insulated?
- Does he do feed hauling?
- How many tractors would there be?
- Is there concern about drainage on the property?

Paskewitz responded that:

- There would be two doors on the north side, three doors on the east side and one door on the south side of the pole barn.
- The building would be insulated to help with noise. It would also be heated.
- He hauls feed, grain, and fertilizer.
- He would have two semis, plus there are two owner-operators who have their own semis.
- There is a SWPP in place, but he may not need it. He would have to remove some of the impervious surface to be under 1 acre for the state regulations.

Chair Madsen asked if anyone was present to speak in support of the project.

Joyce Anderson made the following statements:

- She owns the property to the north of the site.
- She supports expansion in their area.

Duane Paskewitz made the following statements:

- He is a neighbor, and he's not against the project.
- The land was for sale, and since the proposed use is ag-related, he feels it fits into the zone.

Chair Madsen asked if anyone was present to speak in opposition to the project.

Brent Lang made the following statements:

- He lives next door to the proposed use.

- He's not against business or the family.
- The proposed building would be right behind his property. There are other lots. It would have been cheaper to build on the low west side of the property.
- He can hear trucks at his property. He's between Duane Paskewitz's and the gravel pad.

Linsmeier responded that:

- The original plan was to develop the property into smaller lots. That's why he used that side of the property.

Hope Lang made the following statements:

- There is a direct view from her backyard to the gravel pad.
- She is concerned about the noise.
- She feels it's a back-door approach, and that he still wants to build a truck shop.
- She has the same concerns she's raised previously about her property value, aesthetics, and noise. There are bedrooms on that side of the house.
- There are other places in town for a truck shop. The City of Redwood Falls has an industrial park.
- There shouldn't be businesses put right next to a residential neighborhood.

Linsmeier responded that:

- There is a lot of commercial along the highway corridor with residential behind it.
- It's not possible to pull trucks into industrial park. It wasn't built for that use.

Zeug asked Linsmeier if he had read through the proposed conditions. Specifically, condition number 4, that the property could not be used as a commercial truck-repair shop.

- Linsmeier responded that it would only his business, and the owner-operators would only be storing their trucks in the pole shed.

Madsen asked Linsmeier if he had read condition number 14, regarding noise and not idling trucks between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.

- Linsmeier responded that's why he wants the building. Trucks don't idle when they're coming out of the building.

Pidde asked Linsmeier about the proposed lighting on the property.

- Linsmeier responded that there would be lighting on the north and east sides of the building.

Linsmeier was asked if he understood that 7 a.m.-10 p.m. only one truck could idle at a time per the conditions.

- Linsmeier responded that there could be two trucks pulling in or out at the same time. He can't control that. Maybe one could shut their engine off.

Carter asked Linsmeier if he would be able to comply with the noise condition.

- Linsmeier responded that all he can do is try.

Chair Madsen then closed the public hearing at 1:35 p.m.

Chair Madsen directed Pidde to lead the Commissioners through the Findings of Fact Worksheet. The Planning Commissioners discussed the factors.

Forkrud made a motion to deny Conditional Use Permit Application #8-24. The motion was seconded by Huseby. There was further discussion as follows:

- Carter stated that Linsmeier seemed ambivalent about following the conditions.
- Linsmeier responded that they seemed fairly restrictive.
- Madsen stated that Linsmeier's responses indicated that he may not follow the conditions.

- Linsmeier responded that he'd follow the rules, but if he didn't and had two trucks running, someone would complain.
- Kaufenberg stated that he thought Linsmeier was trying to comply with the current zoning and he's not being allowed to move forward even though the use complies with the ag zone. He believes Linsmeier stepped back to develop it in accordance with the situation when he bought it.
- Madsen asked Kaufenberg to comment on the property value. Kaufenberg stated that it's tough to say what the impact would be.

The motion passed 4-2, with Forkrud, Carter, Huseby, and Madsen voting aye, and Zeug and Kaufenberg voting nay.

At 1:42 p.m. Chair Madsen called to order the continuation of the public hearing on Application for Extraction Interim Use Permit #6-24, submitted by Rodney Paskewitz of Duro Rock Supply Co., on behalf of landowner Artesian Properties LLC.

Prior to the Planning Commission meeting, the Planning Commission members were provided an informational packet, which included the following information regarding the matter:

1. The Duro Rock Supply Co. application was originally considered at the June 25th Planning Commission meeting, at which time it was tabled until July 30th, in order to allow for more information gathering. At the July 30th meeting, the application was tabled again. On August 27, 2024, Rodney Paskewitz submitted an amended application.
2. Paskewitz now proposes to remove boulders from designated areas of the property, within 6' of the ground surface. He also proposes to remove the pile of quarry overburden rock from the old quarry. He has removed his request to reopen the granite quarry. Duro Rock's operations will be located in part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SW¼ SW¼), Section 18, Swedes Forest Township. The proposed project area includes approximately 1 acre of overburden removal and approximately 14 acres of boulder extraction. The land will be reclaimed back to pasture. Paskewitz is seeking a 10-year permit.
3. There are wetland areas on the parcel and two plant species of note: Oregon Woodsia is state-listed as a special concern plant, and Wolf's spikerush is state-listed as threatened. Paskewitz will pursue a Threatened and Endangered Species Avoidance Plan and coordinate with the DNR regarding the threatened plant species found on the site. Paskewitz will also pursue a Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) No Loss Wetland Application to determine the wetland impacts, if any, and any needed replacement plan.
4. Anthony Sellner, Redwood County Highway Engineer, stated that the commercial entrance should be moved out of the no passing zone (moved to the east) for driver safety, or they should hire an engineer to review that proper sight distances will be achieved. Paskewitz is proposing tree removal along the highway to improve sight lines, as the location of wetlands makes it difficult to relocate the entrance.
5. Paskewitz no longer proposes any blasting, cutting, crushing, or water use.

Rod Paskewitz and Lucas Mueller were in attendance to present the application to the Planning Commission. Paskewitz made the following statements to the Commission:

- He thought about the concerns and the financial situation of the project, and he came up with a new plan to amend the permit to eliminate a lot of the concerns.

- He would remove the glacial boulders to 5' below the surface and take the existing piles to sell for landscaping and river restoration projects.
- There would be no need for blasting, cutting, crushing, or dewatering.
- He's already been removing boulders for neighbors in the area, such as the winery, the tree farm, and Lecy's property. This is nothing different than what he's been doing for others.
- He would be using ordinary excavation equipment.
- Lucas Mueller provided a letter in support of moving forward without an EAW.
- He knows where the species and wetlands are to avoid them.

Mueller made the following statements to the Commission:

- He's been involved for over two years, and he commends Paskewitz on look at the species ahead of applying.
- Boulder picking is a lot less intrusive and not near the impact of mining.
- The EAW originally was voluntary.
- There are less environmental issues, hydrology issues, noise, and dust involved in the new plan.

The Planning Commissioners had the following questions and comments:

- How much less of an impact will there be?
  - o Paskewitz responded that he doesn't want to go into the wetlands. He will remove the cedar trees and save the black dirt. He can bring in more black dirt to reclaim to pasture. He's asking for a 10-year permit to have availability to come and go and have flexibility. He will have a lay-down yard for stockpiles. Thistles and weeds will be cleaned up.
- How often does Paskewitz plan on working down there?
  - o Paskewitz responded that the excavator moves around. It wouldn't always be on-site. It depends on the workload, but no more than five days per week.
- Is there a game plan for extraction?
  - o Paskewitz responded that he would remove the trees to get the boulders. He will go where it's most accessible first.
- When will reclamation be done? Seasonally?
  - o Paskewitz responded that yes, he would reclaim in late fall or winter depending on weather. He plans to reclaim area by area with 6"-12" of black soil and establish vegetation.
- Will there be excavation below the lake level?
  - o Paskewitz responded that he won't go below the lake level.
  - o Mueller responded that there's 4' of fringe. The extraction is outside of that. The vegetation is pretty established in the fringe. The full wetland delineation should be available.
- Has he ever been required to put fabric down?
  - o Paskewitz responded that he has not been required to do that before.
  - o Mueller noted that the area of concern was not a lake or public waterway. A dam was put in to flood the area. [Deidra Lecy commented that it was flooded because it was filled with silt.] A bio-fence or roll fabric could be put down, but there would be a limited amount of sediment compared to surrounding ag properties.

Chair Madsen asked if anyone was present to speak in support of the project. No one came forward.

Chair Madsen asked if anyone was present to speak in opposition to the project. The following individuals spoke:

Mike (and Mary) Preuss

- Read in provided letter
- Removing the overburden pile will disturb silica, dirt, and plants that have been there the last 100 years.

- There will be runoff.
- Digging down 6' near the wetlands is a concern. In heavy rain, sediment would wash it down into the wetland.
- What's to stop Paskewitz from going deeper than 6'?
- He thinks the EAW should still be in place.

#### Deidra Lecy

- Read in a letter on behalf of the "Swedes Forest Citizens Coalition"

Madsen asked who is the "coalition?"

Huseby responded that it's quite a few people, including those concerned from other counties.

Paskewitz and Mueller responded that:

- Is there proof that there is silica? The coalition is acting like they're WCA or the DNR. (Paskewitz)
- If there are any direct or indirect wetland impacts, the proper permits would be obtained. There would be proper mitigation for temporary impacts. (Mueller)
- The piles being removed is a restoration opportunity for the wetland. It will be returned to the historical state after removing the wetland fill. (Mueller)
- Compared to a blasting operation and digging 25' down, the current proposal is way less. It is also less hours and days. (Mueller)
- The EAW wasn't triggered, previously. Paskewitz was volunteering. (Mueller)
- He walked the property with WCA and BWSR and addressed the issues with them before submitting a permit application. (Paskewitz)
- There will be permitting and requirements such as staying back from the wetland. The ultimate goal is to minimize the wetland impact. (Mueller)
- He feels the coalition is going after him specifically, and they're not going after other pits. (Paskewitz)

Huseby responded that it's the area that they're concerned about. It's nothing personal to Rod.

Mueller asked if this will be the same approach for every operator in Redwood County.

#### Teresa Peterson

- She lives in Swedes Forest Township. Her family is one of very few Dakotan families in Swedes Forest. They moved in 10-12 years ago and raised 3 boys who go to the scenic and natural area, which has been good for them.
- If an EAW can help guide the decision for a community considering their spiritual, mental, and physical health and the land, then she's supportive.
- Trucks are loud on the highway, and there's engine-braking down the hill. There are enough trucks already. She hears them in the morning.

#### Will Smith

- The decision is balancing the good of the community with someone's right to make a living.
- He "recreates" in the area. Swedes Forest is a hidden gem. There are ancient rocks and the river. At some point someone has to take a stand. The resources should be saved for the next generation of Redwood County. They shouldn't take the boulders out of the county.
- If there's a way to put it into RIM, they'd have done it.

### Deidra Lecy

- This site was looked at in the past to be a hazardous waste site, and they protected it from that.
- The gravel pit nearby is well established and has a solid bank of trees.
- Wind from the west will blow across the grout pile toward her property.
- She read in provided letter from Andy Holt.

### Peg Furshong

- She's here because she works with CURE.
- She's looking at the wetland delineation map. There are areas of extraction along the wetland border. Wetlands are like an iceberg. What's below the surface is all interconnected. The heavy equipment will squeeze the waterway. Hauling 4'-5' boulders over a strip of land will impact the wetland by compacting the land.
- An EAW answers a lot of questions. Soil, water, air samples will be taken and then they give an assessment of what the impacts will be.
- This is some of the world's oldest granite. It's home to the 5-lined skink.
- Only plants were looked at. She appreciates that he wants to plant it back to native plants.
- How can he do this project without water use? Won't he have to keep the dust down? If you crush granite, there will be silica.
- The grout pile has old-growth cedars on it. Granite has silica, and an EAW would tell you how much. Also, it's performed by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party.
- She called different agencies and asked if Paskewitz had been in contact, but he hasn't contacted them again. He wasn't obligated, but he'll need WCA permits because he'll impact wetlands by digging down 5'.
- He hasn't applied for a WCA permit yet. An EAW would give a baseline and someone would be monitoring.

Forkrud asked how long an EAW normally takes. Furshong responded that it depends. She's seen months to years.

- Are there cultural impacts with the project?
- The area is classified as ag land. Heavy, industrial use is what's proposed, and it should be a different classification.
- A citizen group can submit a request for an EAW with 100 signatures.
- This isn't personal to Paskewitz. An EAW would answer questions.

Paskewitz responded that the T&E survey did include animals. Furshong replied that she called and was told it didn't.

### Nick Lecy

- He owns the wetland to the north of the site. He had the elevation surveyed and 924' is the designated water level for the lake. Paskewitz also gets a benefit from the wetland, as they're getting a payment of \$500 per acre and Paskewitz has about 3.5 acres for the lake.
- He would like a setback from the lake.
- The delineation and T&E survey was done in a drought year, because it was done in 2022. This was in the middle of 3 years of drought.

Mueller responded that he performed the wetland delineation. Drought is taken into consideration. They look at signs of hydric soils, hydrology, wetland vegetation, and it's all taken into account. Hydric soils don't change for hundreds of years.

Paskewitz responded that WCA did move the boundaries even further out from the original delineation.

Mueller stated that the delineation is valid for 5 years.

- Who is watching if Paskewitz digs deeper?

- Brozek responded that it is complaint based, and he could have his permit pulled.
- The project will still change the land.

Deidra Lecy

- She read in a letter from Ben Lecy.
- She provided a letter from herself and provided pictures and another letter that she read.
- She provided a "Fact Checking" sheet that she read.

Paskewitz responded that the conveyors in the picture provided by Deidra Lecy belong to him.

John Essame

- He told a story from 1851 about how Peter Colin placed a memorial rock on his home place. In 1871 he purchased the land that Essame lives on now. Sheep were raised there.
- He lives above the Scenic and Natural Area, which was created in 2016. The DNR wanted to match the north side of the road for the skinks. It was also to protect the bedrock.
- In May of 2023, he was driving down 208<sup>th</sup> Ave., and he heard a loud noise. It ended up that a rock had jammed in his rotor and cracked it from the layer of crushed bedrock that was placed on his gravel road.

Chair Madsen then closed the public hearing at 3:25 p.m.

Jeff Huseby recused himself.

Chair Madsen directed Pidde to lead the Commissioners through the Findings of Fact Worksheet. The Planning Commissioners discussed the factors.

Zeug made a motion to approve the application for Extraction Interim Use Permit #6-24 with conditions proposed by staff, as amended. Carter seconded the motion.

Forkrud asked if he could still request that an EAW be prepared for the project. The Planning Commissioners discussed the question. Zeug and Carter chose not to amend their motion.

The Commissioners discussed the conditions and the hours of operation. They determined the hours should be 8 a.m.-5p.m., Monday through Friday. They discussed having a maximum excavation depth and to add that into the conditions, along with staying back from the wetlands as determined by WCA guidelines.

The motion passed 4-1, with Zeug, Carter, Madsen, and Kaufenberg voting aye. Forkrud voted nay. Huseby abstained.

The Commissioners reviewed and discussed the minutes from the July 30, 2024, Planning Commission meeting. Kaufenberg made a motion to approve the July 30, 2024, Planning Commission minutes. Carter seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Following a motion by Zeug and second by Kaufenberg, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.



Jeanette Pidde  
Land Use and Zoning Supervisor  
Redwood County Environmental Office



Mark Madsen, Chair  
Redwood County Planning Commission

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for putting your time and efforts into this matter. I am Andy Holt, and I oppose the project that Mr. Paskewitz is applying for. I am unable to attend the meeting today, but I am a direct neighbor to his property on the western border.

I believe the disturbances and pollution would be a huge negative to my property and the surrounding area. With my property being small, I don't have "room to run" from the disturbances. Would wildlife still use my property? Maybe at night, but definitely not in the same way or with the same ease that allows us to have good hunting and other recreational activities. My family, including my 4 young nieces use our property in many ways, including foraging, gardening, maple syrup production, along with hunting deer, turkey, coyote, squirrel and rabbits. I look to be involved with 4 different youth hunters and 3 additional youth observers this year, which would be a typical year for us. Will we completely lose the ability to do these activities if this project is approved? Probably not. Would these activities be negatively impacted in a significant way due to noise, dust, and activity? I sure think so.

I also produce food for myself, family, friends, and the wildlife that use my property and those surrounding us. My family is concerned about possible pollution affecting our ability to continue producing food on this property. We currently grow garden plots for ourselves and the wildlife. We also harvest grapes, maple sap for syrup production, and forage for mushrooms on our property. We have a small field that is also used to produce livestock feed.

Many of us in the area love and cherish the riverbottom, and don't want to see it disturbed. I wish Mr. Paskewitz well, and hope that we can be neighborly no matter how this issue is resolved. In order that Mr. Paskewitz or the Committee may reach out to me for more information or questions, I have included my contact information below.

Thank you again for your time and efforts. I hope that you will choose to deny this project.

Andrew Holt  
[aholt1420@gmail.com](mailto:aholt1420@gmail.com)  
507-430-1420



9-24-2024

TO: Redwood County Land Use and Planning Board.

Thank you for hearing our concerns today. We are Mike and Mary Preuss. We live in Yellow Medicine County, Sioux Agency township -- less than 1,000 feet up the river bluff from the site.

While the Duro Rock application has been amended to eliminate blasting, crushing and hard rock mining, our concerns are still many. The proposal of removing "overburden" from the old quarry is not simply loading cut blocks from a pile of rock. The pile resides on the very west end of the large wetland of which most of the rock abuts the water's edge from the SE side around to the NE side of it. It is also intermixed with finer "grout" which has made for trees and vegetation to grow in it the past 80+ years. This growth has held it all together and protected the embedded silica dust with a layer of now almost dirt. Over time, much of that will have to be removed to get to the blocks that they want. This will leave the site vulnerable to heavy rains that would wash the fines into the adjoining wetland which is several feet below the site.

Also, the removal of "boulders" by digging down to 6' in and near the wetlands is of great concern. The area is directly abutting the large wetland and heavy rain runoff will surely run into it. It is now a thick mat of grasses and other vegetation filtering and stopping anything from washing into the wetland which is some feet below grade.

I'm sure that if a boulder isn't quite accessible at 6' down but a few more feet would loosen it that will happen. 10'? 12' if there has already been significant effort put into it? Who monitors that?

An EAW still needs to be part of the plan as just eliminating the blasting and hard rock quarrying does not take away the fact that the activity is still proposed in and around many wetland and protected plant species areas.

I urge you to please vote to deny this application.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mike and Mary Preuss

*Michael A Preuss* *Mary Preuss*

To: Jeanette Pidde, Land Use and Zoning Supervisor  
FR: Swede's Forest Citizen Coalition  
Date: Sept 24, 2024  
RE: Rodney Paskewitz Application for Extraction Interim Use Permit

We have received notice of the amended Application for Extraction Interim Use Permit submitted by Rodney Paskewitz on behalf of Duro Rock Supply.

The application does not articulate enough information to determine what the actual plan is, our concerns are as follows:

- 1) We believe the information supplied on the permit does not adequately articulate the project.
- 2) The maps do not include the quarries or the full impacted wetland.
- 3) The application does not indicate if the appropriate permits have been obtained by the applicant to work in or adjacent to the wetland.
- 4) The applicant reports that he will not need to use water but with the extraction rock there will be airborne dust from the grout pile, how will that be managed?
- 5) The application does not address how much vegetation will be removed – currently providing a buffer between the grout pile and the wetland. How runoff from rains will be managed so the silt/silica from the grout pile will be contained and/or managed.

The Swede's Forest Citizen Coalition would respectfully ask that the Land Use and Zoning board request an EAW for the project based on the extent of the project and the potential air, soil and water risks associated with the project. On July 30<sup>th</sup>, we supplied the board with a petition of 526 people who signed in opposition to this permit. We believe that an outside expert could provide valuable and necessary information to aid in the decision to grant this permit.

Land Owner  
43512 County Highway 7  
Belview, MN 56214

September 23, 2024

Planning and Zoning Commissioners: Redwood County Commissioners  
Redwood County Government Center  
P.O. Box 130  
Redwood Falls, MN 56283

To Whom it May Concern:

Please consider my concerns for denying the amended permit application for Rodney Paskewitz, Duro Rock.

The permit denial due to no EAW completed, no avoidance plan submitted or permit to take completed. He has dropped the blasting, sawing, excavating and crushing from his permit. His request to take boulders and dig down six feet to extract them still endangers us all. The EAW still needs to be completed so all aspects of the environmental effects are considered before it is all dug up and destroyed. His extraction areas are all in wetland areas and right next to the 84-acre type 5 wetland. Digging apart the grout piles that have established vegetation holding silicate dust particles in place would not protect the local citizens from the prevailing winds. The rain and snow and wind blowing into the wetland area and the outdoor environmental classroom is unacceptable. What are the wetland regulations on dirt removal from areas surrounding a wetland?

Secondly, the zoning district is rural vacant land-agricultural. Redwood county has this listed as agricultural. Did the rural vacant land get added because there is no noise regulation for rural vacant land? Since he is planning to mine the granite rock this should be zoned as industrial mining to represent the operations at this location. Will Mr. Paskewitz have to follow Minnesota's Mining and Extraction Laws and safety regulations if it is zoned as vacant land? How many of Redwood County Excavation and Extraction of Earth Material points have been addressed in his permit?

In Conditions for Permit No. 5, it states: The permit holder shall contact all relevant local, state, and federal authorities/entities and inquire as to whether a permit and/or license is required. If a permit and/or license is required, the permit holder shall apply for and obtain any and all required permits and/or licenses. A copy of all such permits and/or licenses shall be provided to the Redwood County Environmental office upon request. He contacted the Hydrologist and had a Wetlands Conservation Act report completed on 11/28/2022 and two in either Redwood County or Yellow Medicine County. This is different than a Wetlands Delineation report that should also be required working on and next to so many different types of wetlands. The Clean Water Act protects the surface and ground water and vegetation that filters and cleans the water that we all depend on.

Mr. Paskewitz submitted an email from Rebecca Horton to Melisa Barret that states he has a plant species of special concern and another on the state listed as threatened. He has not submitted his avoidance plan or a permit to take for these species. Due to industrial mining extraction, he will perform

on his property, it should be assessed for birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles and Native American artifacts.

Mr. Paskewitz is planning to go to Yellow Medicine County for his dewatering permit and states "We have applied for a Dewatering permit for up to 5 million gallons per year. No permit has been filed yet in Yellow Medicine County. Will Mr. Paskewitz apply to make sure he can use water to keep the dust down on this permit?"

Mr. Paskewitz provided maps for extraction that are right next to the Type 5 wetlands marked 3 and taking place on all other wetlands marked 4 and 5 in his permit. Mr. Paskewitz should be required to follow the state of Minnesota's wetland guidelines with them clearly stated in the permit.

The faithful residents of Swedes Forest Township and Sioux Agency Township have worked their whole lives creating, maintaining and protecting the area that is so unique and rich in resources for teaching and learning with unlimited potential. Please protect the corner of your county that lies in the Minnesota River Valley and protect it with the Minnesota Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Thank you for your time and consideration and support for denying the amended permit to Mr. Rodney Paskewitz, Duro Rock Co., and Artesian Properties.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Deidra Lecy".

Deidra Lecy

507-430-8671



**IVERSON  
TREE FARM**  
Choose & Cut Christmas Trees • Shade Trees  
Evergreens • Large Tree Transplanting

**Fall Festival**  
WISCONSIN  
AFTER LABOR DAY THROUGH THE LAST WEEKEND OF OCTOBER  
SATURDAY 10am - 5pm SUNDAY 12pm - 4pm

12.58 Acres  
**FOR SALE**  
Working Business Opportunity  
• 12.58 Acres  
• Large Tree Transplanting  
• Christmas Trees  
• Professional Staff  
**IVERSON  
TREE FARM**  
\$200,000.0000  
Kara Ann Christensen  
Bismarck, ND

Land Owner  
43512 County Highway 7  
Belview, MN 56214

September 24, 2024

Planning and Zoning Commissioners: Redwood County Commissioners  
Redwood County Government Center  
P.O. Box 130  
Redwood Falls, MN 56283

To Whom it May Concern:

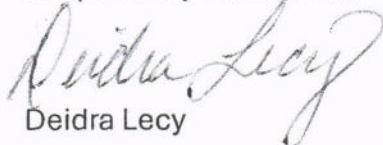
I would like to make a note in the record of the information that was made public after the last Planning and Zoning meeting. The area is zoned for recreation and entertainment so a permit of any kind would have a lasting effect on this business with present landowners and any prospective buyers.

As current landowners surrounding this projected permitted site, we ask you to please deny his permit to extract. He will be degrading the environment, recreation and the property values of all the citizens in the immediate area and those that visit his business along with the Grand View Winery to enjoy the beautiful Minnesota River Valley.

The value of our community to protect, enjoy and educate citizens of the beautiful area in the northern corner of Redwood County will continue as it has for decades. This area is rich in fresh water and wildlife, as an asset to the county is appreciated by all of citizens in Swedes Forest and Sioux Agency in Yellow Medicine County and our cities down river not only in Minnesota but to Louisiana. It is one of the areas where Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFA) are not detected. Let's keep the water clean and the environment protected.

Please deny any further action on this permit.

Respectfully submitted,



Deidra Lecy

507-430-8671

September 24, 2024 Planning and Zoning Committee meeting: 1:00 pm.

Fact checking:

9/23/2024- No Dewatering permit has been applied for from the Hydrologist in Marshall

9/24/2024- No Avoidance Plan or Permit to Take request applied from Regional DNR representative.

9/24/2024- No permits filed in Yellow Medicine County.

9/23/2024- The EAW is still required. Does this permit reset the count down clock of 120 days for the County to make a decision?

9/24/2024- Silicate is in all rocks of Minnesota In Response to Mike Scheffler's last comment at the Planning and Zoning meeting on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 that he didn't want hearsay he wanted facts and he wasn't sure there was any silicate in Mr. Paskewitz granite rock.

Granite is an igneous rock that typically contains 70-77% silica. The chemical composition of granite also includes:

11-13% alumina

3-5% potassium oxide

3-5% soda

1% lime

2-3% total iron

Less than 1% magnesia and titania

Granite is a felsic rock, which means it has a high silica content. It is made up of three major silicate minerals: quartz, mica, and feldspar.

9/24/2024- Mike Scheffler's conflict of interest on the sale of his aggregate conveyors on Mr. Paskewitz property. Please remove his vote from the planning and zoning board on this issue.



Land Owner  
43512 County Highway 7  
Belview, MN 56214

September 23, 2024

To: The Redwood County Planning and Zoning Committee and Commissioners  
Redwood County Government Center  
P.O. Box 130  
Redwood Falls, MN 56283

I am a resident in Swedes Forest township and continue to have concerns with the ongoing permit process to remove granite from our area. As stated in other meetings and letters, allowing such a permit would bring a host of environmental, economic, and health concerns to the community and the surrounding communities.

An EAW was to be performed before any permit was to be issued. It is our understanding that all are in agreement that this is a fragile and special piece of land that has a grand impact on a major scale. Property values, health of residents, and the threat to countless species of wildlife and vegetation.

I strongly encourage you, as a governing committee, to deny any and all permit requests that will have an impact on all the concerns listed as well as other concerns of the residents and frequent guests to the area

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ben Lecy". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Ben Lecy.