



FRANKLIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
June 5, 2017
5:30 P.M.

BOC: Commission Chairman Thomas Bridges
District 1 Commissioner Robert Franklin
District 2 Commissioner Dr. Jason Macomson
District 3 Commissioner Jeff Jacques

Media: Shane Scoggins, Franklin County Citizen

Staff: County Manager Beth Thomas
County Clerk Elaine Evans
County Attorney Bubba Samuels
County Engineer John Phillips

Chairman Bridges welcomed everyone to the public hearing. He announced that Commissioner Wester will be late as he is representing the Sandy Cross Volunteer Fire Department at the funeral of Betty Bond at the request of the family. Chairman Bridges then opened the public hearing for the three items; abandonment of Strawberry Lane, conditional use for Paul & Sharon Laird and the FY18 budget.

Abandonment of Strawberry Lane – Chairman Bridges asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of abandoning Strawberry Lane. Paul Laird came forward to speak in favor of the abandonment. He said that Strawberry Lane started out as a driveway but after people started using it that the County maintained it. Mr. Laird said that only two people live on Strawberry Lane, he and his family at the bottom of the hill and his mother at the top. He said that the road can be dangerous as people tend to drive too fast around the curves and debris is also a problem, in particular old tires being dumped.

Mr. Laird said that it would benefit him and his family greatly if they did not have to put up with the traffic and garbage. It would also benefit the County to not have to maintain the road. He said that he plans to block the road and make it dead end. Chairman Bridges thanked Mr. Laird for his comments. He then asked if anyone wished to speak against the abandonment of Strawberry Lane. There was no opposition to the abandonment request.

Conditional use for Paul & Sharon Laird – Chairman Bridges asked Paul Laird to come forward and speak on his request. Mr. Laird said that the farm that he is requesting the conditional use for has been in his family since the early 1980's and prior to his family it was used for agricultural purposes. Mr. Laird said that he has taken the farm over from his mother and he would like to continue raising chickens. He



said that his desire is to replace an existing house and to renovate another one. Both of the houses would be brought up to the current standard. Mr. Laird said that he will be the second generation farmer on this property.

Chairman Bridges asked Mr. Laird what company he will grow for. Mr. Laird said Harrison out of Bethlehem. He said that everything is in place; all that is needed is the approval from the Commissioners. Chairman Bridges thanked Mr. Laird. He then asked if anyone would like to speak against the conditional use for Paul & Sharon Laird. No one wished to speak against the conditional use for Paul & Sharon Laird.

FY18 Budget – Chairman Bridges asked if anyone would like to speak about the FY18 budget. There was no one who wished to speak about the budget. The public hearing remained open until the start of the regular board meeting at six o'clock to give additional time for comments or concerns.

Signed on the _____ day of _____, 2017

Chairman J. Thomas Bridges

Robert L. Franklin, District 1 Commissioner

Dr. Jason Macomson, District 2 Commissioner

Jeff Jacques, District 3 Commissioner

Eddie Wester, District 4 Commissioner

Elaine H. Evans, County Clerk