Note: These meeting minutes are only a summary of the meeting. Duplication of the audio recording is available, for a fee, by contacting Community & Development Services.

The Planning Commission Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, Daniel Rosales.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commission members present: Daniel Rosales, Ron Turner, Brian Harris, Bob Ware and Chris Richardson.

Staff present: Kyle Fenner, Director CDS; Faith Mehrer, Office Manager.

STAFF REPORT ON BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ACTION(S)

Director Kyle Fenner reported about

a. CDS now reports directly to the BOCC

b. An agreement has been settled with Bill Spires - developer

c. RFP for Planning and Zoning resulted in 5 proposals that are being reviewed

CONSENT CALENDAR

No items.

COMMUNITY INPUT:

No comment.

Note: Issues will not be debated.

Please refer to the staff report for specific review evaluation and comments.

a. Kyle Fenner presented the applicant’s request to place two AM radio transmitter facility towers in a portion of Section 4, Township 10 south, Range 62 west in Elbert County.

b. The height of the tower was discussed; the staff report stated that the towers were 195’ in height. CJ Kirst, representative for the applicant, stated that the towers will actually be 199’ in height.

c. Eight members of the public commented during the public comment portion of the meeting:
   - Norm Phillips shared concerns regarding preservation of the historical value of the land in the area the towers would be erected, the reduction of property values and questioned whether the towers would provide any benefit for residents in the area.
   - Robert Lewis asked why the applicant is pursuing the project while they do not currently own the land.
   - Jim White with ECCA presented a letter explaining his position and requesting that they be a referral agency for any communication/radio tower applications that are presented to Elbert County. He also asked that a condition be added, if the towers are approved, that would allow ECCA to co-locate on the tower(s) for emergency service purposes.
   - Craig Phillips had three questions; why is there a need for two towers, is approval of the towers contingent upon the sale of the proposed property and will the project grow larger in scale.
   - Ryan Stuart owns a neighboring 80 acre parcel. He has plans to construct a private runway. The proposed location of the towers will make his project difficult. He asked for possible compromises in the location of the towers and offered several ideas for solutions that would allow both projects to happen.
   - Brent Campbell asked about the height of the tower at the compactor site for a size comparison. Jim White stated that the height of that tower is 180’. Brent asked if the applicant might consider 180’ towers rather 99’, to lessen the visibility of the towers for residents.
   - Paula (?) asked how many Catholics would be reached in this area and asked the applicant to identify other impacts on the County.
   - TJ Steck explained the benefits the towers would lend to emergency services in the proposed area and how those benefits would positively impact people living in the area.
d. Ron Turner made a motion to continue the meeting to a date certain of February 2, 2016. Bob Ware seconded the motion. Motion carried 3 to 2.

B. DOLA Training for Planning Commission regarding the Master Plan

a. This entire training session is on record in the Planning Department, in the Planning Commission items and is labeled: Planning Commission Meeting 1-19-2016.

C. Discussion: Amendment to Planning Commission Bylaws regarding the election of Officers / Chris Richardson.

a. Time did not allow – discussion will be held in the upcoming meeting on February 2, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.