

## **Planning & Development Board**

March 2, 2012  
Park County, Montana

**Attendance:** Planning Board Members Bill Berg, Peter Fox, Traci Isaly, Dale Reinhart, Frank Schroeder (via telephone) and Lewis Wilks. Also present were Mike Inman, planning staff; Barbara Woodbury, environmental health; Greg Coleman, county fire; Dann Babcox, PCRFD#1; public citizens.

**Call to Order:** @3:04 p.m., Chairman Bill Berg called a meeting to order in the Community Room of the City/County Complex.

**Conflict of Interest:** None reported

**Public Comment on Agenda Items not Scheduled for a Public Hearing:** None

### **New Business**

Discussion and Consideration of Submitting Formal Comments to the Department of Environmental Quality Regarding a Proposed Class III Monofill Site Located in Paradise Valley, Park County, Montana: Frank Schroeder said he feels strongly the board should make a formal statement on the proposed monofill site, and he provided a draft of a letter for consideration. Lewis Wilks said the letter should include public comment on the issue.

Senior Planner Mike Inman provided a map of the proposed tire monofill near Mill Creek/Chicory Road area. Inman also provided his opinion of Montana DEQ's assessment of the application within its permitting process and noted what he felt were oversights and contradictions to the county growth policy. He said increased traffic issues could arise, and DEQ's assessment of the overall area as "sparsely populated" is not in harmony with the potential for future development in the area.

Public Comment: Genie Tatum of Paradise Valley Estates on Chicory Road commented on traffic issues on the roads in question and said the road is only fog-sealed, not chip-sealed.

Marsha McCrumb said she has 300 acres of alfalfa-producing land near the proposed development that contains a conservation easement with a riparian area along Mill Creek, which contains nesting eagles, great horned owls, sandhill cranes and migratory waterfowl. She said school buses use an access on Chicory Road, which is a further traffic safety issue. She said a baseline EIS should be done before anything is developed due to the proposals proximity to Mill Creek and the Yellowstone River. McCrumb said increased dust from the roadways would be worse than present, thus air, water and noise pollution are an issue. McCrumb said she agrees DEQ did an inadequate job with its EA and she fully supports a letter in opposition to the proposal.

Greg Coleman, Paradise Valley Fire Department Chief, said the proposed project is located within PVFD's jurisdiction. Coleman said local tools to adequately address the safety concerns associated with the proposal are lacking, thus he has concerns for public health and safety. He said the process needs to be improved to adequately address comments. Coleman said a tire fire is a HAZMAT incident, and local volunteer fire departments are not equipped to handle such matters. He said Montana Disaster and Emergency Services would be responsible for any fire at the proposed facility.

Barbara Woodbury, environmental health, shared concerns she made to Montana DEQ in her professional capacity, which included in part traffic and inadequate road infrastructure issues, a non-paved road, Chicory Road serving as a school bus route, air quality issues and other human health and safety issues.

Dann Babcox, PCRFD#1 chief, said he agrees with Inman's comments regarding a subdivision on Chicory should not have been created without two access ways in and two ways out. He also said rangeland wildfire fuels are not being mitigated in the area of Paradise Valley in proximity to the proposed monofill. Babcox commented on fire district response time to the proposed area if a fire were to occur. He said the reality of a major tire fire at the proposed site is likely being over-emphasized.

Board Discussion and Possible Motion/Determination: *Dale Reinhart moved the board send a letter to DEQ with comments about the monofill. Lewis Wilks seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

Wilks said the letter needs to be distributed to board members by March 9 for comments and members should have comments back to Inman for a final draft by March 12 of 13.

**Discussion of March 2012 Agenda:** No discussion

**Adjournment:** @4:30:22 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Bill Berg  
Chairman