

# **BLAND COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**

## **Meeting Minutes for July 1, 2024**

### **Members Present:**

Meagan Bradshaw, Elmer Chewning, John Dodson, Steve Kelley, Jerry Mercer, Jim Pruett, Ron Stevenot

### **Members Absent:**

Jim Baker, James McCleary

### **Others Present:**

Joel K. Cagle, Planning Commission Secretary  
Cameron Burton, County Administrator

### **CALL TO ORDER**

At 6:00 PM, Chairman Mercer called the meeting of the Bland County Planning Commission to order at the Bland County Courthouse, Bland, Virginia. The Invocation was given, and allegiance was pledged to the flag of our country by everyone present.

### **ROLL CALL**

Planning Commission Secretary Cagle took the roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Mercer invited a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 1, 2024. Commissioner Bradshaw made the motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 1, 2024; Commissioner Stevenot provided the second, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

- None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

-None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

-The Commission discussed the need to rewrite/review the Comprehensive Plan. After much discussion, the County Administrator informed the Commission that the Comprehensive Plan is complete as is, except for Census data and the Transportation Chapter.

Commissioner Dodson voiced his concern on the need to review the entire document, citing no mention of Solar farms or Data banks, etc. He also expressed concern that there were no Bland County Planning Commission representatives on the Mount Rogers Planning Commission, stating that Board

**BLAND COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Minutes for July 1, 2024**

Member Keith Costello and Citizen Brenda Thompson were on that Committee. Mrs. Buton stated that she would look into that.

Keith Costello, Board of Supervisor, addressed the Commission stating that the update in data was important and would be used to tweak the Comprehensive Plan. He stated that Virginia was a “Dillon State” and the local government only had power that the State allows it to have. He commented that our Ordinances needed to be beefed up.

Chairman Mercer requested some goals or a timeline for the Comprehensive Plan review. County Administrator Burton that she would speak with MRPDC and attempt to have the updated data and a MRPDC representative at the October Planning Commission meeting and the review could begin after that.

Commissioner Dodson stated he had two requests, that MRPDC would provide “trends and suggestions”.

**ITEMS TABLED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

-None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Planning Commission at this time, Commissioner Bradshaw made a motion to adjourn; Commissioner Dodson provided the second, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Joel K. Cagle- Secretary  
Planning Commission  
County of Bland