

July 13, 2020

BOARD OF FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Location: Franklin County Annex Building Commission Chambers

Chair Waymire called the study session to order at 8:30a.m.

All Commissioners present except Commissioner Dickinson.

Larry Walrod, Planning and Building Director, discussed Special Use Permit 1901-1646 which permits the operation of a rifle range. A site visit was performed, and all the criteria of the permit are being complied with.

Public Comment:

Lynda Alderman, 2010 Osborne Terr, Ottawa- said this is a noise issue. They are shooting automatic weapons and start as early as 6AM some mornings. She said targets go all the way to the river, and that is a concern since they farm ground down by the river.

David Alderman, 2010 Osborne Terr, Ottawa- said it was concerning that KDOT wouldn't have let them position this toward the highway and Ottawa wouldn't have let this face the city limits. They wouldn't let that happen because it would be dangerous. It is also dangerous to have this range pointing toward their houses and farm ground.

Dawn Rumford, 2124 Osborne Terr, Ottawa- said she is worried about a bullet reaching a neighbor or their livestock. She said you can hear the bullets hitting the metal targets sometimes, but where do they go when you can't hear them hitting the target.

Tim Yoder, 4811 Hwy 59, Ottawa- said he understands the concerns of the other commenters. He said all the shooters on the range are trained and vetted. He said they have twenty-foot berms to protect the surrounding land from bullets. The shooters at this range are competition level shooters.

Derek Brown, County Administrator and County Counselor, said there are no problems with the permit as written as long as the permit holder is meeting all the conditions of the permit.

The Commission discussed condition #9 of the permit requiring the range to be NRA certified. There is no such certification. The fact that there is no certification does not nullify the agreement. Additionally, if all the conditions are being met, the Commissioners cannot make any changes to the existing permit.

Tim Yoder and his business partner David Powell said they are just trying to ensure everyone's safety and invited any of the surrounding land owners to the range to see the precautions that are being taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41AM.

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Clerk

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Chair