

Chase County Commissioners
Special Meeting
December 30, 2024

At 9:17 on Monday, December 30, 2024, a Special Meeting of the Chase County Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Jacci Brown in the District Courtroom at the Chase County Courthouse. The agenda and open meeting act were posted. Commissioners Billie Muehlenkamp and Kurt Bernhardt were also present, as well as County Attorney Joel Burke, County Clerk Wendy Moe and many members of the public. The meeting had been advertised on the County website, the Chase County Facebook page, at the Imperial Post Office, Wauneta Post Office, Wauneta Crossroads and at the Chase County Courthouse.

After review of the minutes from the December 23, 2024, meeting, Commissioner Brown moved to approve the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – abstain. Motion carried.

Discussion commenced regarding imposing a temporary moratorium on wind and solar projects in Chase County. The moratorium would not be intended to stop any projects, but to pause and give necessary time to research, catch up and prepare with regards to planning and zoning regulations and the comprehensive plan. The intention is not to stop progress, but to prepare for future projects. Commissioners agreed that a moratorium of 12 months should be sufficient, with the ability to lift the moratorium sooner if planning and zoning regulations and the comp plan are completed before the 12 months expire.

Commissioner Brown moved to adopt Resolution 2024-30 to impose a temporary moratorium on development of commercial and/or utility grade wind and solar energy conversion systems and the issuance of conditional use permits for the same, for a period of 12 months. Such moratorium may be lifted upon the completion of the updates to the Chase County Planning and Zoning Regulations and Comprehensive Plan. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Spencer Hosch, Attorney for Ranger Power, spoke during Open Forum, to ask if this Resolution will halt the Conditional Use Permit application currently in place for Ranger Power. Commissioners said yes.

Commissioner Brown stated that the Zoning Board will now begin the process of updating the planning and zoning regulations.

Duane Dinnel spoke to inquire about the validity of imposing this moratorium after the application for the Conditional Use Permit was already submitted.

Grant Jones spoke as a member of the Planning and Zoning Board and asked that the public please reach out to the Zoning Board with concerns, questions and input.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:53am.

CHASE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



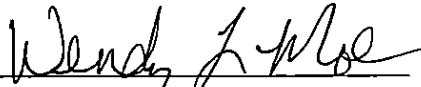
Billie Muehlenkamp – Commissioner District #1



Jacci Brown – Commissioner District #2



Kurt Bernhardt – Commissioner District #3

ATTEST: 
Wendy Moe, Chase County Clerk

