

# **AGENDA**

## **CRAWFORD COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**

### **Crawford County Courthouse**

### **January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

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- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Action on December 2020 Minutes:**
- 3. Communications**
- 4. Reports:**
  - A. Standing Committees**
    - A. Transportation Committee
    - B. Agricultural and Environmental Concerns Committee
    - C. Personnel Committee
    - D. Planning Initiative Committee
  - B. Planning Director's Report**
- 5. Public Comment:**

*(\*) The floor is open to the public in attendance for matters on the Commission's AGENDA.*
- 6. Presentations:**
  - a. None
- 7. Subdivisions, Land Development & Zoning Reviews:**
  - a. Welcome Solar III, Land Development; West Fallowfield Township
- 8. Old Business:**
  - a. Committee Assignment Discussion
  - b. 2021 Act 13 Program Discussion
- 9. New Business:**
  - a. Commission Member & Staff Biographies
  - b. Strategic Plan Implementation
- 10. Adjournment:**

*\*Those wishing to address issues not on the AGENDA should contact the Planning Director prior to the beginning of the regularly scheduled CCPC meeting.*

# CRAWFORD COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

## December Regular Meeting Minutes Skype Meeting, Meadville, Pennsylvania

Commissioner Lawrence called the Regular Meeting of the Crawford County Planning Commission (Planning Commission) to order at 1:31 p.m. on December 21, 2020.

### 1. Planning Commission Roll Call:

#### Present –

Maria Anderson-Dreese, Secretary  
Dick Astor, Treasurer  
John Lawrence, Chair  
John Frye  
Michael Krepps, Vice Chair  
Ron Mattocks  
Peter Zimmer  
Mark Nickerson

#### Absent –

Scott Sjolander

#### Other Attendees –

Zach Norwood, CC Planning Director  
Thomas, Gilbertson, CC Assistant Planning Director for Community Planning

### 2. Action on November 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes:

Commissioner Lawrence requested action on the November 2020 Regular Meeting minutes. Commissioner Nickerson noted two corrections (1) the minutes should reflect Commissioner Astor rather than Commission Frye and (2) the officer nominations should list Commissioner Zimmer rather than Commissioner Frye. Commissioner Astor moved to adopt the minutes with the proposed amendments; Commissioner Frye seconded; motion carried unanimously.

### 3. Communications:

- Holiday cards from location engineering firms.

### 4. Reports:

#### A. Planning Commission Standing Committees –

Transportation Committee: Commissioner Anderson-Dreese reported that the committee did not meet.

Agricultural and Environmental Concerns Committee: Commissioner Krepps reported on the committee’s individual progress on verifying the status of Agriculture Security Area enrollments throughout Crawford County.

Personnel: Commissioner Nickerson reported that the committee did not meet.

Planning Initiatives Committee: Commissioner Mattocks reported that the Planning Initiatives Committee met December 16, 2020 and discussed some of the remaining gaps in data collection for the compilation of a rural broadband GIS analysis. Commissioner Mattocks continued by mentioning the committee’s work toward developing subject matter for broadband proposals and researching the status and extent of broadband expansion efforts surrounding Crawford County. Committee members have been reaching out to school districts to understanding their internet service needs. The committee plans to meet again on January 13, 2021 to bring together more detailed information necessary for the drafting of broadband expansion proposals.

B. Planning Director’s Report –

Mr. Norwood reported the following:

[COMMUNITY PLANNING –

**HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

The Planning Office is assisting the County’s Public Safety Department to finalize an update to the County’s Hazard Mitigation Plan. The document will be completed by the first week of January 2021 and will be submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) for review and approval.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT –

**ACT 13 AT-RISK BRIDGE AWARD – FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP**

Fairfield Township completed their Act 13 funded project on Lauderbaugh Road and have requested reimbursement. The Township completely replaced an existing culvert that was designated as having a poor condition.

**CRAWFORD COUNTY ACT 13 PROGRAM**

The Planning Office is in the process of announcing the County’s 2021 Act 13 application cycle. The County has created a webpage to distribute information about the two programs, At-Risk Bridge and Environmental Initiatives, and has created an online application and reporting system for the programs. The 2021 application cycle will be open January 2, 2021 and close on March 31, 2021.

The County’s At-Risk Bridge 2021 Program will open up the following available amounts:

Program	Allocation Amount
Municipal Fund	\$100,268.74
County Fund	\$38,564.90

Use of brackets [ ] represents information not directly stated into the record at the meeting but summarized from another document. Use of italics represents information stated into the record but herein clarified in greater detail.

Capital Investment Fund	\$15,425.96
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The County’s Environmental Initiatives 2021 Program will open up the following available amounts:

Program	Allocation Amount
Western Region	\$20,550
Central Region	\$43,950
Eastern Region	\$15,000
County Fund	\$10,000
Capital Investment Fund	\$4,564.56

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Commissioner Astor inquired about the County’s Act 13 funding policies. After detailing the County’s policies for this funding source, Mr. Norwood mentioned that the details of the County’s Act 13 allocation policies can be found on the Planning Office’s webpage.

Commissioner Astor inquired about solar farm activity in Crawford County based on an article published in the Meadville Tribune. Mr. Norwood provided a summary of solar farm activity seen in Crawford County to date. Upon further inquiry, Mr. Norwood noted that many of the county’s communities likely do not have provisions within their regulations to address solar farm activities.

**5. Public Comment:**

None.

**6. Presentations:**

**A. Commissioners Remarks**

Mr. Norwood relayed comments from the Crawford County Board of Commissioners concerning the service of Mike Krepps and Mark Nickerson on the Crawford County Planning Commission. The County Commissioners are very appreciative of their service and have expressed their thankfulness. Specifically, the Crawford County Board of Commissioners will soon act upon an official proclamation honoring Commissioner Mark Nickerson for his outstanding contributions to Crawford County from his service on the Planning Commission over the last 27 years. The proclamation designates December 21 as “Mark Nickerson Day” in Crawford County.

**7. Subdivisions, Land Developments & Zoning Reviews:**

None.

**8. Old Business:**

**A. Planning Commission Committee Assignments**

Commissioner Lawrence opened discussion on this item by mentioning that the Commission has stepped up committee work recently but has room for improvement. Commissioner Anderson-Dreese mentioned that she will continue action on this item in January and requested that

Use of brackets [ ] represents information not directly stated into the record at the meeting but summarized from another document. Use of italics represents information stated into the record but herein clarified in greater detail.

Planning Commission members actively consider projects and goals for Planning Commission committees and to reach out to her directly to discuss further opportunities. Commissioner Krepps inquired into the status of the Planning Commission's pending appointments. Mr. Norwood noted that the County Commissioner will act on these recommended appointments at their next meeting.

**9. New Business:**

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Anderson-Dreese moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mattocks seconded. The December 2020 Crawford County Planning Commission Regular Meeting adjourned at 2:14 p.m. on Monday, December 21, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Anderson-Dreese, Secretary  
**Crawford County Planning Commission**

cc:

Crawford County Board of Commissioners  
**Crawford County Planning Commission January 2021**

## Administrative Updates

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### [2021 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INTEREST \(ETHICS\) FORMS](#)

The Planning Office and Planning Commission needs to submit the Ethic's Form included in the January meeting packet by May 1, 2021. Commission members can send the form via mail or deliver it in person to the Crawford County Elections Office.

## Community Planning Projects

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### [HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN](#)

The Planning Office, GIS Section, and the Public Safety Department submitted the final draft of the 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan for review by PEMA and FEMA in January 2021. The existing plan expires in May of 2021.

### [COUNTYWIDE PUBLIC SAFETY STUDY](#)

Crawford County will be submitting a request for assistance from the Department of Community and Economic Development to complete a countywide public safety study focusing on fire and emergency response services (EMS). The study will be covered by the state through a program discovered by the Planning Office. The project is expected to kickoff in 2021 and be completed prior to 2022.

## Community Development Projects

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### [ARC POWER GRANT](#)

Planning staff and ARC staff have been working to coordinate the logistics and contractual agreements of a cooperation agreement to initiate the \$1.5 million ARC grant to develop the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail.

### [CRAWFORD COUNTY ACT 13 PROGRAM](#)

The Planning Office has officially announced the Act 13 Program through social media, email blasts, and letters to local communities. Numerous inquiries have come in about the program and it appears we will have a large pool of projects to fund in late 2021.

### [CITY OF MEADVILLE RENTAL & UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM](#)

The Planning Office is finalizing the program requirements to kickoff a rent and utility assistance program for citizens in the City of Meadville which will be funded through the City's Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus funding. Please keep an eye open as that program gets announced to refer citizens within the City who need help to it.

## Legislative Updates

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### [HOUSE BILL 1775 & SENATE BILL 101](#)

These two pieces of legislation would amend the State Highway Law to require that PennDOT maintain all surface and subsurface drainage facilities connected with the state highways within boroughs and incorporated towns with populations equal to or less than 2,500 people. Passage of either of these bills would help strengthen the infrastructure in all fourteen of Crawford County's Boroughs. The Planning Commission and Planning Office staff should reach out to local elected officials to determine their stance on this legislation and encourage them to sponsor or cosponsor the bill in the current legislative session.



# CRAWFORD COUNTY PLANNING OFFICE

Zachary Norwood - Planning Director  
Courthouse – Meadville, PA 16335  
Phone: 814-333-7341

January 26, 2021

Brenda Williams, Secretary  
West Fallowfield Township  
PO Box 157  
Hartstown, PA 16131

## **RE: Crawford County Planning Commission review of Welcome Solar III, LLC, Land Development**

Dear Ms. Williams,

The Crawford County Planning Commission has reviewed the plat of land development for the Welcome Solar III, LLC, Land Development at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 25, 2021, and offers the following comments. The review and this report are provided pursuant to Section 502(b) of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) (53 P.S. 10502(b)) before a municipality may approve a subdivision or land development. These comments are nonbinding and are made to identify potential discrepancies between this development submission and provisions of West Fallowfield Township's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) as well as to identify errors in the submission or other areas of potential concern.

### Procedural Comments:

1. As a copy of the plat submitted for final review, the plan should bear the signature of the preparing engineer or surveyor on the first page and seals on subsequent pages, which were absent. County Planning recommends these be included on the final plan.
2. County Planning recommends that the applicant contact the Crawford County Conservation District regarding any necessary permits that may be required relating to this or future development. The Conservation District can be reached at (814) 763-5269.
3. If necessary, County Planning recommends that the applicant coordinate with the Crawford County Geographic Information System & Mapping Office at (814) 724-2562 to determine addressing.

### Consistency with Local Comprehensive Plan:

The commentary within this section of our review cannot serve as the basis for the approval or denial of a subdivision or land development. The following comments are to encourage development that supports local community objectives, and to provide a record that may benefit future community planning efforts.

1. The creation of this land development appears generally consistent with the following objectives outlined within "Section 3.1 Community Development Objectives" of West Fallowfield Township's Comprehensive Plan:

- a. None cited.
2. The creation of this land development may be inconsistent with the following objectives outlined within “Section 3.1 Community Development Objectives” of West Fallowfield Township’s Comprehensive Plan:
  - a. “Objective 1: To preserve the quiet, rural and agrarian nature of the Township by protecting land values with land use policies. ... Policy: While development of the land is expected, it shall be of a nature that improves the aesthetic, economic and physical qualities of surrounding properties. It shall be in harmony and compatible with the natural environment and current land uses. This focus is necessary to preserve the quality of life at large by protecting and sustaining the townships natural surroundings, which are considered its greatest resource. Priority has been placed on the preservation, conservation, and promotion of natural resources and rural lifestyles.”
3. The creation of land development relates to the plan designation shown in West Fallowfield Township’s Future Land Use Plan (see “Section 3.2 Future Land Use Plan” in West Fallowfield Township’s Comprehensive Plan – 2009) as follows:
  - a. Proposed land development lies within the Agriculture Preservation plan designation. The Agriculture Preservation plan designation is described as follows:

“These areas include agricultural uses such as field and forested lands. These areas are designated to encourage existing agricultural activities to remain functioning, to promote the expansion of agriculture where possible and to discourage from locating in its midst, uses harmful to the continuation of agriculture. Public facilities such as sewerage and water systems should not be extended into this area. Public roads should be maintained in a rural character; bituminous pavement is not necessary here. Nonagricultural uses locating in this area should be prepared to accept the primacy of agricultural activity. Most of these areas have on-site sewage systems and individual water wells.” (Pg. 62)

Potential Concerns:

1. None cited.

Potential Plat Errors:

1. None cited.

Compliance with SALDO:

1. The SALDO requires that final land development plans follow the requirements of major subdivisions in Section 305. SALDO Section 305.1(m) requires the plat to have “The following certificates (See Appendix I.) ... (3) Owners’ declaration statement where the plat is recorded separately from the property deed and, if any, the dedication statement.” This certificate does not appear on the plat. As a copy of the plat submitted for final review, the plan should also bear the notarized signature of the applicant. Since the applicant differs from the landowners of record, County Planning also recommends that a note appear on the plat clearly describing Welcome Solar III, LLC’s interest in the land.
2. The plat shows an existing gas line following the western property line of tax parcel 2604-019 of the Owens’. SALDO Section 305.1(k) requires “The location and width of existing easements” to be shown on the plat. If any easement for this line exists, County Planning recommends it be noted on the plat.



- Pending Review by the Crawford County Planning Commission
3. SALDO Section 602.2 requires of final land development plan reviews, “the following items shall be submitted to the Township Supervisors for Final Plan review. (a) Engineering plans detailing the construction of all required improvements.” While the SALDO’s provisions for stormwater controls and plan drawing requirements have been superseded by the West Fallowfield Township Stormwater Management Ordinance (2011), since the township requires stormwater management devices for this development, the engineering plans detailing them in accordance with the Stormwater Management Ordinance appear required to be a part of this final plan. County Planning recommends engineering plans for stormwater controls to be submitted to the township as part of the final plan.

The submission and this report are kept for the public record. A subdivision or land development may not be finally approved if West Fallowfield township finds deficiencies in the submission that are not addressed in accordance with its SALDO or the MPC.

Please contact the Crawford County Planning Office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Peter Grella  
Land Use Planner  
Crawford County Planning Office

cc: Seth Shafer, PE, Project Manager, Fisher Associates  
Dave Amy, Crawford County Public Safety  
Tracey Crawford, Crawford County Conservation District

**Welcome Solar III Land Development**

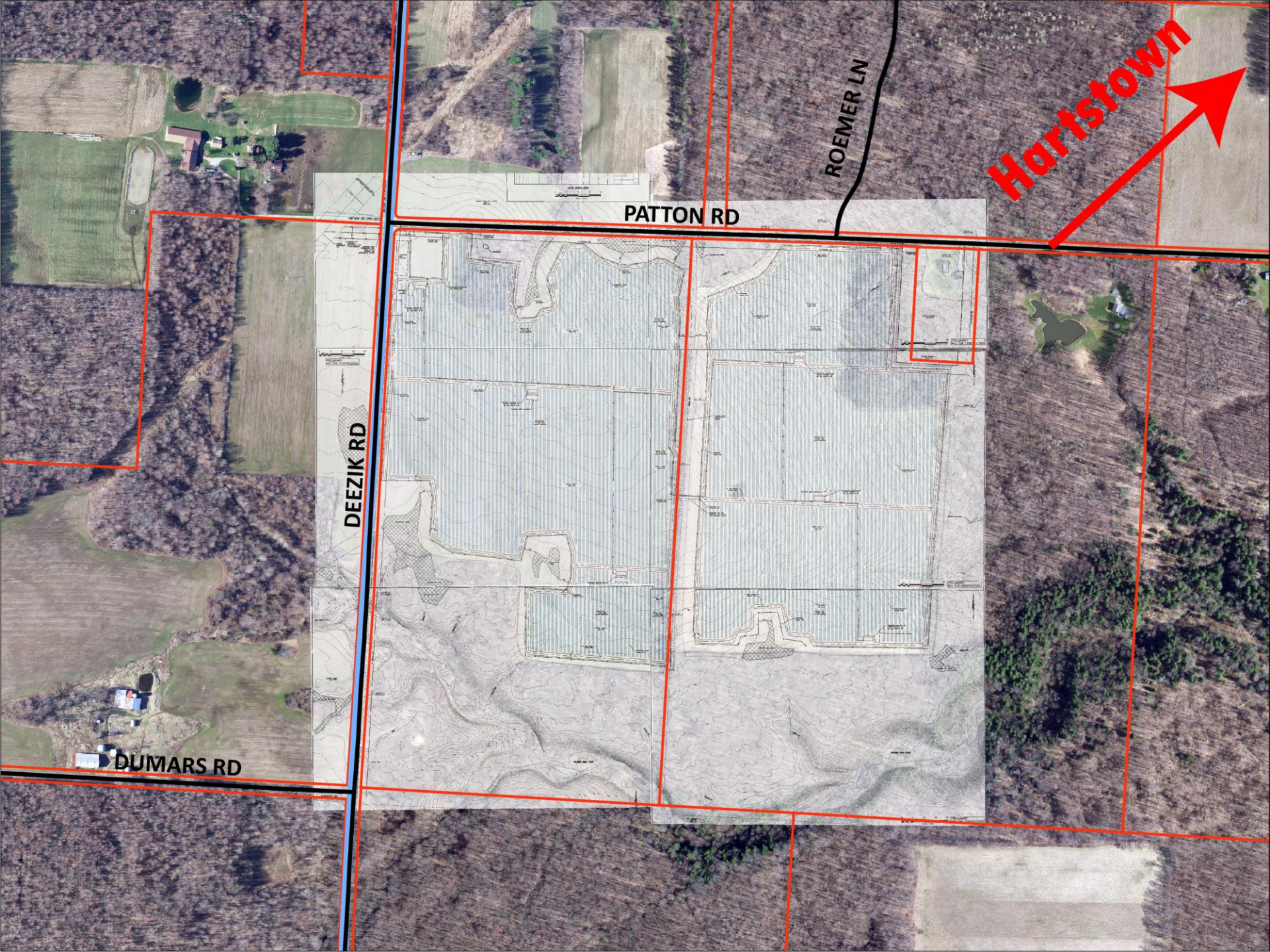
**West Fallowfield Township**

**Crawford County, Pennsylvania**









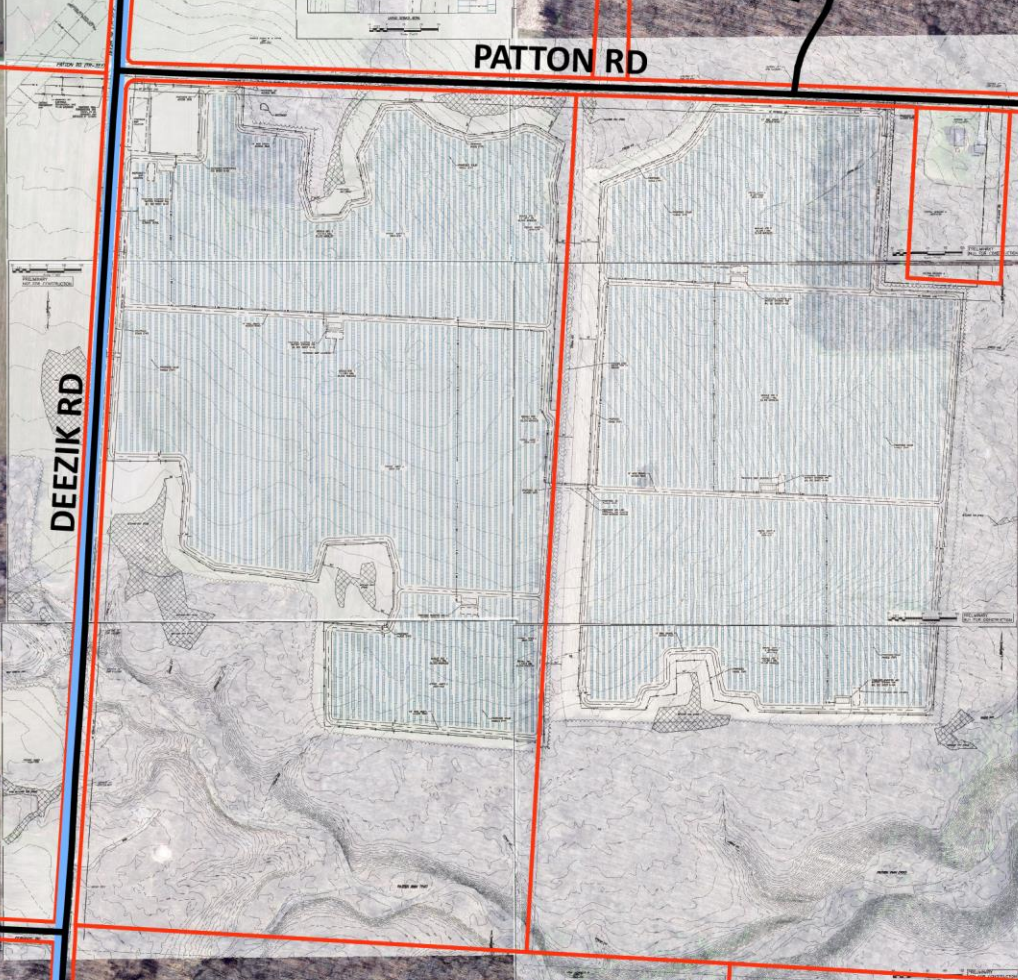
**Hartstown**

ROEMER LN

PATTON RD

DEEZIK RD

DUMARS RD





**POWER LINES**

ROEMER LN

PATTON RD

**HOMES**

DEEZIK RD

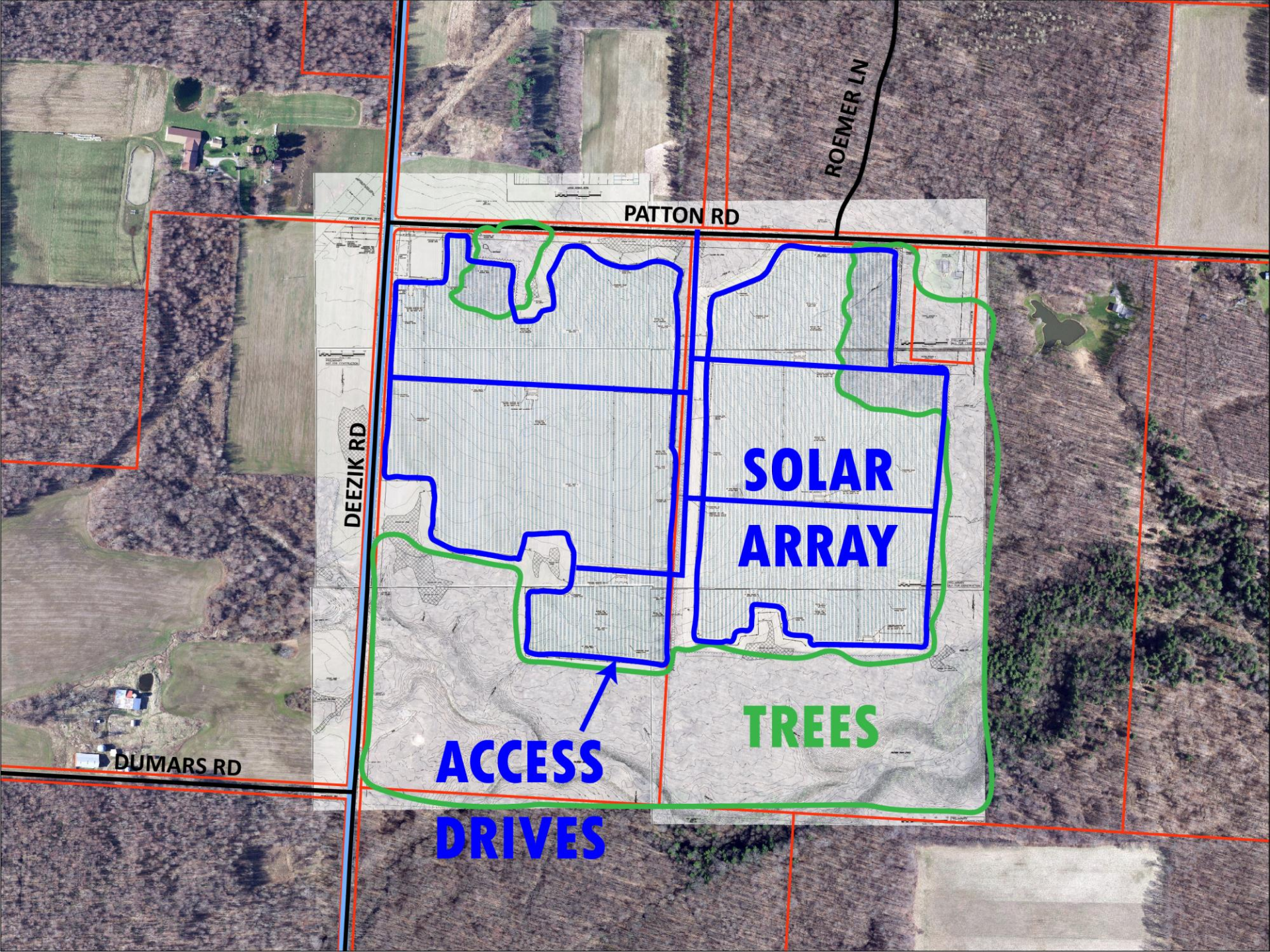
**GASLINE**

DUMARS RD

**TREES**







ROEMER LN

PATTON RD

DEEZIK RD

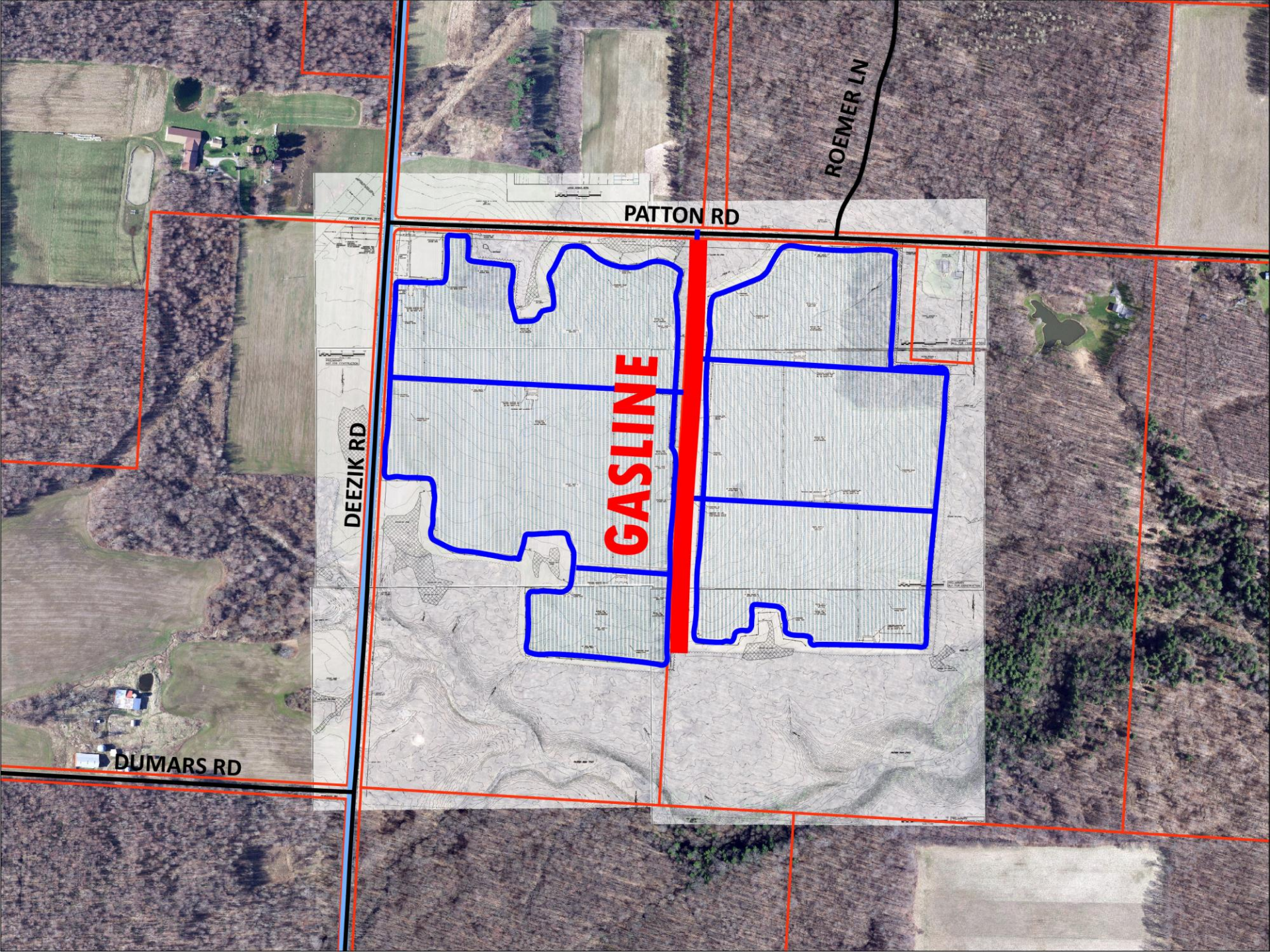
**SOLAR  
ARRAY**

**TREES**

**ACCESS  
DRIVES**

DUMARS RD





ROEMER LN

PATTON RD

DEEZIK RD

DUMARS RD

**GASLINE**



**JANUARY 2021 STAFF SUBDIVISION REVIEWS**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Municipality</u></b>	<b><u>Lots</u></b>	<b><u>Reviewer</u></b>	<b><u>Comments:</u></b>
McLaren Subdivision #2	East Mead Twp	2	Peter Grella	From 6.359 acres, taking 5.223 acres as Lot 2 and the remaining 1.136 to combine with existing lot of 37.301 acres with a 50-foot wide 500-ft-apx long access drive.
Plat of Survey for Roger W. White (Deceased) Subdivision 2020-1 and 2020-2	Cussewago Twp	5	Peter Grella	From 2206-013-1, separating 2.563 acres to convey to neighboring land 2206-013, which neighboring land will also subdivide a 12.308-acre lot; from 2206-024, separating the land from what is across the road.
William M. Kelso Subdivision	West Shenango Township	2	Bob Hopkins	Dividing a 2 acre residential parcel from a 19.29 acre residential parcel.
Jamison Subdivision	South Shenango Township	1	Bob Hopkins	Dividing a 1.6338 acre residential parcel from an 11.3563 acre parcel.



## 2021 Crawford County Planning Commission Member Biographies

### Maria Dreese (Chair)

I am Maria Dreese and I reside in Townville in Troy Township with my husband and two children. I work for Penn State University for the Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies where I travel Pennsylvania working with public road owning entities to improve the environmental affects of our transportation network on our natural resources through a 35-million-dollar grant program. My formal training is in agriculture, soil sciences and agronomy and I have previously worked for the Meadville NRCS Office and the Crawford County Conservation District. I serve as treasurer for the Townville Old Home Days Community Carnival that serves our fire, ambulance, and auxiliary services and as an auditor for my municipality. I am a lifelong resident of Crawford County and take great pride in our community planning efforts to preserve the rural landscape and enhance our urban communities.

### Ron Mattocks (Vice Chair)

### Dick Astor (Treasurer)

I reside in Vernon township and have been living in north western pa for more than 50 years. I grew up in New Jersey and I'm a retired educator having last served in the Conneaut school district as superintendent of schools. I believe in helping my community and have served on many community boards including chairman of the Meadville medical center board. My wife Linda and I have two sons and 7 grandchildren and they reside in northwestern pa. I think that we as a commission need to promote good community planning and help and assist our local entities with their planning concerns.

### Peter Zimmer (Secretary)

My name is Peter Zimmer. I live and work in Meadville. I work in business administration and management. Currently I work in the home renovation and remodel field but have previously worked with restaurants, early education and human services. I joined the planning commission to affect the long-term development, planning and opportunities for Crawford County.

### Dan Arnett

My name is Dan Arnett and I am from the Conneaut Lake area. I run Ernst Biomass, LLC in Meadville and my wife and I recently purchased the laundromat in Conneaut Lake. Being on this commission was an opportunity for service to the community in an arena that I find very interesting.

### John Lawrence

I am John Lawrence and reside in Richmond Township where my wife and I, along with our family operate Stanford Farms. I am a retired facility manager from Twin Creeks Head Start program. I'm currently a member of the John Brown Heritage Association, (Brown's Tannery is in Richmond), and the Crawford County Historical Society. I also am an active volunteer in Richmond. The Planning Commission is a very unique way to help townships with questions from land development to tackling and utilizing "tools" like the Act 13 project. I feel that promoting the Planning Office as a partner to municipalities in the county is goal that benefits everyone.

### John Frye

I am from Titusville. I worked for the Titusville Area School District for 31 years the last 18 as the Director of Technology. I retired in March of 2017. I have served as a member of Titusville's Zoning Hearing Board, a member of their city council, President of the Shade Tree Commission, and a member of the Civil Service Board. I have lived in Titusville since 1986. Since retirement my wife and I have traveled cross country over a period of 7 weeks and drove approximately 12,000 miles. Last summer with travel being limited we decided to play more golf and I played golf 5 to 6 days a week. This is my third year on the commission and my goal is to be sure that the needs of the Titusville area are represented and bring my knowledge of the area to the commission.

### Katie Wickert

My name is Katie Wickert and I currently serve as a Councilmember for the Borough of Linesville, where I chair the Grants, Revitalization, Parks & Recreation, and Property Maintenance Committees. In addition to my governmental work with the Borough, I have also been employed as the Deputy City Clerk for the City of Meadville, assisting both the City Planning Commission and the Redevelopment Authority; prior to that I worked for Crawford County Adult Probation. In addition to my governmental background, I serve in a number of other civic groups including the Friends of Pymatuning State Park, Allegheny College Association-Nancy Sheridan Scholarship Committee, Linesville Cemetery Association, noon-time Rotary Club, and the Crawford Area Young Chamber of Commerce, as well as serving on the board of directors for Meadville Community Theatre and being a member of the French Creek Valley Conservancy and Crawford County Historical Society. I was motivated to join the planning commission to assist all municipalities in the county to become strong, vibrant communities enhanced by the variety of recreational assets Crawford County has to offer, without losing their small town and agricultural roots.

### Scott Sjolander

I come from a rural background in Kansas, the City of Scandia, having 400 people, on the banks of the Republican River along US 36 Highway. My profession began as I worked weekends in the cattle feedlot, then to the railroad as a welder's helper, on to the oilfield as a cementer, to a tree service as an arborist, then to utility companies as a forester, and lately 25 years as an outreach educator. I am out of sentences, but brag long on LinkedIn. I am honored to serve on the Planning commission, because thoughtless land use can cause damages that takes our earth geologic time to repair.

## 2021 Crawford County Planning Office Biographies

### Zach Norwood

My name is Zach Norwood, and I'm currently the Crawford County Planning Director. I grew up in southwestern Pennsylvania in a small town, Indiana Borough. I studied environmental geography and regional planning at Indiana University of Pennsylvania for my undergraduate degree and received a Master of City and Regional Planning Degree from Ohio State University in 2012. My wife, who is a Crawford County native, and I relocated to the Meadville area in 2015 when I started at the Planning Office. We now reside within the City of Meadville and have two children under the age of six.

I've worked in the field of community planning and development since 2009 in all sectors of the field: public, private, non-profit, and education. I've working across 80+ communities in Pennsylvania on numerous projects included, but not limited to: City of Pittsburgh's Historic Preservation Plan,

Pennsylvania Wilds Design Guides, Indiana County's Comprehensive Plan and Housing Plan, and various efforts locally here in Crawford County. I'm a member and council member at Trinity Lutheran Church, Chairman for the City of Meadville's Beautification Committee, member of the Northwest section committee of the State Water Plan, Treasurer of the Northwest Chapter of the Pennsylvania American Planning Association, Vice Chair of the Northwest Regional Transportation Advisory Committee, and I'm an executive board member of the County Planning Directors Association of Pennsylvania (an organization under CCAP).

My passion for planning comes from my desire to improve the physical environment to positively impact the quality of life for my fellow citizens. I studied abroad in late 2008 and found an appreciation for the built environment, how people live within their communities, and how public policy shapes the places we call home.

### Thomas Gilbertson

I'm Thomas Gilbertson and I'm not originally from Crawford County or even Pennsylvania. I was born and raised in SE Portland, Oregon. I attended college at the University of Oregon in Eugene and then spent a few years living in The Dalles and Salem Oregon before moving to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I lived and worked in South Philadelphia for about four years while also attending graduate school at the University of Pennsylvania before accepting a position with Crawford County.

My professional background is in community planning. However, I also have a considerable background in non-profit fundraising and management, business district planning and organization, and economics. Back in Oregon, I worked in The Dalles to facilitate and develop a community vision action plan as the principal component of a public involvement process to engage citizens in a periodic update to their comprehensive plan. Additionally, I worked to facilitate the developed of organized commercial districts in both The Dalles and Oregon City. Later on, I served as the Program Manager for the Salem Downtown Partnership where I provided programmatic assistance as well as marketing services for a district comprised of nearly 600 businesses. In South Philadelphia, I worked with the United Merchants of the South 9th Street Business Association to facilitate planning for a Business Improvement District and guided the development of a neighborhood community vision plan for Lower North Philadelphia's Francisville Neighborhood. Additionally, I worked with a team of planners to develop a neighborhood eco-district plan for Baltimore's Reservoir Hill Neighborhood as a part of my graduate program. I'm affiliated with the Association of Fundraising Professionals and the American Planning Association.

The most important thing is conduct work in a manner that cultivates a culture of planning throughout the county. Doing so will enable communities and citizens to engage in planning practices that will mitigate land use inefficiencies and negative externalities and thus unlock greater economic value over time. The only outcome I care about is to guide communities towards achieving a desired future. Without working to build a culture of planning, opportunities will be missed, value will be lost, and our work is reduced to mere bureaucracy.

### Jenny Tompkins

I live in Meadville with my partner Bennett and our two dogs, Chai and Finn. Before joining the Planning Office in July 2020, I served as an AmeriCorps VISTA in the City and as the grant writer/administrator for Crawford County Drug & Alcohol. The primary motivation for my work is a need to increase public understanding of and participation in the multitude of funding and planning activities that our office is

connected to. I hope to play a role in empowering local communities to promote the equitable distribution of resources, to seek input from diverse perspectives, and to plan strategically for changing conditions.

#### Robert Hopkins

My name is Bob Hopkins. I am a lifelong Crawford Countian; our family farm is located in Rome and Sparta Townships. I currently live in Spartansburg Borough with my wife Rhonda and our daughter Lucille. I received a Bachelor of Science degree from Clarion State College in 1978. My employment with the Crawford County Planning Commission began on August 1, 1980. I was hired as a draftsman/cartographer and currently hold the position of Land Use Planner. I serve on the Boards of the John Brown Heritage Association, Rose Hill Cemetery Association, Sparta Grange 110, Crawford County Agricultural Land Preservation Board. I am a member, elder and financial secretary at Midway Christian and Missionary Alliance Church. My initial motivation was a paycheck. As the years have gone by and with my background on the family farm, I have grown to appreciate the land and just how important it is. With some degree of horror, I have watched the farming/rural lifestyle dissipate with accelerating speed to the detriment of all of us. My hope and motivation springs from the fact that the direction we are headed is not sustainable, humans will always have to eat, and we will return to a sensible stewardship of the land that was instilled in us by our Creator.

#### Peter Grella

My name is Peter Grella, and I am one of the two land use planners in the planning office. I am from Meadville. My background is in planning. I have no defining affiliation with any group or association. Curiosity and meaningfulness.

#### Samantha Travis

I have been working with the Planning Office as a Community Development Planner since August of 2019. I currently reside in Meadville, and have since 2008. My background is in history and historic preservation.