

# Planning & Zoning News

Volume 3 Issue 4 October 2011 Department of Planning & Zoning Scott Anderson, Director

## Looking Forward, Planning Ahead

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Editor: Pat Herman

### STAFF NEWS

#### PROMOTION, PROMOTION!

**RYAN STREFF**   
 was promoted to  
**PLANNER II**  
 On August 16TH!  


### MEET YOUR PLANNER/CODE ENFORCER



#### FEATURED!

#### RYAN STREFF

*as told to Pat Herman*

Ryan Streff has been with the County Planning Department for over two years. As a Planner II and the Code Enforcement Officer, Ryan’s area of focus is enforcement of the adopted ordinances of the County. Most of the violations in the county involve the regulations of the Zoning Ordinances and Public Nuisance Ordinance.

In addition to code enforcement, Ryan is involved in land use planning, drainage and other aspects of the Planning Department. He also conceptualized and implemented the “Slash Your Trash” program in which cleanup days are held in rural neighborhoods.

Ryan earned a B.S. in Urban and Regional Studies and a Master’s of Arts in Urban Planning, both from Minnesota State University - Mankato. He was a Minnesota farm boy, growing up on a farm north of Hadley, which Ryan describes as a “blink town”. This isn’t too far from Slayton. Ryan’s interest in planning started in a round-about way. His first course of study in college was aviation and Ryan earned his pilot’s license for single engine planes. After the events of 9/11 career opportunities in aviation dried up. Ryan had also had a growing interest in planning, developed after taking several elective courses. Ryan said that he “became

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### RED ROCK CORRIDOR PLAN

The Red Rock Corridor Plan is nearing completion. The task force agreed upon a future land use plan to be used to guide development along Highway 42. At the July meeting, the task force formulated design standards which address setbacks, landscaping, lighting and signs. The goals and objectives of the Plan were approved by the task force in September and Planner Dustin Powers is preparing the final draft to be presented to the Planning Commission and County Commission for approval.

## MEET YOUR PLANNER CONT.



interested in the wide variety of opportunities offered in the planning field, either through a city, county, or state department or in a private firm.”

If not employed in the planning field Ryan would like to explore being “a business owner and being his own boss.” A fun job would be a “test driver for new cars and other vehicles and then submitting reviews to publications like Car and Driver.”

The interview concluded with Ryan answering the following questions:

*What would you name a yacht?* Comin’ in Hot

*Weirdest food you have ever eaten?* Fresh octopus in Greece. The octopi were hanging outside of the restaurants. It was very mushy.

*Favorite cartoon growing up?* Garfield and Friends - the pig and the duck that always thought the sky was falling.

*My biggest pet peeve.....*that people don’t use their turn signals.

*Your ultimate vacation.....*one of those tickets that lets you travel around the world. I am interested in the history of places that I visit, and like to experience different cultures.

## ENFORCEMENT OF PUBLIC NUISANCES

The Minnehaha County public nuisance ordinance addresses abandoned property, vermin, burning, dead animals, garbage and waste material. This summer the County Commission declared two properties to be public nuisances and directed the Planning Department to proceed with abatement of the violations. Each of the property owners had been given warnings and allowed a generous amount of time to bring their property into compliance.

One property was located in the community of Corson and the other on an acreage fronting Hwy 131, a few miles from EROS. Planner Ryan Streff arranged for the the contractors and managed each site. The Corson property was cleaned in one day but it took five days to remove all of the materials from the rural acreage. The cost of the project is assessed to the property owner and is owed as part of next year’s taxes. Cost for the one day clean up was about \$5,000 while the other project totaled over \$13,000.

Pictures from the abatement at the rural acreage



# PUMPKIN CENTER

There is no record of how Pumpkin Center got its name. A country general store known as Wellington Corner was constructed in 1921 at the junction of what are today State Highways 19 and 42. The unimproved road adjacent to the store was on the tourist route for easterners going to Yellowstone National Park.

In 1926 the wagon trail in front of the store was designated as U.S. Highway 16. In 1931 concrete paving began - a five mile stretch of Highway 16 on either side of the store. By that time the store had come to be known as Pumpkin Center. A party was held to celebrate the opening of the highway, attended by Federal G-men to ensure Prohibition was upheld.

As traffic increased, the general store added a filling station, a repair shop, a car dealership and a body shop. A local gathering spot, Pumpkin Center sponsored its own baseball team the "River Rats" in the 1930s. During WWII the store was a Red Cross service station. Gradually the related businesses closed and the general store ceased operation in 1993.



## Meeting Calendar

- Planning Commission Meeting  
October 24 at 7:00 pm  
Application submittal deadline October 1
- County Commission Meeting  
Planning & Zoning Items  
November 22 at 9:00 am
- Planning Commission Meeting  
November 28 at 7:00 pm  
Application submittal deadline October 4
- County Commission Meeting  
Planning & Zoning Items  
December 20 at 9:00 am

All meetings are held in the County Commission meeting room, 2nd Floor of the County Administration Building.

# PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSIONERS & STAFF

## COMMISSIONERS

<b>Don South</b> Renner/Crooks Area 2007-2011	<b>Becky Randall</b> Dell Rapids Area 2008-2012
<b>Susie O'Hara, CHAIR</b> Humboldt/Colton Area 2009-2013	<b>Mike Cypher</b> Wall Lake Area 2008-2012
<b>Wayne Steinhauer</b> Wall Lake Area 2006-2010	<b>Gerald Beninga</b> County Commission Representative 2010-2011
<b>Mark Rogen</b> Garretson Area 2010-2014	

## STAFF

<b>Director</b> <b>Scott Anderson</b> sanderson@minnehahacounty.org	<b>Building Inspector</b> <b>Paul Clarke</b> pc Clarke@minnehahacounty.org
<b>Assistant Director</b> <b>Pat Herman</b> pherman@minnehahacounty.org	<b>GIS Coordinator</b> <b>Heidi Jerke</b> hjerke@minnehahacounty.org
<b>Code Enforcement/ Planner II</b> <b>Ryan Streff</b> rstreff@minnehahacounty.org	<b>GIS Analyst</b> <b>Darin VanDeBerg</b> dvandeberg@minnehahacounty.org
<b>Planner I</b> <b>Dustin Powers</b> dpowers@minnehahacounty.org	<b>Park Supervisor</b> <b>John Mork</b>
<b>Zoning Technician</b> <b>Deb Johnson</b> djohnson@minnehahacounty.org	

## Minnehaha County Planning & Zoning News

### Looking Forward, Planning Ahead

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