

**CAERNARVON TOWNSHIP
BERKS COUNTY, PA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AND
PLANNING COMMISSION
JOINT MEETING
APRIL 18, 2023**

The Caernarvon Township Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission held a Special Joint Meeting on April 18, 2023 in the Caernarvon Township Municipal Building located at 3307 Main Street, Morgantown, PA.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Sandra Styer, Chairperson; Paul Whiteman, Jr., Supervisor; Keith Fritz, Supervisor; Paul Whiteman, Sr., Supervisor; Jeff Vickers, Supervisor; Solicitor Eric Brown, Siana Law; Scott Anderson, Township Engineer; Jeff Kerlin, Township Zoning Officer; Sean Zerbey, Planning Commission Chairperson; Roger Keith, Planning Commission Member; Allen Styer, Planning Commission Member; Joan Bair, Township Administrator/Secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

Sandra Styer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

BUSINESS

- A. Presentation by Vanguard Renewables** – Sarah Morrissey, Vanguard Renewables, gave a presentation on a proposed Anaerobic Digester System for the Kurtland Farm located at 4366 Main Street. Ms. Morrissey introduced Jarred Kurtz, current owner of Kurtland Farm, and explained that Vanguard Renewables has been engaging in discussions with Mr. Kurtz regarding the possibility of leasing approximately 10 acres from Kurtland Farm for Vanguard’s Anaerobic Digester System, a system that converts manure and food products into renewable energy. In addition, Ms. Morrissey explained that applications have been submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection and the Agricultural Land Preservation Board has been contacted for comments.

Odor control concerns were raised by the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Morrissey explained that a filtration system for odor control would be part of the construction plans, and that Vanguard would also comply with any permitting requirements. Mr. Kurtz added that he foresees the proposed digester system offsetting odors from the amount of manure currently processed on the farm.

The Board of Supervisors inquired about noise and traffic impact to neighboring communities. Ms. Morrissey explained that the system would require approximately 19-21 trucks per day for the delivery and pick up of food packaging material. In addition, Ms. Morrissey explained that plans are underway for determining the processing of biogas products such as methane. At this time, the public inquired about the impact on neighboring property values. Ms. Morrissey did not have the information available at this time, but figures will be provided.

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Lynn Burkholder, Twin Valley Coffee, inquired about the threshold size of cows for the anaerobic digester system. Ms. Morrissey explained that the estimated threshold of cows is 300, an efficient number for the proposed system.

Engineer Scott Anderson recommended that the Developer obtain information regarding any solid waste permitting requirements.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session needed.

MEMBER COMMENTS

No comments.

ADJOURN

Having no further business, Paul Whiteman, Jr. made a motion to adjourn meeting. Keith Fritz seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:23PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan A. Bair
Secretary