

**Willington Inland Wetland and Watercourses Commission**

**October 24, 2022 – 7:30 PM**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Note: This Meeting was held virtually via zoom.**

**A. Call to Order/ Roll call**

D. Schreiber called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM

**Members Present:**

David Schreiber

Patrick Lord

Mark Drobney

**Also Present:**

Mike D’Amato – Zoning Agent

Chris Roberts – Assistant Land Use Agent

**B. Seating of alternates**

None

**C. Applications to be received:**

None

**D. Approval of Minutes:**

a. September 26, 2022

P. Lord Motioned to accept the minutes as written. M. Drobney seconded. **All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

**E. Public Hearing:**

None

**F. New Business:**

**a. TH-22-4** Timber Harvest at 0 Potter School Rd (49/002-00) Owner: Willington Development LTD  
Partnership Applicant: Anthony Grossi

Anthony Grossi introduced himself as the applicant. He explained the location, size and stand types of the parcel. He explained that the property had been partially harvested previously. He explained that his forester John Clark flagged the operation. He explained the buffer around the operation area and the location of the landings. He explained the wetlands crossings and the types of materials that would be used for crossings. He stated this was a modified shelterwood harvest meaning all ages of trees would be harvested in order to regenerate. He further explained that the canopy was closed and that was the

intent to open the to allow sunlight to touch the forest floor and regenerate the forest. He stated the project would take 9-10 weeks weather permitting. He explained that the equipment was in the operational plan and that they were a whole tree operation, meaning they try to use as much of the tree as possible. He noted that there were photos of the crossings provided.

D. Schreiber asked what kind of equipment they would be using. A. Grossi explained the equipment to be used in the operation. He added that their operational hours are typically 7-5 pm.

P. Lord asked how many proposed crossings. A Grossi answered that there would be two crossings and explained them on the map. M. D'Amato shared the map on the screen.

P. Lord asked how he would classify the water course. A. Grossi stated it was intermittent.

P. Lord asked what the crossing method would be. A. Grossi answered that they would use poles and timber mats. P. Lord asked A. Grossi to explain the same info for crossing SC1. A Grossi explained the crossing and crossing method.

P. Lord asked A. Grossi to speak to the operational plan. T. Grossi explained the operational plan.

P. Lord asked T. Grossi to explain his silviculture plan, T. Grossi explained his silviculture plan.

P. Lord asked about buffering for the operator. T. Grossi said they would be 50 ft to Fenton River. He said they won't go near people's boundaries. He noted that they typically go 20-30 feet from the roads. He pointed out that there wasn't much area where there was road frontage.

P. Lord asked if they would be conducting operation in accordance with DEEP BMPs. T. Grossi said he would.

P. Lord motioned to approve **TH-22-4**. M Drobney seconded. **All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

**b. IW-22-10** Application for construction of new commercial building with solar array within the upland review area at 0 Ruby Road (46/026-00) Owner: Ralph Tulis & Applicant: Peter Parent

Pete Parent introduced himself as the applicant and explained his application. He shared his screen with the commission and explained the wetlands map to the commission. He explained that historically the parcel was a borrow pit, and that his wetland scientists agreed that the wetland was a manmade wetland from excavation. He explained the intent was to build a small commercial building to house a quick serve restaurant and on-site parking. He added they were proposing an onsite well and septic system. He added that the remainder of the site would be equipped with solar panels. P. Parent explained drainage on site.

D. Schreiber asked if it was correct that the parcel had been disturbed. P. Parent answered that historically yes, the parcel had been disturbed.

P. Lord asked P. Parent to describe the construction sequence and E&S controls. P. Parent explained the E&S control plan. He stated that he assumed the construction of the building and installation of the solar panels would be two separate operations.

D. Schreiber asked how many kilowatts would be produced. P. Parent stated he thought it was 900,000 kw hours

P. Lord asked if the storm water basin was meant to be an infiltration basin. P. Parent explained that that was not the intent. P. Lord asked where the overflow would go. P. Parent explained it would go into the swale that heads towards the I-84 drainage system. P. Lord asked what protections on the receiving slope are proposed. P. Parent stated that they typically do a loomed and seeded spill way. He explained based on the predicted velocities this would be sufficient. D. Schriever asked how big the area draining into the pond is. P. Parent stated that only the developed area would be draining into this area. He added it was a little over three quarters of an acre that was developed.

P. Lord asked about the seeding within the basin. P. Parent explained that it would be an Ernst conservation seed mix. P. Lord asked about maintenance. P. Parent cited the stormwater operation maintenance plan and stated mowing was called for at least twice a year.

M. D'Amato explained that he had seen woodchip berms used in lieu of silt fence and asked if this is something that could be done with this project. P. Parent said he wasn't sure if there were enough trees on the property to create enough woodchips, but they could try to implement this where possible.

D. Schreiber noted the increased power and volume reduced in rainstorms lately. P. Parent said that they use the most up to date precipitation data for their calculations.

P. Lord asked what the method for establishing vegetation on the site. P. parent explained that most likely would-be hydro seeded with lower maintenance grass mix. He added they proposed some street trees and shrubs near the road.

R. Tulis gave some family history and background on the parcel and explained the drainage historically.

M. Drobney asked what kind of grading would take place on the arrays. P. Parent said they needed to maintain a ten percent slope in order to install the panels.

M. D'Amato mentioned concerns with stabilization at the drip line of the solar panels and asked if P. Parent or the Owner had any concerns there. He asked what the size of the panel was. P. Parent said that they were 7 feet long by 3.5 feet wide. P. Parent spoke to his experience with this issue and noted they could take a look at this. P. Lord spoke to his experience with solar arrays and E&S controls. The commission discussed.

P. Lord asked if the commission wanted to evaluate potential conditions. He asked what the intent was with the wetland. P. Parent said they did not intend to alter the wetland.

M. D'Amato noted he was keeping track of the conversation and had written some conditions if the commission wanted to hear them. P. Lord said yes. M. D'Amato shared the conditions with the commission. A discussion occurred regarding a condition related to using woodchips/ waddles as opposed to silt fencing.

P. Lord motioned to approve IW-22-10, per the information provided, and conditions presented by the wetland's agent. M. Drobney seconded. **All in Favor, Motion Passed.**

**G. Old Business:**

None

**H. Correspondence:**

**a. Transfer of wetland scientist of record – Love's Travel**

M. D'Amato explained that he hasn't heard back from Fuss and O'Neill yet pertaining to the Wetland Professionals credentials. He explained that there is still more they need to provide. He said they were still working for state approvals. M. D'Amato explained that there was a low spot on the Loves property on the side of Polster road that has created consistent issues with drainage. He explained that they had installed rip rap for stabilization and that he asked to have plantings install below the rip rap.

**I. Staff report and Discussion**

None

**J. Public Comment:**

The Commission will hear brief comments at this time for anyone wishing to speak. No business can be conducted here, nor can any comments be made about any items on the agenda.

R. Tulis thanked the commission for their attention to detail.

**K. Adjournment**

P. Lord motioned to Adjourn. D. Schreiber seconded. **All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Roberts,

Assistant Land Use Agent

