TO:       Board of Commissioner’s  
FROM:     P.J. Conover, Director  
DATE:     September 12, 2017 (Meeting Date: 09.21.17)  
RE:       Discussion of proposed Ordinance Amendment to Section 204-G  
          “Special Animal Keeping Regulations”  

For over five (5) years, the Planning Department has fielded complaints regarding the keeping of chickens in Pennington County. It was not until recently that chickens in Pennington County have become a real point of contention between neighbors. Since January of 2017, the County Planning Department has received no less than seventy-five (75) calls and four (4) written complaints regarding the keeping of chickens on properties throughout the County. Some of the issues were eventually worked out between the neighbors, others with the help of our Ordinance Enforcement Officer, and others required the intervention of a Judge in court.

As it exists today, the Zoning Ordinance is not addressing the issues arising between neighbors regarding chickens. Section 204-G, of the Zoning Ordinance only addresses properties with 100 or more chickens, but does not address properties with 99 or fewer chickens and all of the complaints have involved properties with less than twenty (20) chickens.

Staff discussed these issues with the Planning Commission on September 11, 2017 and Chairman Travis Lasseter has offered to Chair a Committee to find a solution to this issue.

The Planning Department and the Planning Commission are asking for support from the Board of Commissioners regarding the formation of a committee to research the above matter and bring forth new Ordinance(s) and/or an Ordinance Amendment to Section 204-G.