

Alternative Energy Committee – March 31, 2025 – 1:00 pm

Members present: Jerry Derr, John Santana, Haven Stuck, Lindsey Mader, Matt Schmahl, Matt Hasvold, Mary Williams, Jiggs O'Connell, Eileen Peterson

Members absent: Justin Uhrig

Others present: Pennington Conservation District

1. **Agenda** – Approved by members
2. **Introduction of members**
3. **Meeting procedure** – meeting notes and consensus
4. **Goals and objectives** – Each member discussed their interest in serving on the committee

John Santana – concerned about future development

Matt Schmahl – both sides of the industry, provide industry input

Mary Williams – want to be aware of these uses

Jiggs O'Connell – how green is this? Property rights, change the landscape

Matt Hasvold – aware of Wild Springs, economics of projects, more in favor of projects, get zoning right, battery storage zoning

Lindsey Mader – at meetings for Yarotek and was invested in the project, solar projects do not offer taxes for school district, protect conversation, community involvement in the projects, gaps in ordinance

Eileen Peterson – Absentee landowner and company in the area, protect the County with bonding and reclamation, solar panels (where do they go?)

Haven Stuck – Ranch owner, on RC Planning Commission, taxing of these uses, real estate standpoint

Goals – Review public discussion, shared concerns and thoughts

Presentation and current comprehensive plan goals – land use by Planning Department

Types of systems and locations in west river and east river

Impacts on school systems – populous in rural areas

Changing demographics – economic development

Evaluate the process and make recommendations

Zoning ordinance and comprehensive plan

Other counties' ordinances

Notice requirement for conservation districts

6. Meeting frequency – every other week

Agenda items for next meeting – tax information and presentation to committee

Next meeting: April 14th at 1 p.m. at the Pennington County Administration Building, Suite 200, 130 Kansas City Street, Rapid City, SD.

Notes taken by: Brittney Molitor