

## Minutes of the Gun Plain Zoning Board of Appeals – December 22, 2008

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Kellogg at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Jack Kellogg, Tim Oosting, Ron Kopka, Connie Haan, Rob Busk, Alternate Bill Vance  
Mike VanDenBerg – Twp. Supervisor  
Public: 5 residents

Introduction of Board Members to the public.

Chairman Kellogg opened the meeting by explaining the procedures that will be followed. Since Tim Oosting is a member of the board he will remain for the opening business then excused to the audience to present his request. Since Chairman Kellogg is a member of the Planning Commission he will not be voting on the request because he voted on the matter at the Planning Commission meeting on November 19, 2008.

Minutes:

- The minutes of the August meeting were reviewed. Correction, the date of the meeting was actually the 27<sup>th</sup> of August not the 26<sup>th</sup>. *Motion Kopka/Busk to approve minutes with correction. Carried.*

Request:

- Tim Oosting is requesting a variance to modify the cottage industry ruling from the Planning Commission to allow up to 10 non family members to work at his deer processing business located on his property at 810 Marsh Road.

Presentation by applicant:

- Oosting explained the nature of his business and the need to allow non family members to participate in the deer processing. This is a seasonal business and due to the nature of the product that is being handled it is essential to have the manpower necessary to meet all the processing requirements. He bought this business from another township resident who operated the business for many years *and moved the business to his property*. There is a demand for the business and it provides a service to our residents who hunt deer. Any waste generated is picked up twice a week and hides are picked up by Grand Rapids Hide to process. During the present operation there was a surprise Health Department inspection that was passed. This business is also reviewed each year for continued operation.

Public Comments:

- Mike VanDenBerg shared his knowledge of the intent of the cottage industry rules and they were intended to cover such business and provide a source of employment for township residents.
- The Sours family, neighbors of the Oostings have no objection to the business and appreciate a sign that blocked their view pulling out onto Marsh Road has been removed.

The consensus of the Board is this business was an existing business at a different township location for many years. Township residents support the need for this business and it provides a service to residents. Due to the need to handle the deer processing timing, having additional non family member employees is a reasonable request.

Being no further discussion: *Motion Kopka/Busk to allow the request for up to 10 additional non family members to be employed to provide the service of deer processing at 810 Marsh Rd. Roll Call: Busk yes, Kopka yes, Vance yes, Haan yes. Motion Carried 4 yes 0 no*

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Haan, Secretary