

BENTON PARISH METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES

Monday, August 3, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.  
Benton Town Council Chambers  
105 Sibley Street, Benton, Louisiana

MEMBERS PRESENT

Grace Jenkins  
Shonta Neal  
Martha Reyenga  
Steve Vercher  
John Bokenfohr

OTHERS PRESENT

Carlotta Askew-Brown  
Michan Holbrook  
Brian Rosht

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

Martha Reyenga, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

(A) Carlotta Askew-Brown, Assistant MPC Director, called roll and stated a quorum was present.

(B) Public Hearings

1. BP-9-15 – The application of River Ranch Acres Company, LLC to request Final Plat approval for Belmere Subdivision, Unit 2. Bossier Parish, LA.

Michan Holbrook of Coyle Engineering was present to represent the applicant and stated this was another 22 lots and the plat is part of a previously approved masterplan.

Martha Reyenga, Chairman called for any public comments.

Brian Rosht, resident of Belmere discussed concerns regarding the location of the cluster mailboxes located in Unit 1 of Belmere subdivision.

Martha Reyenga stated that if cluster mailboxes were going to be used in Unit 2 that enough room should be left for them.

Michan Holbrook stated that she would ask the developer where they would be placed and Mr. Aiello handles the placing of the mailboxes.

Martha Reyenga stated that the developer should speak with the postmaster as to the location of the mailboxes for safety purposes.

Carlotta Askew Brown, Assistant Director, stated the plat still must be sent to the Police Jury and they would not hear the plat until September so there would be time to get the location of the mailboxes resolved.

John Bokenfohr stated that they were a recommending body and the Police Jury has final approval of the plat.

Martha Reyenga discussed that whether cluster boxes or individual mailboxes are used is a decision of the postmaster.

Steve Vercher discussed the possibility of approval of the plat, conditionally that the Police Jury handle the cluster mailbox location solution.

Martha Reyenga stated any motion that the board makes would need an exception in regard to the safety issue of the possible cluster mailbox location in the new unit and it would need to be resolved before Police Jury approval.

Steve Vercher confirmed with the chairman that the cluster mailbox location in the new unit would have to have approval of the Benton Postmaster.

Martha Reyenga stated it would, but was not sure what would happen with the existing cluster mailboxes located in Unit 1.

There was discussion regarding the reason for use of cluster mailboxes or individual mailboxes in the future units and that the postmaster makes the decision.

Steve Vercher stated he was not sure if a vote should be taken without this information.

Grace Jenkins asked about the possibility that the postmaster had already discussed the mailboxes with the developer.

Martha Reyenga asked Michan Holbrook if the developer had spoken to the postmaster about Unit 2.

Michan Holbrook stated that she assumed he had, but she was not sure and the developer handles that and they were not involved.

Steve Vercher asked if it was up to the board to decide the location.

Carlotta Askew Brown stated she was not sure if what the board decided would be best for the postmaster.

Martha Reyenga recommended to the residents that they speak with the postmaster of their concerns about the location of the mailboxes in Unit 1.

Michan Holbrook stated she would try to have the answers to the questions about the mailboxes prior to the Police Jury meeting.

There was discussion as to the safety of the location of the mailboxes in Unit 1 regarding the cars coming in to the subdivision.

Carlotta Askew Brown asked the residents how many cars could stack up before getting into the street.

Brian Rosht stated only 2 or 3.

Steve Vercher asked Michan Holbrook what other agencies had signed off on the plat.

Michan Holbrook discussed what other agencies had been notified by letter.

Martha Reyenga called for a motion.

John Bokenfohr made a motion to approve the application of River Ranch Acres Company, the motion was seconded by Shonta Neal. A roll call vote was held and the motion carried unanimously.

## REGULAR MEETING

### 1. Approval of Minutes

Discussion was held by the chair to consider approval of the minutes of the July 6, 2015 meeting. Shonta Neal made a motion to accept the minutes as written and was seconded by John Bokenfohr. The motion to approve the minutes carried unanimously.

2. Old Business-None

3. New Business

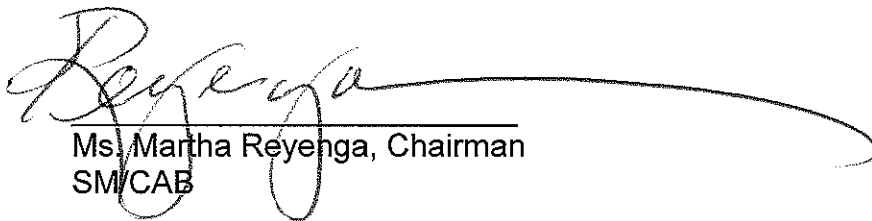
Martha Reyenga discussed the moving of the September meeting because of the Labor Day Holiday. Carlotta Askew Brown confirmed it would be moved to September 14, 2015 and would be held in the Police Jury Chambers.

Carlotta Askew Brown discussed including the postmaster in the notification process of an application.

Steve Vercher discussed that the notification to the postmaster should happen during the masterplan stage of developments.

4. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by John Bokenfohr and seconded by Shonta Neal. The motion carried unanimously.



Ms. Martha Reyenga, Chairman  
SM/CAB