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WIND-

Roder's property in Cavalier County was soon coordinated and scheduled for June 24.

They arrived at Roder's farm around 10 a.m., and the zoning commission and the county commission meetings were called to order, as quorums for both boards were present.

Also in attendance were Andrew Presnell, New Rockford City Auditor; Amanda Hegland, Director of the New Rockford Area Betterment Corporation; Becki Schumacher, Eddy County Auditor and Ashley Lies, Eddy County State's Attorney.

Also of note was who wasn't in attendance, as both Glenda Collier, an Eddy County Commissioner, and David Allmaras, an Eddy County Zoning Commissioner, decided unexpectedly Tuesday morning to skip the LWEC trip and instead drive nearly four hours to Summit, S.D., where much taller turbines were built in 2021.

Meanwhile, those who stuck to the plan as scheduled heard from Roder, who is a township supervisor for Easby Township in Cavalier County, as well as Greg Goodman and Stanley Dick, two Cavalier County commissioners.

The respective county officials spoke for over an hour, standing a few hundred feet from a turbine on Roder's property. The conversation ranged from tax revenue and road maintenance, to property values and agricultural pilots.

Eddy County officials were told repeatedly that the roads in Cavalier County have been very well taken care of since the project was built, and are likely better than they'd otherwise be if the project didn't exist.

Roder told commissioners of a time when a large, heavy-duty crane rumbled down a gravel road as maintenance was required on a nearby turbine. The road was crushed as a result, but Roder said there were already gravel trucks on standby - ready to fix the road almost as fast as it was ruined.

Roder did acknowledge, however, that while construction is ongoing, the normally quiet rural roads can become quite hectic and busy.

Cavalier officials also said that tax revenue brought in every year by the project, which before the recent repowering was approximately half a million dollars, has been very beneficial - allowing them to reduce the tax burden on residents of the county, townships and even the local school district.

For comparison, Eddy County could see as much as \$1 million every year in tax revenue from Flickertail Wind, a project that would produce significantly more energy than the LWEC and thus more tax revenue.

Cavlier County Commissioners Goodman and Dick

also mentioned a new hotel that was built in Langdon in large part due to the wind farm, and that the hotels in Langdon stay full fairly regularly ever since the project was built.

All three Cavalier County officials expressed how beneficial the project has been for their local economy, and mentioned that land values have not been impacted negatively by the project.

When it came to negatives, Goodman said the only people who still might complain about the wind farm are the local ag pilots, who have to beware of the turbines as well as the wake they leave behind. Goodman added that pilots have since adapted to the conditions and are still able to get their job done, albeit with more difficulty.

Roder also mentioned that when the project was first built, the construction company often didn't build the access roads to each turbine perpendicular with the existing road network, which has led to awkward triangle-shaped fields that make it more difficult for farmers.

He recommended making sure to work with the project developers to ensure new roads are built straight and perpendicular in Eddy County, something PRC Wind, LLC - the project developers behind Flickertail Wind - have said they'll coordinate with local landowners to do.

Paul White and Wells McGiffert of PRC Wind were in attendance for the special meeting, as was David Fite, a resident of New Rockford Township.

At one point during the meeting, White told the commission that the turbines in Eddy County aren't going to be 700 feet tall, as has been previously reported.

He said a final decision on exactly the size and type of turbine to be installed for Flickertail Wind hasn't been made yet, but the options they're looking at include turbines that range in height from 590 feet to around 650 feet.

Following their respective wind farm tours, the Transcript spoke to local officials to get their takeaways from the whole experience.

Lucas Walter, the newest member of the Eddy County Zoning Commission, said it was a positive experience he learned a lot from, and that he left feeling reassured.

"I think overall it was a good experience because you get to meet with people who have dealt with this firsthand," said Walter. "... It was nice to hear from them so you don't have to assume stuff about them anymore. And it was perfect that the wind was blowing a little bit, so they were all in motion and you were able to hear what noise they do make."

He added that it was reassuring to hear from the officials about how well the wind company took care of their roads, and how they

continue to do so when necessary.

"I think it was good to hear how the wind company really tries to work with individual farmers or with the county on maintaining stuff, or replacing stuff to a better state when they show up," said Walter.

When asked if there were any negative takeaways from the trip, he said "not really," but did mention that he was surprised by how close the turbines can appear.

"I guess it kinda surprised me that whether you're a quarter-mile away from one or you're two miles away from one, they all kinda almost look like they're the same," he said. "To me I guess it doesn't matter if you're a quarter-mile away, a mile or two miles, or heck even three miles, it all just kinda looks the same."

The Transcript also talked to Commissioner Collier following her trip to Summit, S.D. with Zoning Commissioner David Allmaras.

Unlike the group that traveled to Cavalier County, Collier and Allmaras did not get a chance to meet with local county officials, but they did speak with residents who live near the turbines.

"The one place we did stop it was an elderly couple, a very nice couple. They're really not bothered by them," Collier said. "They had nothing bad to say about them, nothing dramatic."

The wind farm near Summit is called Dakota Range III, and it features large turbines with a height of around 600 feet - significantly larger than those found in Cavalier County, and likely a similar size to those that would eventually be selected for Flickertail Wind.

Upon making it to the wind farm and standing near residences located in the project's footprint, Collier said the noise from the larger turbines surprised her.

"They were a lot more quiet than I was actually expecting," said Collier, who said the wind was gusting pretty good that day. "I was quite surprised. ... In the videos I took the wind was actually louder than the turbine."

Collier said she also took her dogs along for the trip, and said they had no problem running around and having a good time directly underneath one of the large turbines.

Without speaking to county officials, however, there was only so much information Collier could convey following the trip to Summit. Ahead of the next county commission meeting, Collier said she'll be looking into South Dakota's regulations and will have hopefully spoken to county officials in the area, gathering more information to report back to the board.

The Transcript also reached out to Eddy County Commissioner Jamie Allmaras and Eddy County Zoning Commissioner Levi Rue for their takeaways from

the trip to Cavalier County, but did not hear back prior to press time.

The Eddy County Zoning Commission has a regular meeting scheduled at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, July 8 in the basement of the Eddy County Courthouse, at which they're expected to make a decision on Eddy County's wind energy regulations, and whether they should match state regulations or go further.

Whatever the zoning board recommends will have to be considered by the Eddy County Commission, and a special meeting of the commission has been scheduled a day later on Wednesday, July 9, also at 8 a.m. in the basement of the Eddy County Courthouse.

KOEPLIN-

She started writing what was then called the Brantford News, before it was later renamed by Koeplin to Pleasant Prairie. She began writing the Tiffany News not too long after, and eventually she picked up Talk of the Town.

The columns would provide a unique accounting of what folks here in Eddy County had been up to - sometimes it was visiting relatives coming by, a local family welcoming a newborn baby, and more recently the latest news on Janet Laube and Yip Yip.

Koeplin said she would talk for hours with folks every week gathering the local gossip, and chatting with people who would ultimately become good friends over the years.

"I'd do it on Friday night and then I got to where I did it Sunday evenings," said Koeplin, "and that's when I've done it for many years."

She also recalled how much change she's witnessed as these conversations unfolded over the years.

Between seeing folks pass away who she'd regularly talk to and the newer and newer technology getting developed, Koeplin said there was a steady decline in the number of people wanting to share the local news.

"Everybody kind of got away from it a little more over time, and the last few months or year that I've done it I didn't get very much news at all," she said.

That's another of the reasons Koeplin said she decided to step away from being a correspondent for the Transcript. But old habits don't go away so easily, and Koeplin said she still talks to her friends in the community every Sunday night.

When asked what she enjoyed most about the work she did for the newspaper, Koeplin said it was getting to know the girls she talked to and ultimately becoming good friends.

"I would say visiting some of the gals, we'd just get carried away in conversation and be on the line for quite some time," said Koeplin.

Community Calendar

CENDAK CUSTOMER APPRECIATION EVENT on Tuesday, July 1 at the New Rockford Golf Course; 4-person scramble with tee off at 12 p.m., followed by supper at 6 p.m.

WOMEN'S GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP meeting on Tuesday, July 1 at 7 p.m. at the Allmaras residence, 218 6th St. N. in New Rockford. For any questions, call (701) 740-5110.

EDDY COUNTY COURTHOUSE 125TH CELEBRATION OPEN HOUSE on Wednesday, July 2 from 1-3 p.m. Join us for tours, cake and refreshments.

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING ABOUT WIND ENERGY TECHNOLOGY on Wednesday, July 2 at 6 p.m. at the Brown Memorial in New Rockford.

SHEYENNE NDRA RODEO on Friday, July 4 at Hendrickson Park. Slack starts at 9 a.m. with main performance at 4 p.m.

STREET DANCE FEATURING TAILSPIN AT EAGLES CLUB on Friday, July 4 from 9 p.m. to 1 p.m. \$10 entry fee. Free-will appetizers and snacks available.

FREEDOM RUN Saturday, July 5 at 8 a.m. in downtown New Rockford. Event includes 5K, 10K and 1 Mile Fun Run. Register online at freedom5krun.square.site.

HANSON'S BAR 90TH ANNIVERSARY POKER RUN on Saturday, July 5. Registration from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. with lunch at 11 a.m. Run starts at noon, return around 5 p.m. All vehicle/motorcycles welcome. \$20/person. Car show to follow with prizes.

EDDY COUNTY MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY will meet on Monday, July 7 at noon. The meeting will be held in the church building on the museum grounds.

EDDY COUNTY 4-H ACHIEVEMENT DAYS on July 10-11 at the Eddy County Fairgrounds. Join us for family fun, a livestock show, premium sale and more.

NEW ROCKFORD SUMMER STREET MARKET on Thursday, July 17 from 4-8 p.m. in Centennial Park.

BINGO at Ostby Hall in Sheyenne every Saturday at 7 p.m.

EDDY COUNTY MUSEUM will be open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. The museum buildings will open on Sundays from 1-4 p.m. Questions, please contact Patty at (701) 302-0473 or Merita (701) 947-2091.

JULY ITEM OF THE MONTH at the Eddy County Hunger Free Food Pantry is cereal. Donations can be dropped off at First Lutheran Church, 436 1st Ave. N, New Rockford.

EDDY CO. VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER Same day appointments available. Please call (701) 302-8087.

TOPS 370 is a weight loss support group. Meetings are on Mondays at 5 p.m. at First Lutheran Church in New Rockford. For more information call (701) 947-2138.

COMMUNITY AMBULANCE SERVICE BOARD meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Ambulance Hall, New Rockford.

LAKE REGION SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE support group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Community Room of North Star Community Credit Union, Devils Lake. For info call Theresa at (701) 662-4790.

FOOT CARE CLINIC every third Wednesday of the month at Eddy County Public Health. Call (701) 947-5311 for appointments. Cost is \$25.

EDDY-NEW ROCKFORD LIBRARY BOARD meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m.

NEW ROCKFORD POST OFFICE has a new phone number. Call (701) 505-8842. The office is open 9-11 a.m. and 12:30-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

SHEYENNE POST OFFICE also has a new phone number. Call (701) 404-1149. The office is open 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Please contact the Transcript at nrtranscript@gmail.com or (701) 947-2417 to have your event notices listed.

HELP CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS

Cost-share assistance available to Eddy County landowners

The Eddy County Weed Board reminds all landowners that state law requires the control of noxious weeds.

4.1-47-02 Control of noxious weeds

- 1) Each person shall do all things necessary and proper to control the spread of noxious weeds
- 2) No person may distribute, sell or offer for sale within this state, a noxious weed

The Eddy County Weed Board is offering a cost share program for chemical for control of noxious weeds on qualifying land. Cost share rates are as follows:

- 80% cost share for Tordon up to 10 gallons
- 50% cost share for 2-4D up to 20 gallons
 - The 2-4D must be tank mixed with Tordon at 2:1 (2 parts 2-4D to 1 part Tordon)
- 80% cost share for Plateau (or the generic version) up to 4 gallons
- 50% cost share for Milestone up to 5 gallons

In order to receive reimbursement, you must submit:

- (1) Invoice or receipt to prove purchase of chemical
- (2) A copy of the maps with sprayed areas highlighted
- (3) **The legal description of the land sprayed**

They can be mailed to Eddy County Weed Board, 205 3rd St SE, New Rockford, N.D. or dropped off at the Eddy County Extension office or emailed to eddywco@outlook.com. **Requests for reimbursement must be received at the weed board office by JUNE 30, 2025.** If you have questions contact Corey Longnecker at (701) 302-0418.

NOTE: Each invoice submitted must have the requestor's name printed on it. We will NOT accept an invoice with the husband/dad's name on it and then it whited out and the son's/wife/daughters name written over the top or something like that. If you want to take advantage of the full reimbursement limits-plan ahead when you are buying the chemical. Do NOT expect us to try to fix it a few months later.

There will be another round of funding later on for summer and fall spraying but this is special funding we were allotted but MUST be used by **JUNE 30!**

If you have any questions, contact Corey Longnecker at (701) 302-0418

Eagles Club

(701) 947-2440
7 8th St S • New Rockford

— Thursday, July 3 —
Kitchen and bar open normal hours

— Friday, July 4 —
Happy Independence Day!
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Burger & Brat Feed

There will also be a bounce house for the kids, fresh made cotton candy and alcoholic and non-alcoholic popsicles available.

9 p.m. to 1 a.m. – Street Dance featuring Tailspin

\$10 entry fee. Free-will appetizers and snacks available. Kitchen will not be open.

— Saturday, July 5 —
Kitchen and bar open normal hours

— Tuesday, July 29 —
Kitchen closed for private event. Live music performed by Rick Senger from 7-11 p.m. Bar and live music performance open to the public.

Open Monday through Saturday
4:30 p.m. to close
Kitchen open 5-9 p.m.