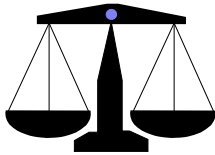


**MINUTES
KOOTENAI COUNTY HEARING EXAMINER
PUBLIC HEARING**

**AUGUST 3, 2017
KOOTENAI COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BLDG.
ROOM 1**

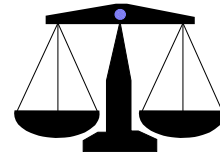
**HEARING EXAMINER
SHARON MOHR**

**STAFF PRESENT
VLAD FINKEL
MICHAEL ULRICH
KATHRYN FORD**



**MINUTES
PREPARED BY:**

KATHRYN FORD
Recording Secretary



**MINUTES
REVIEWED BY:**

VLAD FINKEL
Planner



SHARON MOHR
Hearing Examiner

The Official Record of Public Hearing is on a CD recording available at the Kootenai County Community Development.

Sharon Mohr called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Hearing Examiner explained that the purpose of the public hearing is to take testimony on the items that appear on the agenda.

The Hearing Examiner will review the testimony presented and make written recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners, who will make the final decision.

The hearing was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

HEARING EXAMINER MINUTES
AUGUST 3, 2017

CASE NO. CUP17-0006

Type: Conditional Use Permit, a request by Jeff Smith with Ryka Consulting, for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to construct an unstaffed multi-carrier telecommunications facility with a 100' self-support tower within a 50' x 50' fenced utility compound leased area. The leased project area is located on approximately 5.362-acre parcel in the Rural zone. The facility has been designed to accommodate a total of four (4) antenna arrays and ground equipment space for collocation opportunities. Access to the property is from Chilco Road. The parcel number is 52N04W-13-2450. The site is described as TAX # 14455 [in NE-NW] in Section 13, Township 52 North, Range 04 West. B. M. Kootenai County, ID. (*Vlad Finkel-Planner*)

Staff Presentation: Vlad Finkel, Planner, addressed Hearing Examiner Mohr referencing a presentation (HE 1000). The project area will need no additional approaches for the facility off of Chilco Road. The site is located in a treed region with sparse residential homes in the area. The submitted application is complete and meets the requirements for Conditional Use Permit submittals. Public agencies have commented and their conditions appear to be reasonable and manageable. The site was posted and based on the signed affidavits in the file, the public notice requirements have been met.

Applicant Presentation: Jeff Smith, Applicant Representative, extended his "thank you" to staff and the property owner for their assistance and patience within the last 3 years preparing for the site application. He added the Verizon engineers monitor the network for problems and in this case a significant gap in coverage was noticed. They do not take on projects like this unless it is needed this since it is quite time consuming. This site is the least intrusive means to cover the gap in coverage. The tower would be on a knoll surrounded by trees and would be almost invisible since it will be a green tree tower. Mr. Smith concluded that at one time wireless was a novelty and now it is essential and by 2019 the data use is projected to increase by seven fold. A recommendation of approval would definitely improve coverage in the area.

Exhibit: HE 1000 – Presentation submitted by Vlad Finkel.

Public Testimony: Comment Sheets submitted: 2, Applicant/Representatives - 1; In Favor - 1, Neutral - 0, Opposed – 0. The names and address of the individuals speaking or submitting comments are part of the record.

- Owner of property has seen over the years public pulling over on the side of the road to get reception from other towers for cell phone use
- Site is treed and on a slight hill for the best use in the area

Applicant Rebuttal: None.

There being no further comments from the public, testimony was closed on this item at 6:13 p.m. The Hearing Examiner, Sharon Mohr will review this case and submit her written report to the Board of County Commissioners within two weeks.

Submitted by,

Kathryn Ford, Recording Secretary