

## League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report Form

Name of Agency: Whitman County Planning Commission

Date: November 1, 2017

Observer Reporting: Shelley Chambers

Length of Meeting: 1 hr 30 min

Members Present: Matt Sutherland, Keith Paulson, Chad Whetzel, Bob Hill, Ken Duft, Dave Gibney, Guy Williams, Alan Thomson, Katrin Hunt, Eleanor Hubert (note taker)

Others Present (i.e., media, public): Pete Dickinson (city planner), John Thompson and Chris, another member of the Pullman Planning Commission who is also a pilot.

**Content (What is being discussed):** *i.e., This section is for any issues discussed that relate to League priorities or positions. Do you recommend local league action? Is there a particular action that you suggest the League take in support or non-support of this matter? If so, please refer to the League position that supports your suggestion.*

New Commissioner Matt Sutherland was introduced to the remaining members.

The two major items for consideration were the zoning changes required by the new airport expansion and the need to fill the vacancies on the Commission.

The County Planning Commission discussed how to implement land use compatibility with the airport's needs. The commissioners agreed that Pete Dickinson and Alan Thomson need to work together to hammer out the details and then bring back to the commission a plan to codify the land use recommendations of the FAA/WSDOT and provide a legally binding description or map of the proposed zones.

Alan Thomson announced that Ken Duft will retire from the commission after the first of the year. This will put the commission down 3 members again. The Commissioners directed Alan Thomson to develop a proposal to change the county code and commission bylaws to allow 2 to 4 commissioners to come from each county district. Moving away from the requirement to appoint 3 from each district will allow more flexibility in the recruitment of commissioners.

**Public Meetings of interest to League** – *i.e., Were there any public meetings announced that you think League members may be interested in attending and/or becoming involved with that relate to League positions?*

New Commissioner Matt Sutherland mentioned that the Commission should consider recruiting a female member to create some balance on the body.

**Process & Protocol (Observations about participants, conduct, and procedures of the meeting):**

*i.e., Did the members appear to have done their "homework"? Were members courteous to each other and the public? How does the group respond to your presence? Was access to materials for certain agenda items limited or excluded from you? Was background material available to the public?*

Maps prepared by the county engineers depicting the proposed Airport Overlay Zone were placed in the front of public seating. The Commissioners are cordial and seem to work well together and work well with the members of the Pullman Planning Commission.