

TO: Redwood County Planning Commission

**FROM: Nick Brozek *NB*
Land Use and Zoning Supervisor
Redwood County Environmental Office**

DATE: January 14, 2022

RE: Planning Commission Hearing on January 25, 2022



A meeting of the Redwood County Planning Commission has been scheduled for Tuesday, the 25th day of January, 2022, beginning at 1:00 o'clock p.m. in the Board Room of the Redwood County Government Center, 403 South Mill Street, Redwood Falls, MN 56283.

The meeting will involve one (1) public hearing. A brief summary of the subject matter of the hearing is set forth below.

1. Public hearing on Application for Extraction Interim Use Permit submitted by Cooper Scheffler of L&S Construction.

L&S Construction is seeking to re-permit and expand an existing granite quarry located in Section 24, Sherman Township. Part of the proposed site is owned by the William H Munsell Disclaimer Trust and part is owned by the Morgan Sportsmen Club Inc. However, Munsell owns the mining rights to the entire site. The site was previously permitted in 2016 (CUP # 17-16) for a seven-acre extraction area, for a period of ten years. The current application seeks to expand the extraction area to a total of 39 acres, and a new ten-year period ending 02/01/2032. The proposed permitted extraction area includes the seven acres permitted in 2016.

The site is located in the Agriculture District, in which mining is an Interim Use. A small part of the permitted area is located in the Minnesota River Floodplain District. Mining in the floodplain district is permissible, subject to additional requirements, including a long-term site development plan that addresses erosion control, sedimentation, and equipment removal requirements.

Mining activity on the site will consist of the extraction, processing, and stockpiling of crushed granite material. Equipment will be stored on site. No buildings will be erected or used in the extraction area.

Mining activity will continue on the current site, where there are existing berms in place as noise barriers. The first expansion phase will be to level the hill lying directly east of the current site. The next phase is to level a hill to the southeast of the existing site, across the Morgan Sportsmen Club driveway. Overburden will be stripped and used to create berms around the site. Material will be carried from this site to the current mined area via conveyor. The conveyor will be outfitted with a "catch" pan to prevent spills where it crosses the driveway.

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The site is accessed from 305th Street, which will be used to haul material out to CSAH 11, which is about ¾ of a mile west of the site.

At the end of the permit term, the extraction area will be reclaimed by flattening all slopes greater than 3:1 and placing the reserved overburden (topsoil) back on the slopes. The southeast area will be returned to agricultural use and the area directly east of the current site will be returned to grassland and/or allowed to return to woodland. Grass will be planted. The current pit will also be planted with grass, with a pond.

The western end of the current quarry site is owned by Brad Lund and permitted separately. However, it is currently operated by L&S.

The proposed hours of operation are 7:00 am through 7:00 pm. Monday through Saturday.

The current site is located immediately adjacent to the 305th Street right-of-way. The hill to the southeast is also next to the right-of-way.

The estimated cost of reclamation is \$10,000. Per ordinance, the minimum reclamation bond for a 39-acre site is \$78,000.

The floodplain boundary was determined using the FEMA base flood elevation of 825 feet. Scheffler used a drone to map the elevation. This method was used because the FEMA floodplain map does not correspond with the elevation contours on the site.

The application was submitted to the Redwood County SWCD for review. Conservation Specialist Jennifer Hahn noted that there are some potential wetlands due to the presence of floodplain and hydric soils. Field verification will be needed to make an accurate assessment. Hahn recommends an official wetland determination during the growing season.

The closest third-party dwellings to the site are as follows: (1) 45806 305th Street, about 900 feet southwest of the site; (2) 30815 CSAH 11, about 970 feet northwest of the site; and (3) 30463 CSAH 11, about 2500 feet southwest of the site.

There is no county tile or open ditch near the site. However, there is a private drainage ditch south of the current site, on the opposite side of 305th Street, which drains underneath 305th and outlets into a narrow floodplain area between the current site and the phase 1 expansion area.

Soils present on the site include: (1) Wadena variant loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes; (2) Havelock clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded; (3) Rock outcrop-Copaston complex, 2 to 40 percent slopes; (4) Tilfer clay loam; (5) Wadena variant loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes; and (6) Oshawa silty clay loam.

A copy of the Extraction Interim Use Permit application, maps, plans, and proposed permit conditions are enclosed.

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