

Brenda McGruder  
Lawrence County Auditor  
PO Box F  
Deadwood, SD 57732

Re: Bourne, Owner Lot 1 Block 1 Whitewood SD  
Opposition to BHFA Petition for Section Line Highway

Dear Lawrence County Commissioners,

I would like to follow up in writing with my opposition to the "Black Hills Forest Acres LLC Petition for Improvement of Section Line" that is on the agenda for June 22, 2020.

I very much appreciate the Commissioners taking the time last week to walking the portion of section line, including the 188ft that borders my property. As you saw at the walk-thru the proposed road would come within 16 ft of my home. It would significantly damage and reduce my backyard and place a severe burden on my family. Please remember that this lot, Lot 1 Block 1, and the entire development was originally platted by BHFA and developed by BHFA. They are seeking to exploit that right of way for their benefit to the direct detriment of me and other homeowners in the area.

BHFA has owned this tract of land in question for well over 30 years, their claim that "there is no other access available", and the section line highway is needed to address the "isolated tract" as stated in the Petition is simply untrue. Are we to believe this land has not been accessed in over 30 years? I can confirm that since 2006 that no car, truck, vehicle, or livestock has walked this portion of the section line in question to access the current 1200 acres that now suddenly BHFA has claimed to be isolated.

The claimed "isolated tract" is currently being marketed by Re/Max and the listing can be found here,

<https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/Oak-Lot-319-Whitewood-SD-57793-M99340-98002?view=qv>

A simple scroll through the listing shows a variety of roads and never mentions the term "isolated". On the contrary the description states: "Also included is an old, gravel highway from the 1920s that meanders through the South of the property - providing a solid path into the heart of all that is."

I would also ask the Commissioners to conduct due diligence on the historical development and selling of BHFA property adjacent to the claimed "isolated tract". Just recently BHFA sold property on Oak Dr in Whitewood that also borders the "isolated tract" in question. Their 30 plus years of mismanaging this land has now become my burden and likely the burden of other residents of the county in the future.

I ask the Commissioners to examine all details regarding this petition. I do not believe this petition is filed in good faith nor in compliance with the intent of South Dakota Section Line Laws.

Thanks

