

Riga Township

Riga Township Board of Supervisors
6120 5th Ave N
Towner, ND 58788
June 21st, 2017

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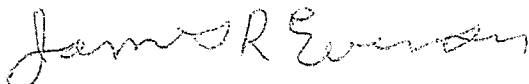
McHenry County Planning Commission
c/o McHenry County Auditor
407 Main St S Rm 201
Towner, ND 58788

McHenry County Planning Commission:

In March, 2017 the Riga Township Board of Supervisors chose to begin the process of developing a zoning plan and regulations specific to Riga Township, with the intent of availing itself of the zoning authority granted to it by North Dakota Century Code chapter 58-03.

After following the course of action prescribed by North Dakota law, the Riga Township Board of Supervisors has approved and adopted a comprehensive zoning plan and zoning regulations which characterize the entire township as an agricultural district. These regulations are effective as of June 21st, 2017.

Thank you for your attention.



Jim Evenson
Chairman
Riga Township Board of Supervisors

Cc: McHenry County Auditor

RIGA

TOWNSHIP

ZONING

REGULATIONS

Table of Contents

Preamble.....	1
Article 1 Introduction	
Section 1 Title	2
Section 2 Purpose.....	2
Section 3 Repeal	2
Section 4 Authority	2
Section 5 Severability	2
Section 6 Effective Date	2
Article 2 General Provisions	
Section 1 Jurisdiction	2
Section 2 Compliance	2
Section 3 Agriculture Exempted	2
Section 4 Interpretation.....	2
Section 5 Nonconforming Uses	3
Section 6 Utilities.....	3
Section 7 Mineral Exploration and Production.....	4
Section 8 Sanitary Regulations	4
Section 9 Waste Disposal Sites	4
Section 10 Concentrated Feeding Operations	5
Article 3 District and Boundaries	
Section 1 Establishment of Districts	8
Section 2 Zoning Map.....	8
Section 3 Interpretation of Boundaries	8
Section 4 Agricultural District	8
Article 4 Administration and Enforcement	
Section 1 Planning Commission	10
Section 2 Board of Zoning Appeals.....	10
Section 3 Zoning Permits.....	12
Section 4 Conditional Use Permits	12
Section 5 Variance Permits	13
Section 6 Amendments	14
Section 7 Certificate of Compliance	15
Section 8 Schedule of Fees and Charges	16
Section 9 Penalties	16
Article 5 Definitions	
Section 1 Rules	17
Section 2 Definitions.....	17
Official Zoning Maps	

PREAMBLE
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING
COMPREHENSIVE ZONING REGULATIONS
FOR RIGA TOWNSHIP

The intent is to:

Promote the health, safety and general welfare of the township residents and the orderly development of lands within the township;

Preserve and maintain agricultural lands for farm use;

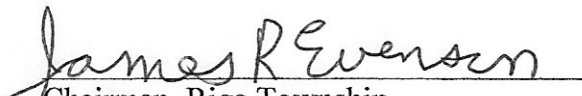
Encourage nonfarm growth in an orderly fashion which preserves agrarian nature of Riga Township;

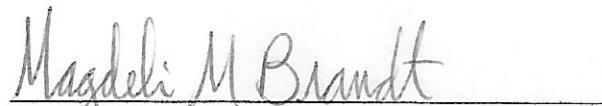
Promote a healthy and visually attractive environment;

Promote the development of utility corridors which utilize the least productive agricultural land;

Discourage development which places an excessive financial burden on Township government.

THIS ORDINANCE IS HEREBY ADOPTED EFFECTIVE THIS 21 DAY OF June, 2017.


Chairman, Riga Township


Clerk, Riga Township

ZONING REGULATIONS RIGA TOWNSHIP, NORTH DAKOTA

ARTICLE 1 – INTRODUCTION

SECTION 1. TITLE: This resolution shall be known, cited, and referred to as the “Zoning Regulation of Riga Township, North Dakota.”

SECTION 2. PURPOSE: These regulations have been made in accordance with a comprehensive plan prepared for Riga Township and are designed to promote the health, safety, public convenience, general prosperity, and public welfare of Riga Township.

SECTION 3. REPEAL: All other zoning regulations and amendments thereto adopted under the authority of Chapter 58-03 of the North Dakota Century Code are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. AUTHORITY: These regulations are adopted under the authority granted by Chapter 58-03 of the North Dakota Century Code.

SECTION 5. SEVERABILITY: Should any section or provision of these regulations be declared by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the regulations as a whole, or any part thereof other than the part so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE: These regulations shall be in full force and effective from and after its passage and approval.

ARTICLE 2 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. JURISDICTION: These zoning regulations shall apply to all areas within the civil boundaries of Riga Township, North Dakota as organized under Chapter 58-03 of the North Dakota Century Code.

SECTION 2. COMPLIANCE: Except hereinafter provided, no building structure or land shall be used, occupied, erected, constructed, moved, reconstructed or structurally altered except in conformity with all of the regulations for the district in which it is located.

SECTION 3. AGRICULTURE EXEMPTED: Nothing in this ordinance shall be applied for the purpose of preventing or restricting the use of land or buildings for agricultural or any of the normal incidents of agriculture.

SECTION 4. INTERPRETATION: In the interpretation and application of these regulations, these provisions shall be held to be the minimum requirements adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety and welfare. Where these regulations impose a greater restriction on land, buildings or structures than is imposed or required by existing provisions of law, ordinance, contract, deed, or resolution, the provisions of these regulations shall control.

SECTION 5. NONCONFORMING USES:

1. Lawful nonconforming uses of land or buildings existing at the date of adoption of these regulations may continue provided no structural alterations, except for normal maintenance, are made and such nonconforming uses shall not be extended to occupy a greater area of land than occupies at the date of adoption of these regulations.
2. No building or structure where a nonconforming use has been discontinued for a period of two (2) years or has changed to a permitted use shall again be devoted to a nonconforming use.
3. A nonconforming structure destroyed or damaged less than fifty percent (50%) of its fair market value may be reconstructed within one year of such casualty. If damaged more than fifty percent (50%) of its fair market value, such building shall be reconstructed in conformance with these regulations.
4. The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to conditional uses or any made nonconforming by a change or amendment in district regulations.

SECTION 6. UTILITIES:

1. All new utilities shall be considered as a conditional use and, as such, shall conform to all requirement put on them by the Planning Commission and/or Township Board.
2. No conditional use permit shall be issued unless satisfactory provisions for the following has been made:
 - A. Underground utilities shall be placed a minimum depth of
 - a. five (5) feet within a road right-of-way
 - b. three (3) feet in all other areasso as not to constitute a hazard to normal farming or general county/township maintenance.
 - B. Above ground utilities shall be placed in a manner which will not place undue hardship on normal farming operations, nor interfere with the quality of life of the citizens of the Riga township.
 - C. Utility placement shall conform with sections lines, highway (state and federal) and railroad right-of-ways.
 - D. The activities will not result in undue damage or injury to roads, bridges, right-of-ways in the Township or to any public or private property.
 - E. Excavation costs for purposes of construction or maintenance of a utility shall be borne by the contractor or owner of said utility.

SECTION 7. MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINERAL PRODUCTION:

1. All mineral exploration and mineral production activities shall be considered as a conditional use and, as such, shall conform to all requirements put on them by the Township Board.
2. No conditional use permit shall be issued unless satisfactory provision for the following has been made:
 - A. The activities will not result in undue damage or injury to roads, bridges, right-of-ways in the Township or to any public or private property.
 - B. Evidence of a reclamation agreement with the surface owner.
 - a. Reclamation of project shall be finished within one (1) year of the completion of the mineral exploration and/or production activities.
 - C. Evidence of compliance with all County, State and Federal regulations.
 - D. Evidence that the activity is one hundred fifty (150) feet from all section lines property lines, water sources and the centerline of all township, county, state and federal roads.

SECTION 8. SANITARY REGULATIONS: All residential, commercial or industrial structures shall conform to the North Dakota health regulations as they refer to wells, irrigation, septic and sanitary systems.

SECTION 9. WASTE DISPOSAL SITES:

1. At a minimum, the following described waste disposal sites shall comply with all applicable state, federal, and local laws, rules and regulations. In addition, the Planning Commission and/or Township Board may require compliance to other conditions.
2. Private Waste Disposal Sites – A solid waste disposal site used exclusively by and only for the landowner or tenant engaged in farming. Sites shall be limited to one per landowner and used only for refuse generated from personal farming operations, in addition these sites must comply with Farm Service Agency (FSA) regulations.
 - A. Private waste disposal sites shall avoid low and steep areas and be a minimum of two hundred fifty (250) feet away from waterways.
3. Commercial Waste Disposal Sites – A solid waste disposal site or facility permitted pursuant to the laws of the State of North Dakota. Waste which is transported to a disposal site shall be by a waste hauler licensed by the State of North Dakota.
 - A. The site, operation, or facility must meet or exceed all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, and regulations.

- B. The site, operation, or facility shall be limited to inert solid waste and municipal solid waste. Waste that is deemed hazardous in nature or exerts hazardous characteristics or nuclear waste, sewage sludge and incinerator ash are not permitted.
- C. All areas for cell, excavation or waste filling operations shall maintain a minimum setback of one hundred fifty (150) feet from all property lines.
- D. No fires shall be permitted, except by permission of the Township Board. Any smoldering flame or spontaneous combustion at the site shall be immediately extinguished.
- E. The premises shall be kept neat and clean at all times, no loose paper or debris shall be allowed on the site, except on areas where active filling operations are taking place.
- F. Entrance to the site shall be controlled at all times to prevent improper dumping on the site.
- G. For facilities that manage municipal solid waste, a chain link fence six (6) feet high shall be installed along the boundaries of the area developed or the area of active filling operations and provided with gates of the same construction as the fence.
- H. For other facilities, other than a municipal solid waste site, a four-wire barbed wire fence, suitable to restrain livestock, shall be placed around the boundary of the permitted site.
- I. Provisions, approved by the Township Board, shall be made for the management of surface and storm water falling on or crossing the site at all times, during and after the completion of the operations. Surface and storm water management also shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations. These provisions shall be accomplished through the use of a professional engineer that is registered by the State of North Dakota.
- J. The depth of excavation and the materials to be used for fill shall not have any adverse effect on the supply or quality of ground water.
- K. Operators of a commercial waste disposal facility or site may have an environmental inspector on site. Provisions shall be made for the cost to be paid by the operator to the State Health Department or Township as may be negotiated with the State Health Department or Township.
- L. Facilities other than those that manage municipal solid waste would be required to have nonsudden and sudden liability insurance and closure and post closure insurance payable to the State Health Department and upon conditions set by the State Health Department.

SECTION 10. CONCENTRATED FEEDING OPERATIONS:

- 1. All new or expanded concentrated animal feeding operations that exceed 300 animal units shall be considered as a conditional use and, as such, shall conform to all requirements put on them by the Riga Township Zoning Regulations. Normal wintering operations for cattle are not subject to the regulations of this section.

2. No conditional use permit shall be issued unless satisfactory provisions for the following have been made:
 - A. Evidence of compliance with applicable state laws and rules, including the laws and rules administered by the North Dakota Department of Health and any permits granted by that department.
 - B. Water Resource Setback Requirements – the operator of a new or expanded concentrated animal feeding operation that has more than three hundred (300) animal units (see Equivalent Animal Unit Numbers table) shall not locate or establish that operation:
 - a. Within a delineated source water protection area for a public water system. The source water protection areas for water supply wells include the entire wellhead protection area. For the surface water intakes of public water systems, source water protection areas include all or portions of the surface water that supplies the water for the public water system, including all or portions of the surface water's shoreline.
 - b. Within 1,200 feet of a private ground water well which is not owned by the concentrated animal feeding operator or within 1,500 feet of a public ground water well which does not have a delineated source water protection area.
 - c. Within 1,000 feet of surface water which is not included in source water protection area.
 - C. Odor Setback Requirements
 - a. An owner of property shall locate and establish a residence, business, church, school, public park or zone for residential use so as to provide a separation distance from any existing concentrated animal feeding operation. The separation distances for odor are listed in the following table. An owner of property who is any operator of the animal feeding operation may locate the owner's residence or business within the setbacks.
 - b. The operator of a new concentrated animal feeding operation shall locate the site of that operation from existing residences, businesses, churches, schools, public parks, including areas of property that are zoned residential so as to exceed the corresponding odor setback.
 - D. The application for a conditional use permit to operate a facility for a concentrated animal feeding operation shall include a scaled site plan. If the facility will handle more than 1,000 animal units, the scaled plan shall be

prepared by a registered land surveyor, civil engineer or other person having comparable experience or qualifications. The site plan shall include:

- a. Proposed number of animal units.
- b. Total acreage of the site of the facility.
- c. Existing and proposed roads and access ways within and adjacent to the site of the facility.
- d. Surrounding land uses and ownership, if the operation will have the capacity to handle more than 1,000 animal units.
- e. A copy of the permit application submitted by the applicant to the North Dakota Department of Health.

Equivalent Animal Numbers

Livestock Type	Animal Unit Equivalent	Equivalent Numbers of the Livestock (hd) for Four Sizes (a.u.) of Animal Feeding Operations			
		300 a.u.	1,000 a.u.	2,000 a.u.	5,000 a.u.
1 horse	2.0000	150	500	1,000	2,500
1 dairy cow	1.3300	225	750	1,500	3,750
1 mature beef	1.0000	300	1,000	2,000	5,000
1 beef feeder-finishing	1.0000	300	1,000	2,000	5,000
1 beef feeder-backgrounding	0.7500	400	1,333	2,667	6,667
1 mature bison	1.0000	300	1,000	2,000	5,000
1 bison feeder	1.0000	300	1,000	2,000	5,000
1 swine > 55 lbs	0.4000	750	2,500	5,000	12,500
1 swine-nursery	0.1000	3,000	10,000	20,000	50,000
1 sheep	0.2000	3,000	10,000	20,000	50,000
1 goose/duck	0.1000	1,500	5,000	10,000	25,000
1 turkey	0.0182	16,500	55,000	110,000	275,000
1 chicken	0.0100	30,000	100,000	200,000	500,000

Odor Setback Distances for Animal Feeding Operations

Number of Animal Units	Hog Operations	Other Animal Operations
0 – 1,000	0.50 miles	0.50 miles
1,001 – 2,000	0.75 miles	0.50 miles
2,001 – 5,000	1.00 miles	0.75 miles
5,001 or more	1.50 miles	1.00 miles

ARTICLE 3 – DISTRICTS AND BOUNDARIES

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICTS: In order to effectively carry out the provisions of these regulations, the land covered by the jurisdiction of these regulations shall be divided into the following zoning districts:

“AG” – Agricultural District

SECTION 2. ZONING MAP: The location and boundaries of the zoning districts are hereby established as shown on the maps attached and made a part of this ordinance. The maps shall be kept on file with the Township Clerk and shall be regularly updated to show any change in the zoning boundary lines resulting from amendments.

SECTION 3. INTERPRETATION OF BOUNDARIES: The following rules shall apply to the boundaries of the zoning districts on the zoning district map.

1. Where zoning district boundaries follow streets, highways, roads, railroad lines or extensions thereof, such boundary lines shall be the centerlines of those streets, highways, roads, railroad lines, or extensions thereof.
2. Zoning district boundaries indicated as approximately following platted lot lines or other property lines shall be construed to follow such lines or extensions thereof.
3. Zoning district boundaries which do not follow streets, highways, roads, railroad lines, property lines, or lot lines or extensions thereof shall be interpreted and determined by the Township Board.

SECTION 4. AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT (AG):

1. **INTENT AND PURPOSE:** This district is established for the purpose of preserving and protecting agricultural uses and other natural land uses in the Township.
2. **PERMITTED USES:** The following uses shall be permitted in this district:
 - A. Agriculture and agriculture related buildings (provided such uses are maintained in connection with a farm or farming operation).
 - B. Single family dwellings (subject to the Residential Guidelines of this section).
 - C. Garages and out-buildings.
 - D. Churches and similar places of worship and parish houses.
 - E. Greenhouses, nurseries and garden centers.
 - F. Hobby farms, whether or not there is a dwelling on the same site or contiguous to the site. If there is a dwelling associated with the site it is subject to the Residential Guidelines of this section.
 - G. No zoning permits are required by the township or any other government agency for permitted uses with the exception of single-family dwellings and hobby farms, which are subject to the residential guidelines of this section.

3. **CONDITIONAL USES:** The following uses shall be considered conditional uses and shall be permitted only after a conditional use permit has been obtained in accordance with these zoning regulations.
 - A. Mineral extraction and exploration (including clay, sand and gravel) subject to the requirements of Article 2, Section 7 of these regulations.
 - B. National wildlife Refuges and Waterfowl Management Areas.
 - C. The Township Board and adjacent landowners must be notified before any wetland easement or wildlife easement is entered into by any landowner of Riga Township.
 - D. Multiple family dwellings.
 - E. Mobile home parks.
 - F. Concentrated feeding operations subject to the requirement of Article 2, Section 10 of these regulations.
 - G. Radio or TV towers, cellular phone towers, utility lines, substations and pipelines subject to the requirements of Article 2, Section 6 of these regulations.
 - H. Commercial grain elevators.
 - I. Retail agriculture chemical and fertilizer outlets.
 - J. Cemeteries.
 - K. Park and outdoor recreational facilities and related buildings for outdoor recreation.
 - L. Junk yards and automobile salvage operations, provided all operations are conducted within an area enclosed on all sides with a solid fence or wall not less than eight (8) feet in height.
 - M. Private waste disposal sites subject to the requirements of Article 2, Section 9 of these regulations.
4. **PROHIBITED USES:** Land uses which are not listed in this Sections as a permitted use or as a conditional use shall be considered a prohibited use and shall not be allowed in this zoning district without following the amendment or variance procedures of these regulations.
5. **SHELTERBELTS:** No shelterbelts or major tree plantings shall be established closer than 115 feet from planting on the windward side (generally north and west) and 99 feet for planting on the south and east. This is to be measured from all section lines and the centerlines of all improved and unimproved roads.
6. **RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT:** The following regulations shall be applied to the construction of individual dwelling units: (The terms of lot size and lot density shall exclude the immediate family of the surface owner if the surface owner is a farmer.)
 - A. A zoning permit is required.
 - B. Lot Size – Not less than three (3) acres.
 - C. Lot Density – Not more than one dwelling per 20 acres.

- D. Lot Location – The development and location of all lots shall abut an existing improved road. (An improved road is one which is gravel or hard surfaced and is regularly maintained in good driving condition.)

7. DIMENSIONAL STANDARDS:

- A. Building and Structure Setbacks – One hundred fifty (150) feet from all section lines and the centerlines of all township and county roads.

ARTICLE 4 – ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

SECTION 1. PLANNING COMMISSION: The administration and enforcement of these Zoning Regulations is hereby vested in the Township Board of Riga Township (unless a separate Planning Commission is appointed). Duties of the Planning Commission shall include:

1. Issuance of permits.
2. Inspection for permit compliance in accordance with these Zoning Regulations.
3. Maintenance of the records for the regulations and permits.
4. Collection of any fees instituted by the Township Board in the administration of this ordinance.
5. Interpret district boundaries on the Official Zoning Map.
6. Establishment of rules regulations and procedures for the purpose of administering these zoning regulations.
7. Periodic review of the provisions of these regulations.
8. Conduct public hearings on conditional use permits, variance permits, regulation amendments, and any other business pertaining to these zoning regulations which may require a public hearing.
9. The Planning Commission may appoint a Zoning Administrator to conduct the business of the Planning Commission for any part of the above mentioned duties.

SECTION 2. BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: A Board of Zoning Appeals is hereby created. Such Board shall consist of the Township Board of Riga Township and shall have the authority to grant variances to these regulations.

1. **RECORDS.** The Board shall keep minutes of its proceedings, show evidence presented, findings of fact of the Board, decisions of the Board, and voting upon each

question. Records of all official actions of the Board shall be filed in its office and shall be a public record.

2. **PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE.** The Board of Zoning Appeals shall within thirty (30) days of filing, fix a date for the hearing of an appeal. Notice of the time, place and subject of such hearing shall be published once in the official county newspaper at least ten (10) days prior to the date fixed for the hearing. A copy of said notice shall be mailed to each party to the appeal.
3. **POWERS AND JURISDICTIONS:** The Board of Zoning Appeals shall administer the details of appeals or other matters referred to it regarding the application of the zoning regulations. The Board shall have the following specific powers:
 - A. To hear and decide on appeals where it is alleged that there is error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by the Planning Commission in the enforcement of the zoning regulations.
 - B. To interpret the provisions of these regulations in such a way as to carry out the intent and purpose of the adopted comprehensive plan and, as shown upon the zoning district maps.
 - C. The concurring vote of two-thirds of all members of the Board shall be necessary to reverse any order, requirement, decision, or determination of the Planning Commission or to decide in favor of the applicant any matter upon which it is required to pass under this ordinance or to affect any variation of these regulations.
4. **PROCEDURE:** The appeals process is outlined below:
 - A. Appeals to the Board of Zoning Appeals may be taken by any person aggrieved, by any officer of the Township or by any governmental agency or body affected by any decision of the official administering of the provisions of these zoning regulations.
 - B. Appeals shall be taken within thirty (30) days of filing provided by the rules of the Board, by filing a notice of appeal specifying the grounds thereof and payment of the filing fee as required in Section 8.2 of this Article.
 - C. Appeals and requests to the Board for variances and exceptions to these zoning regulations shall be prepared and submitted on forms furnished by the Township.
 - D. The Board of Zoning Appeals shall advertise and hold a public hearing as required in Section 2.2 of this Article.
 - E. Notice of the decision of the Board of Zoning Appeals shall be in writing and transmitted within fifteen (15) days to the appellant. A copy of such decision shall also be transmitted to the official administering the regulations for action, if action is required.

SECTION 3. ZONING PERMITS: No building or structure, other than those listed as permitted uses in Article III Section 2, excepting single family homes which are subject to Article IV Section 6, shall be erected, moved, added to or structurally altered without a zoning permit. No zoning permit shall be issued except in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance unless a written order has been received from the Township Board in the form of a conditional use or from the Board of Zoning Appeals in the form of an administrative review or variance as provided by this ordinance. No permit is required for maintenance of any building or structure which does not structurally alter the building. If no construction takes place in a year from the issuance of a zoning permit, the permit shall expire.

1. **PROCEDURE:** The zoning permit process is outlined below:
 - A. All applicants who wish to build or alter any structure which requires a permit as defined in these zoning regulations must apply to the Planning Commission for a permit.
 - B. If the applicant's plans meet district regulations as prescribed in these zoning regulations and any other applicable ordinances, the Planning Commission or designated Zoning Administrator collects any applicable fees and issues the zoning permit.
 - C. If the applicant's plans do not comply with district regulations, the amendment, variance, conditional use procedures or appeals sections of these regulations may be applied.

SECTION 4. CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS:

1. **REQUIREMENTS FOR CONDITIONAL USES:** A conditional Use Permit may be granted following compliance with the procedure set forth in this section if the conditional use is one set forth in the District Regulations, provided that no application for a conditional use shall be granted unless all of the following conditions are found to be present:
 - A. The conditional use will not be detrimental to or endanger the public health, safety or general welfare;
 - B. The existing permitted uses in the area will not be substantially impaired or diminished by the establishment of the conditional use;
 - C. The conditional use will not impede the normal and orderly development of the surrounding property for uses permitted in the district;
 - D. Adequate utilities, access road, drainage, and other necessary site improvements have been or are being provided;
 - E. Adequate measures have or will be taken to provide access and exit so designed as to minimize traffic congestion in the public roads and streets; and,
 - F. The conditional use shall conform to all provisions of the district in which it is located.

The Conditional Use Permit may be issued for a specified period of time with automatic cancellation at the end of that time unless it is renewed, or conditions may be applied to the issuance of the Permit and periodic review may be required to determine if the conditional use has any detrimental effects on neighboring uses or districts. The Permit shall be granted for a particular use and not for a particular person or firm.

2. **APPLICATIONS:** Application for a Conditional Use Permit shall be submitted by the property owner to the Planning Commission on forms provided by the Commission. The application shall include:
 - A. The name and address of the applicant.
 - B. The date of the application.
 - C. The description of the site and the immediate surrounding area.
 - D. A preliminary map showing boundary lines and location of structures to be developed on the site.
 - E. Location of existing structures on adjacent property.
 - F. Parking plan showing off street parking areas and/or loading areas.
 - G. Names and addresses of adjacent property owners.
 - H. Any reasonable information the Planning Commission deems necessary.
 - I. Payment of the filing fee as required in Section 8.2 of this Article.
3. **PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:** The Planning Commission, upon receipt of an application for a Conditional Use Permit, shall at its next regular or special meeting, specify a time and date within the next thirty (30) days for a public hearing for the proposed conditional use. Following the public hearing, the Planning Commission shall consider the application and make a recommendation to the Township Board within thirty (30) days.
4. **PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE:** The Planning Commission shall publish a notice of the public hearing in the official county newspaper at least ten (10) days before the hearing. Notice shall include the date, time, place, and purpose of the hearing. In addition to the published notice, the Planning Commission may require that notice be mailed to those persons designated by the Planning Commission.

SECTION 5. VARIANCE PERMITS: To permit a variation in the yard, setback and height requirements of any district where there are practical difficulties or unnecessary hardship in the carrying out of these provisions due to an irregular shape of the lot, or topographical or other conditions, provided such variation will not seriously affect any adjoining property or the general welfare, or where variations may be permitted which allow unusual arrangement on the lot and still clearly and unmistakably accomplish the intent of

these regulations. The Board must find that the granting of such variance will not merely serve as a convenience to the applicant, but will alleviate some demonstrable or unusual hardship or difficulty.

The Variance Permit may be issued for a specified period of time with automatic cancellation at the end of that time unless it is renewed, or conditions may be applied to the issuance of the Permit and periodic review may be required to determine if the variance has any detrimental effects on neighboring uses or districts. The Permit shall be granted for a particular use and not for a particular person or firm.

1. **APPLICATIONS:** Application for a Variance Permit shall be submitted by the property owner to the Planning Commission on forms provided by the Commission. The application shall include:
 - A. The name and address of the applicant.
 - B. The date of the application.
 - C. The description of the site and the immediate surrounding area.
 - D. A preliminary map showing boundary lines and location of structures to be developed on the site.
 - E. Location of existing structures on adjacent property.
 - F. Parking plan showing off street parking areas and/or loading areas.
 - G. Names and addresses of adjacent property owners.
 - H. Any reasonable information the Planning Commission deems necessary.
 - I. Payment of the filing fee as required in Section 8.2 of this Article.
2. **PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:** The Planning Commission, upon receipt of an application for a Variance Permit, shall at its next regular or special meeting, specify a time and date within the next thirty (30) days for a public hearing for the proposed variance. Following the public hearing, the Planning Commission shall consider the application and make a recommendation to the Township Board within thirty (30) days.
4. **PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE:** The Planning Commission shall publish a notice of the public hearing in the official county newspaper at least ten (10) days before the hearing. Notice shall include the date, time, place, and purpose of the hearing. In addition to the published notice, the Planning Commission may require that notice be mailed to those persons designated by the Planning Commission.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENTS: The Township Board may from time to time amend, supplement or change the district boundaries or regulations contained in these zoning regulations. A proposal for an amendment or a change in zoning may be initiated by the Township Board, or upon application of the owner of the property affected.

1. **APPLICATIONS:** The party desiring any change in zoning district boundaries or zoning regulations as to any lot, tract or area of land shall file with the Township Clerk an application upon forms provided, and such application shall be accompanied by such data and information as may be prescribed by the Planning Commission.
2. **PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE:** Before the Planning Commission shall, by proper action, formulate its recommendation on any such proposed or requested change of zoning district boundary or regulation, whether initiated by the Township Board or by the property owner, the Planning Commission shall hold a public hearing on such proposal. The Planning Commission shall cause a notice of public hearing to be published once a week for two (2) successive weeks prior to the time set for the said hearing in the official county newspaper. Such notices shall contain:
 - A. The time and place of hearing.
 - B. A description of any property involved in any zoning change, by street address and/or other legal description.
 - C. A description of the nature, scope and purpose of the proposed regulation, restriction or boundary.
 - D. A statement of the times at which it will be available to the public for inspection and copying at the office of the Township Clerk.

SECTION 7. INSPECTIONS: The Planning Commission has the authority to inspect any structure, building or land which has been built, structurally altered, or improved such that it requires a zoning permit. This authority exists to ensure that completed improvements have been completed in accordance with the zoning regulations.

SECTION 8. SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES: The Township Board shall establish a schedule of fees, charges and expenses and a collection procedure for permits, appeals and other matters pertaining to these regulations. The schedule of fees shall be posted in the office of the Township Clerk and may be altered or amended only by the Township Board.

Until all applicable fees, charges and expenses have been paid in full, no action shall be taken on any application or appeal.

1. Zoning Permits: A fee of \$10.00 shall be used for issuing all zoning permits.
2. Other Permits and Hearings: A fee of \$100.00 shall be paid by the applicant upon filing an application for an amendment, conditional use permit, variance permit and any other activity which requires an advertised public hearing.
3. Tipping Fees: Owners of commercial waste disposal sites shall pay a quarterly tipping fee equal to \$1.00/ton of material disposed in the site during that quarter. The tipping fee shall be credited to a waste disposal impact fund, which will be used to offset costs attributable to the administration, enforcement, review, and monitoring of a commercial waste disposal site. In addition the monies in this fund could be used to offset other impacts from the location of a commercial waste disposal site including road damages, legal fees and public education costs associated with waste reduction and recycling.

SECTION 9. PENALTIES:

1. ENFORCEMENT: The County Sheriff and the Sheriff's staff shall enforce these zoning regulations.
2. COMPLAINTS: Any person may file a written complaint whenever a violation of these regulations occurs, or is alleged to have occurred. Such complaint shall state the cause and basis thereof and be filed with the County Sheriff. The County Sheriff shall record the complaint, promptly investigate, and report to the Planning Commission.
3. VIOLATIONS: If any building or structure is erected reconstructed, repaired, altered, enlarged converted, maintained, or moved; or if any building, structure, or land is used in violation of these regulations, the Planning Commission shall order in writing, the correction of such violation.

The County Sheriff, States Attorney or other official designated by the Township Board, or any affected citizen or property owner, may institute appropriate action or proceedings for the purpose of:

- A. Prosecuting any violation.
 - B. Restraining correcting or abating such violation.
 - C. Preventing the occupancy of any building, structure or land in violation of these regulations.
 - D. Preventing any illegal act, conduct, business, or use in or about any building, structure or land in violation of these regulations.
4. **PENALTY.** Any persons, firm or corporation violating the provisions of these regulations shall constitute the maintenance of a public nuisance and shall be a Class B misdemeanor. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Township from taking such other lawful action to prevent or remedy any violation of the zoning regulations.

ARTICLE 5 – DEFINITIONS

SECTION 1. RULES: For the purpose of these regulations, the following rules shall apply:

- 1. Words used singularly shall include the plural. Words used in the plural form shall include the singular. Words used in the present tense shall include the future.
- 2. The word “persons” includes a corporation, members of a partnership, a business organization, a committee, board, trustee, received, agent, or other representative
- 3. The word “shall” is mandatory. The word “may” is permissive.
- 4. The word “including” shall mean including, but not limited to.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS: The following words, terms and phrases are hereby defined an shall be interpreted in the same fashion throughout these regulations. Terms not herein defined shall have the meaning customarily assigned to them.

ACCESS: A way or means of approach to provide physical entrance to property.

ACCESSORY BUILDINGS AND USES: A subordinate building or portion of the main building the use of which is incidental to that of the main building or to the main use of the premises. An accessory use is one which is incidental to the main use of the premises.

ADULT ENTERTAINMENT CENTER: An enclosed building used on a regular basis for presenting pictorial materials or other visual images by way of direct or indirect projection, which materials are distinguished or characterized by an emphasis on the depiction of specified sexual activities or specified anatomical area, for observation by patrons therein in return for the payment of a consideration, irrespective of the number of patrons who may be able to view the presentation at one time. An enclosed building having as a substantial or

significant portion of its stock in trade, books, magazines or other periodicals which are distinguished or characterized by their emphasis on matter depicting or describing specified anatomical areas.

AGRICULTURE: The production, keeping, or maintenance, for sale, lease, or personal use, of plants and animals useful to man, including but not limited to: forages and sod crops; grains and seed crops; dairy animals and dairy products; poultry and poultry products; livestock, including beef cattle, sheep, swine, horses, ponies, mules or goats, or any mutation or hybrid thereof, including the breeding and grazing of any or all of such animals; bees and apiary products; fur animals; trees and forest products; fruits of all kinds including grapes, nuts and berries; vegetables, nursery, floral ornamental and greenhouse products; or lands devoted to a soil conservation or forestry management program.

AIRPORT: A place where aircraft can land and take off usually equipped with hangers, facilities for refueling and repair and various accommodations for passengers.

ALTERATION: Any change or rearrangement in the supporting members of an existing building, such as bearing walls, columns, beams, girders, or any enlargement to or diminution of a building or structure, whether horizontally or vertically; or the moving of a building or structure from one location to another.

BUILDING: A structure having a roof supported by columns or walls.

CONDITIONAL USE: A use which generally would not be suitable in a particular zoning district, which would be acceptable under certain circumstances. The permit shall be granted for a particular use and not for a particular person or firm.

CONCENTRATED FEEDING OPERATIONS: Any building, structure enclosure, or premises used, designed, or intended for the concentrated feeding or fattening of livestock for more than 45 days in any twelve (12) month period for marketing and which less than fifty percent (50%) of the feed is raised by the owner and which animal waste or manure accumulates and is a separate pursuit to the normal incidence of farming. Adjoining animal feeding operations under common ownership are considered to be one animal feeding operation, if they use common areas or systems for manure handling.

DAYCARE: An occupied private residence in which supplemental parental care is regularly provided for no more than seven (7) children from more than one (1) family or no more than four (4) children ages two (2) and under.

DWELLING: Any building or portion thereof which is designed and used exclusively for residential purposes.

FARM: Farm means a single tract or continuous tract of agricultural land containing a minimum of ten (10) acres and which normally provides a farmer, who is actually farming the land or engaged in the raising of livestock or other similar operations normally associated with farming and ranching, with income.

Hobby Farm – Means agriculture and agriculture related farm buildings, where the uses are not maintained in connection with a normal farm or farming operation, but is operated as a pursuit of pleasure.

FARMER: Means any individual who normally earns income from the activities of producing products of the soil, poultry, livestock or dairy farming and such products, and the term also includes an individual who is retired because of illness or age and who at the time of retirement owned or occupies as a farmer, as above defined, the residence in which he/she lives.

HOME OCCUPATIONS: An occupation or activity carried on in a residential dwelling and provides the occupant with his/her source of primary annual income.

IMMEDIATE FAMILY: Immediate family shall include: Spouse, Mother, Father, Children, Siblings, Grandparents and Grandchildren.

JUNK YARD: An area of more than two hundred square feet, or any area not more than fifty (50) feet from any street, used for the storage, keeping, processing or abandonment of junk, including scrap metals or other scrap materials or goods, used for dismantling, demolition, or abandonment of automobiles or other vehicles or machinery, or parts thereof.

LIVESTOCK: Any and all animals or types customarily raised or kept on farms for profit or other purposes.

LOT: A piece, plot, or area of land, or contiguous assemblage as established by survey, plat or deed, occupied or to be occupied by a building, or a unit group of buildings, and/or accessory buildings thereto or for other use, together with such open spaces as may be required under these regulations and having its frontage on a street or officially approved place.

MINERAL EXPLORATION/PRODUCTION: Any activity, use or technique which when applied to the surface of the land will aid in the discovery, evaluation or production of coal, oil, gas, potash, sand, gravel and/or rock, or other subsurface minerals as defined in Chapter 38-1 of the North Dakota Century Code.

MOBILE HOME PARK: Any park, court, camp, or tract of ground upon which mobile home sites are lease or used, whether for compensation or not, including all accessory uses.

NONCONFORMING USES: Use of a building or of land that does not conform to the regulations as to use for the district in which it is situated.

PARK: A tract of land designated and used by the public for active and passive recreation.

PERMITTED USE: Any use allowed in a zoning district and subject to the restrictions applicable to that zoning district.

PLANNING COMMISSION: The Planning Zoning Commission of Riga Township, North Dakota.

PROHIBITED USE: A use that is not permitted in a zoned district.

PUBLIC HEARING: A meeting announced and advertised in advance and open to the public with the public given an opportunity to talk and participate.

SCHOOL: Any building or part thereof which is designed, constructed or used for education or instruction in any branch of knowledge.

SETBACK: The open space extending the full width of a lot between a building and a public right-of-way line, easement or property line.

SHELTERBELT: A barrier of trees and shrubs that is used to protect crops, farmsteads and dwellings from wind and storms

STREET: Any thoroughfare or public space which has been dedicated to and accepted by, the public for public use and includes all the right-of-way sidelines.

STRUCTURE: Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires permanent location on the ground or attached to something having a permanent location on the ground, including, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, advertising signs, billboards, backstops for tennis courts, and arbors or breeze-ways, but excepting utility poles, fences, retaining walls and ornamental light fixtures.

STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS: Any change in the supporting members of a building, such as bearing walls or partitions, columns, beams, or girders or any complete rebuilding of the roof or exterior walls.

TOWNSHIP BOARD: Shall mean the Riga Township Board.

UTILITY: Any person, firm, corporation, municipal department or board duly authorized to furnish and furnishing under public regulations, to the public or other entity for resale: electricity (including wind generated electricity), gas, heat, power, steam, telephone, transportation, internet or water.

VARIANCE: The relaxation of the terms of the Zoning Regulations in relation to height, area size, and open spaces where specific physical conditions, unique to the site, would create an unreasonable hardship in the development of the site for permitted uses.

WASTE:

Chemical – Shall be defined as, but not limited to, any waste product associated with mineral exploration, production or abandonment procedures.

Hazardous – Shall be defined by North Dakota or Federal law or rules or regulations.

Inert Solid – Means the nonputrescible solid waste which is generally not contaminated water or from contaminated leachate. Inert waste does not serve as food for vectors. Inert waste includes, but is not limited to: construction and demolition material such as metal, wood bricks, masonry and cement concrete, asphalt concrete, tire, metals and tree branches. Solid waste does not include hazardous waste either alone or as part of otherwise included waste.

Municipal Solid – Means that garbage, refuse and trash generated by households, motels, hotels and recreation facilities by public and private facilities and by commercial, wholesale private and retail businesses. The term does not include special waste.

Special – Shall mean only the special waste described in Section 23-29-03(16) of the North Dakota Century Code.

WASTE DISPOSAL SITE:

Private – a solid waste disposal site used exclusively by and only for the landowner engaged in farming.

Commercial – a solid waste disposal site used by public entities or commercial waste haulers for the temporary or permanent storage or reclamation of solid waste generated through medical industrial, municipal or household collection.

YARD: An open space on the same lot with a building unoccupied and obstructed by any portion of a structure from the ground upward. In measuring a yard for the purpose of determining the width of side yard, the depth of a front yard, or the depth of a rear yard, the minimum horizontal distance between the lot line and the main building shall be used.

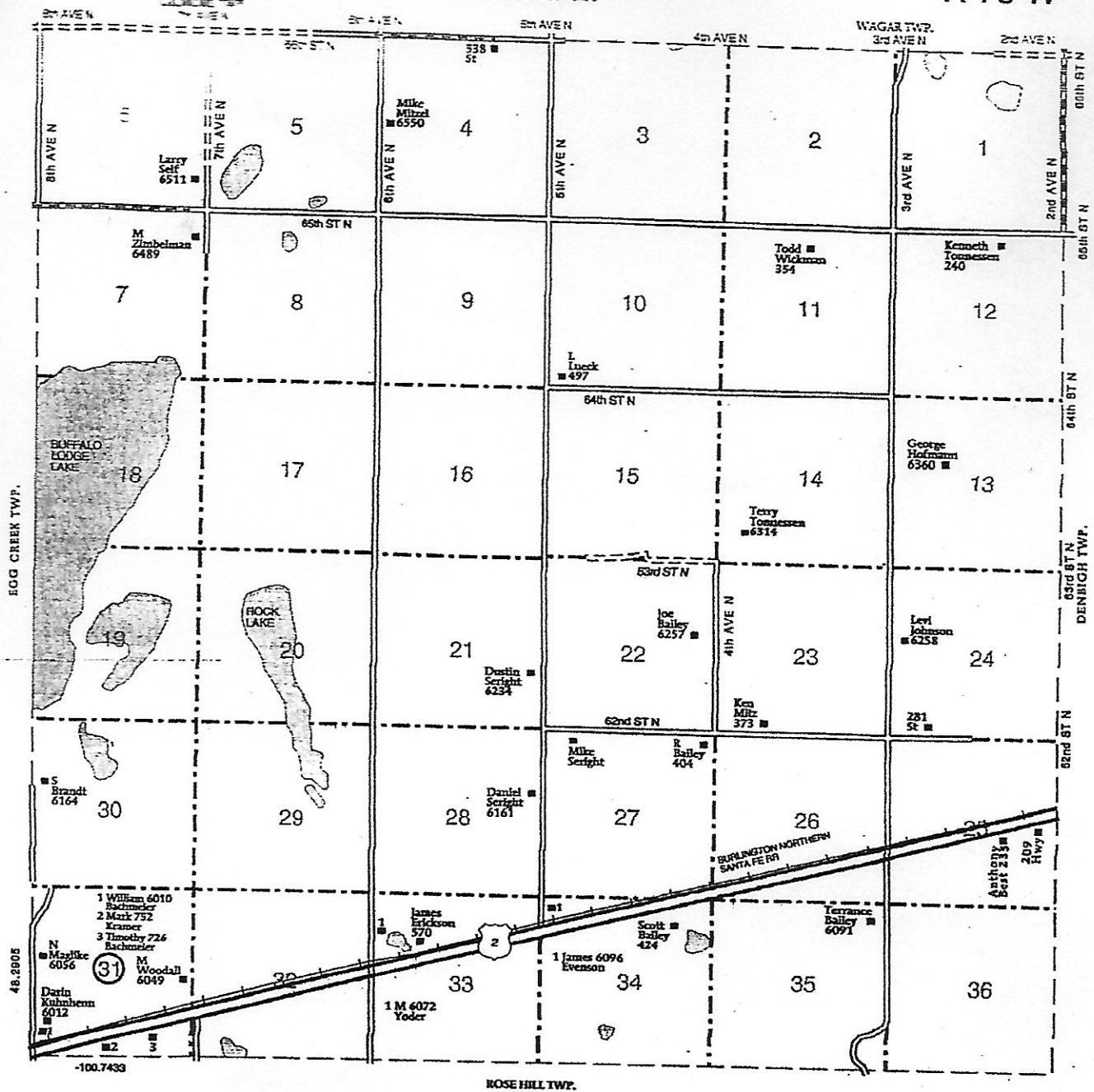
Front – A yard that extends across the full width of the lot. The depth is measured as the least distance between the front lot line and the front building line.

Rear – A yard that extends across the full width of the lot. The depth is measured as the least distance between the rear lot line and the rear building line

Side – A yard extending from the front yard to the rear yard. The depth is measured from the side lot line and side building line.

ZONING MAP: The map or maps which are a part of the zoning ordinance and delineate the boundaries of the zoning districts.

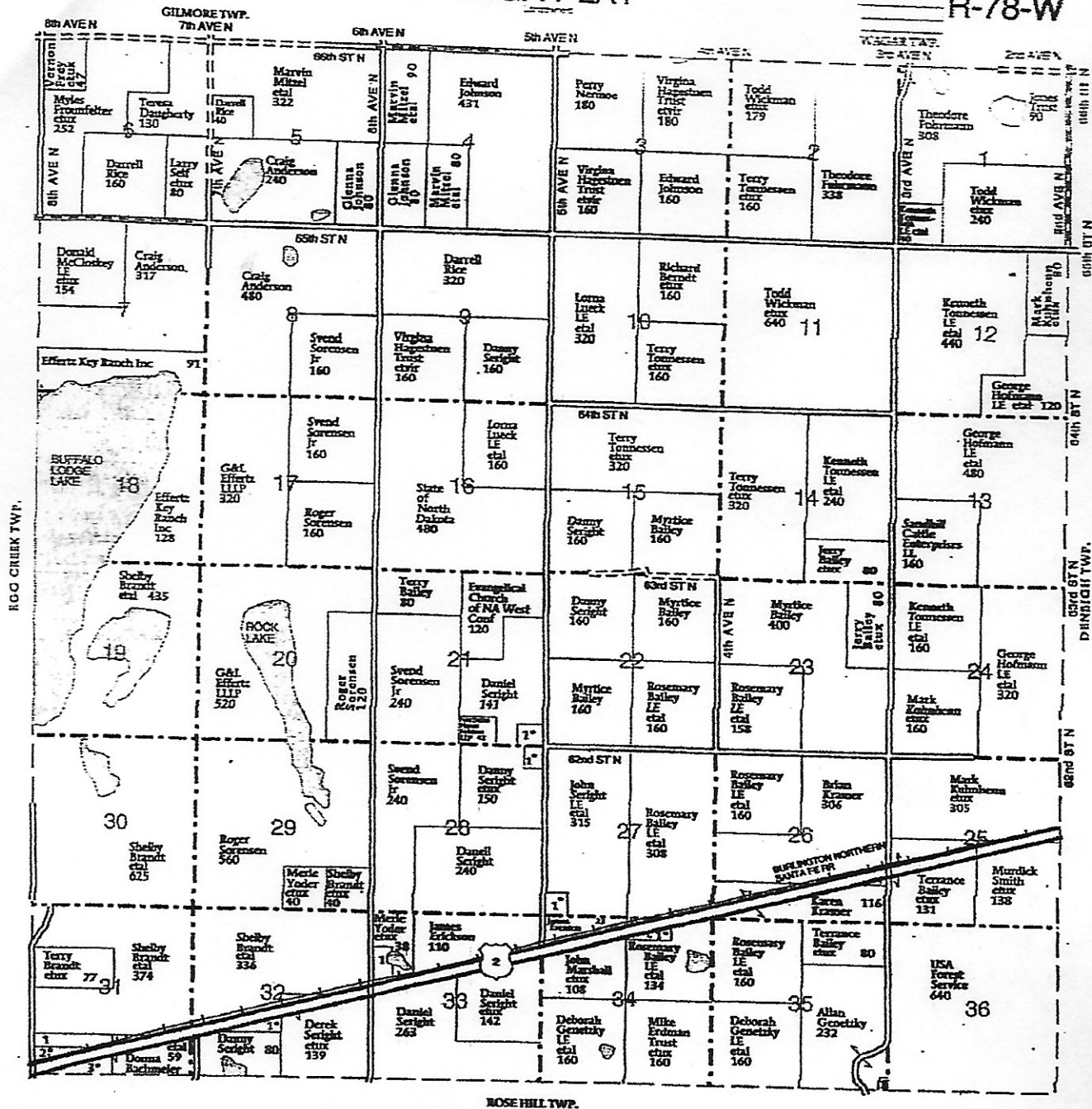
R-78-W



T-156-N

RIGA PLAT

R-78-W



RIGA TOWNSHIP

SECTION 21

1. Seright, Dustin 16

SECTION 27

1. Seright, Billy 5

SECTION 28

1. Seright, Derek 10

SECTION 31

1. Kuhnher, Darin 23

2. McFarland, Camron 10

3. Kramer, Mark 14

SECTION 32

1. Schapp, Garry 19

SECTION 33

1. Yoder, Marsha 20

SECTION 34

1. Bailey, Scott 10

SECTION 35

1. Genetzky, Devon 8