Zoning change approved for rock quarry

(KNZA)--The Doniphan County Commission has approved a zoning change that will allow for the establishment of a rock quarry and ag lime operation in rural Wathena.

Following a hearing Monday, the Commission voted 2-1 to approve the zoning change on behalf of Michael Foley for property located at 434 Monument Road, with the condition that Foley maintains the roads 1,000 feet of each side of any entrance. Commission Chairman Thad Geiger cast the lone no vote.

The county Planning Commission voted 3-2 at their April 10 meeting to recommend the zoning change be approved.

Attorney Bill McQuillan, speaking on behalf of Foley, told County Commissioners the quarry would operate five days a week, Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Two county residents spoke support of the zoning change, while four adjoining landowners spoke in opposition.

Because a valid protest petition was submitted, it was initially believed the zoning change needed unanimous approval by the Commission.

But County Zoning Administrator Julie Meng told MSC News the Commission was told Monday, that according to state statute, unanimous approval is not required.

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