

Citizens Voice Opinion on Atchison Co Rock Quarry

A proposal to build a new rock quarry near Cummings brought around a dozen concerned citizens to Monday morning's meeting of the Atchison County Commissioners.

Hamm quarry is taking the initial steps to build a quarry on McPherson Road near 214th Road in rural Cummings.

During a public hearing, citizens that live near and along the path to the proposed quarry voiced concern about various topics, including: stirring dust, noise, an increase in snakes and building near an area where bald eagles nest.

Citizens are also concerned about the structure of the road and who would take care of it.

Currently, the road is in the townships hand for maintenance.

Debate then ensued on if the county should take over.

(Play Audio) RT: :29

Ramon Gonzalez with Hamm's then explained why having a quarry may be a good option.

(Audio Continues) RT: :26

Hamm's said typical rock quarry operations run from seven to five, four days a week.

They plan to begin a mitigation study on Wednesday that will last for one to two months to address any concerns for the property.

They also said they would strategically build the quarry to create noise buffers for nearby residents.

Hamm's said they would pay for use of the road and do dust removal initially before turning expense over to the township and county.

There isn't zoning regulations in the county meaning the quarry could begin at anytime, but Hamm officials wanted to express desire to work with property owners.

Commissioners wanted to set a future meeting with township officials to discuss the quarry proposal further.