

## Planners OK Neville family zoning request

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WALHALLA — A family with more than 100 years dedicated to harvesting timber in Oconee County cleared an initial hurdle to get more than 1,000 acres of property rezoned into the Traditional Rural District.

Jess Neville appeared

before the Oconee County Planning Commission on Monday night to request the zoning designation on behalf of his family.

"We've been cutting timber more than 100 years," Neville told the seven-member commission.

The commission voted unanimously to grant Neville's request to re-

zone 8 parcels of at least 200 acres each despite concerns from a resident representing the interests of Cane Creek homeowners on Lake Keowee.

Jim Codner told the commission that small portions of two of the Neville's parcels are hugging the lake.

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## PLANNERS: Codner and AQD are named in a

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Codner has a separate Cane Creek rezoning petition that is requesting that Neville's two parcels near the lake be classified Lake Residential District.

However, Codner pro-

posed a compromise that he thought would satisfy Neville and the lake residents.

He proposed that Neville could subdivide his property so that the portion of his parcel that falls within the 750-foot Lake Overlay District be

classified as lake residential.

Codner said that a large portion of Neville's property would be left unrestricted.

Neville rejected the offer.

"We don't have a desire to be either industrial or

residential," he said.

Codner said that when his petition comes before the commission he would request that the two Neville properties close to the lake be residential.

"I'm asking you for zoning to protect the lake," Codner said.

## lawsuit filed last month

Codner said he made his comments as the head of the Cane Creek petition and not as president of Advocates for Quality Development, Inc.

Codner and AQD are named in a lawsuit filed last month by North Fairview residents

embroiled in a zoning dispute with the county. The residents claim that Codner and AQD conspired with county officials to deny their request for Traditional Rural District.

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