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Agriculture board OKs Homestead Resort

By PAUL STUART
Frontierman reporter

PALMER — The proposed Homestead Resort in the Butte came a step closer to reality Wednesday night when it won 5-2 approval by the Agricultural and Forestry Board.

Plans are for the complex to cover more than 600 acres off Maud Road in the Butte, includ-

ing a resort lodge, residential units, equestrian facilities and an 18-hole golf course. The board voted Wednesday that a 320-acre tract slated for inclusion in the complex did not require protection for agriculture use.

The vote represents one less hurdle between resort developer Victor Trygstad and the purchase of the 320 acres from Mat-Su Borough. Trygstad has al-

ready applied to buy the land.

The next step in the process comes up at 6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 16, in the assembly chambers, when the matter is slated to come before the borough Planning Commission. If the purchase plan wins approval there, the land sale request would likely come before the assembly itself in January for final approval.

Earlier Wednesday, Trygstad completed purchase procedures on an adjacent parcel of privately owned land also needed for the project.

District 1 Assemblyman Larry DeVilbiss, who was present at the agricultural board meeting Wednesday, said the purchase was doubly good for the borough, since it brought in \$20,000 in back taxes.

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