

AGRICULTURE, ZONING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 4, 2015 MEETING

The committee chair called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm at the Livingston County Historic Courthouse, 112 W. Madison St., Pontiac, Illinois and roll call was taken.

Present: Bill Flott, Bob Young, James Carley, Justin Goembel, Daryl Holt, Paul Ritter and Bill Peterson.

Absent: None.

Committee Chair Flott noted the agenda and he remarked that there would be no ETSB report at this meeting. Daryl Holt then moved, seconded by James Carley, that the agenda for this meeting be approved as outlined by the committee chair. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Minutes of the May 5, 2015 committee meeting were referred to the committee. Bill Peterson moved, seconded by Justin Goembel, that these meeting minutes be approved as presented. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

ETSB Report: None

Considerations pertaining to the review of the proposed Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project Special Use:

With the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals having concluded their hearings and in having voiced a recommendation of denial on this zoning case, this committee discussed their options regarding this Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project special use. The committee could recommend that this zoning case be approved, be denied, be sent back to the zoning board for further review or the committee can forward this zoning case to the county board as a whole without a recommendation. Mention was made that past wind energy special use cases had been forwarded to the county board as a whole without a recommendation, by this committee. Bob Young moved, seconded by Justin Goembel, that this Agriculture, Zoning and Emergency Services committee forward the Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project Special Use, Application SU-7-14 to the Livingston County Board as a whole, without a recommendation. This motion was approved by roll call vote. Flott-Yes, Young-Yes, Carley-Yes, Goembel-Yes, Holt-Yes, Ritter-Yes, Peterson-Yes.

Later this evening the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals is to meet to approve their Findings and Recommendation regarding this Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project zoning case which will be forwarded to the County Board. At this point it is planned that the Livingston County Board will review this zoning case at their June 11, 2015 meeting, to take place at 6 pm, at Pontiac Township High School.

Solid Waste Report:

A copy of the results of split sampling of wells pertaining to the landfills done by Deigan and Associates was presented to the committee members, along with a copy of Deigan and Associates Submittal Reviews. Additional information presented to the committee was copies of landfill inspections completed by Deigan and Associates.

Information on the Streator Area Landfill relating to the continuation of gas well X-309 having measured high methane levels was discussed, and that repairs need to be made to the system to bring this well into compliance.

Host agreement information was also presented to the committee.

Host Fee Agreement Extension discussion:

The committee discussed the information presented at their last meeting that pertains to the extension of the Host Agreement regarding Livingston Landfill. The consensus of the committee was that this information and proposed extension of the agreement was satisfactory to them. Carolyn Gerwin discussed with the committee the timing, the rates and the consideration of this proposed host agreement extension. Tonnage rates were discussed, along with additional State of Illinois fees, and the history of tonnage rates at Livingston Landfill. Company options to dispose of waste in other landfills were also discussed. Committee chair Flott mentioned that our consultant Deigan and Associates had reviewed this proposal and that this proposal is fair to all parties. Bob Young then moved, seconded by Bill Peterson, that this committee recommend that this proposed host agreement extension pertaining to the Livingston Landfill be formalized and formally presented to the committee at a future meeting. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Continuing the Process of Reviewing of the County's Wind Energy Ordinance:

The discussion on the Continuation of the Process of Reviewing the County's Wind Energy Ordinance was started by Committee Chair Flott. Mr. Flott expressed his hope to schedule a day long meeting to continue this process. Members of this process committee were asked which day worked best for them. It was concluded that this committee will meeting on June 22, 2015 in this Historic Courthouse with the meeting beginning at 9 am and concluding at 4 pm.

The committee was then informed on status of the process to extend the wind energy moratorium on processing any special use applications for the construction of WECS. The Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals is to hold a public hearing on this moratorium extension at a meeting later this evening, and that this will be formally presented to this committee and to the county board in July. Statutory comments about text amendments were also mentioned to the committee.

Other Issues to Come Before the Committee:

A capital budget proposal regarding the ongoing extension of the review of land use ordinances was related to the committee members.

Public Comment:

Public Comment focused on the Iberdrola Turbine fire, and about protocol for evacuating homes near a turbine fire. This protocol question will need to be investigated. Mention was also made that when a call was made to the emergency number listed for the Iberdrola wind energy project site the phone call went to an answering machine. The cause of this turbine fire is under investigation by Iberdrola, and they will decide what they will do with this turbine site in the future.

Review and Approval of Bills:

An invoice in the amount of \$6,993.50 from Deigan and Associates, LLC for Professional Services for the period of April to May 2015 relating to landfill monitoring and technical reviews of Republic/Allied Waste's Livingston and Streator Area Landfills, for environmental/solid waste landfill consulting service to Livingston County was submitted to the committee. Daryl Holt moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that this statement be approved for payment. This motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment:

Then Bob Young moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that this meeting be adjourned. This motion was approved unanimously.

This meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Charles T. Schopp, Administrator
Livingston County Regional
Planning Commission