

AGRICULTURE, ZONING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 4, 2015 MEETING

The committee chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm at the Livingston County Historic Courthouse, 112 W. Madison St., Pontiac, Illinois and roll call was taken.

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

Absent: James Carley.

Additional County Reps: County Board Chair Marty Fannin, County Administrative Resource Specialist Alina Hartley, Non-Committee County Board Members Mike Ingles and Mark Runyon.

Committee Chair Flott noted the agenda. Daryl Holt then moved, seconded by Paul Ritter that the agenda for this meeting be approved as amended. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Minutes of the July 7, 2015 and July 22, 2015 committee meetings were referred to the committee. Paul Ritter moved, seconded by Daryl Holt, that these meeting minutes be approved as presented. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

ETSB Report:

ETSB Chair Mike Ingles reviewed a printed ETSB Report for August 2015, of which copies had been handed out to the committee members, and a copy of this report is attached to these minutes. Mr. Ingles explained that that the new details of this report are the underlined comments under each section, and it is these underlined areas of which Mr. Ingles focused his review.

Review of Indian Grove Township's Request to incorporate their Township's Requests Pertaining to Wind Energy Regulations:

The committee members were provided with a copy of the resolution from the Board of Trustees of Indian Grove Township, in which the township is requesting WECS towers to be setback at least 4 times the WECS tower height from adjacent property lines in Indian Grove Township, and that WECS towers be setback at least 10 times the height of the tower or 4000 feet, whichever is greater from a primary structure. Waiver provisions are still allowed in the regulations. A copy township statute page was also provided to the committee members, of which on this statute page it is related how the township can make a recommendation to the county board, of which they have done in this case. The options that the committee can take as their review of this recommendation were discussed. Keith Bittner, an Indian Grove Township trustee, spoke to the committee. Mr. Bittner commented about how 8 specific sections within their township have a relatively dense population of 33 residences. In the township evaluation of these residences they believe that up to 19 of these residences are rental or located on small acreage. The township has considered as to how small acreage residences are involved in the siting of wind energy projects. It is the opinion of the township that with their proposed wind energy setback distances they would create better negotiation position for property owners.

Brad Steidinger, an Indian Grove Township planning commission member, then addressed the committee by explaining how they arrived at the proposed setback of 4x the height of a WECS tower from an adjacent property line, in that some turbine manufacture safety manuals reflect safety zones of 500 meters or approximately 1640'. Being consistent with some wind energy regulations makes using 4x the height a more consistent measurement. Mr. Steidinger then further explained that the proposed 10x or 4000 feet Indian Grove Township setback distance from a primary structure, will create a better avenue for all property owners to get involved in the negotiations with wind energy companies and the proposed placement of wind turbines, in that property owners waivers of setback distances can still be negotiated.

The committee members then discussed the potential of more townships making similar requests, and though unlikely it could have 30 different requested requirements in regards to setbacks with separate townships. The discussion continued as to if the current ordinance as it may be revised would address some of the setback concerns. A discussion on reason to act on the Indian Grove Township proposal now as opposed to acting on the proposal later then took place. Indian Grove Township representatives then related that the current changes to the county wind energy regulations being considered would not satisfy this request for the extended setback distances, and that they still would prefer separate regulations. Options on how the committee can act on or table this Indian Grove Township resolution were further discussed. It was also noted that the county board would also have the option to table this request, and act on the request at a later time. These options for action in relation to the proposal were further discussed. County wide regulations were discussed, in relation to how they may not affect all areas of the county, considering some areas of the county are more densely populated than other areas. The aspect of allowing townships to self-govern was then mentioned.

Justin Goembel then moved, seconded by Daryl Holt, that this Agriculture, Zoning and Emergency Services committee, recommend to the Livingston County Board that the proposed Indian Grove Township resolution pertaining to WECS setback distances be approved to be incorporated into the county wind energy regulations. This motion was not approved by roll call vote. Flott-No, Young-No, Carley-Absent, Goembel-Yes, Holt-Yes, Ritter-Yes, Peterson-No. Then Paul Ritter moved, seconded by Justin Goembel, that this Agriculture, Zoning and Emergency Services Committee, forward the proposed Indian Grove Township resolution pertaining to WECS setback distances to the Livingston County Board without a recommendation. This motion was approved by roll call vote. Flott-Yes, Young-No, Carley-Absent, Goembel-Yes, Holt-Yes, Ritter-Yes, Peterson-No.

Review of Livingston County's Three (3) Month Extension to the Existing Moratorium on the Processing or Acting upon Any Special Use Application for Wind Energy Projects:

The extension of the existing moratorium would be a safety net, in case the review of the amendments to the county wind energy regulations took longer than the length of the existing moratorium. The scheduled August 10, 2015 Committee meeting, starting at 1 pm, was noted. Then the possibility of scheduling a second committee meeting to discuss the wind energy regulations was discussed, for August 13th, 2015 from 9 am to noon. Timing issues of reviewing text amendments was discussed along with a desire to conclude work on this project. The committee concluded that they will meet on August 10, 2015 @ 1 pm and on August 13, 2015 from 9 am to noon, with both of these meetings to be held in the Livingston County Historic Courthouse. The potential need to extend the moratorium can be discussed at the August 13th, committee meeting, after evaluating the progress on this project. Committee chair Flott directed questions on the discussion that took place at the July 22, 2015 meeting to Alina and Chuck.

Continuation of the Process of Reviewing the County's Wind Energy Regulations:

Committee chair Flott related to the wind energy regulations debate from the July 22nd meeting, and he directed questions on the discussion that took place at the July 22, 2015 meeting to Alina and Chuck. In the plan to move forward on this project the above scheduled committee meeting dates can be referenced.

Solid Waste Report:

A copy of a planning commission monthly synopsis of landfill information and correspondence was presented to the committee members and discussed. Host fee information from the last month was also presented to the committee.

Review of the Host Fee Agreement Extension:

Copies of the Draft Amendment of 2015 to the Host County Agreement and Related Documents, as amended. This document reflects that this host agreement is to be extended for 3 years, with the fee starting with the current fee tiers, with a section to allow for this fee rate to change with the Consumer Price Index each year. After the committee talked about this proposed amendment, Bob Young moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that this Agriculture, Zoning and Emergency Services Committee recommend to the Livingston County Board the approval of this proposed Draft Amendment of 2015 to the Host County Agreement and Related Documents, pending legal review. This motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

FY 2016 Budget:

The committee was presented with copies of the draft FY 2016 Budget for the Solid Waste, Zoning Board of Appeals, ESDA and Regional Planning and Zoning budgets, including capital budget requests. After review of these budgets, Daryl Holt moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that this Agriculture, Zoning and Emergency Services Committee recommend to the Livingston County Finance Committee the approval of these proposed budgets. This motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Other Issues to Come Before the Committee: None

Public Comment:

Public Comment focused on the proposed Indian Grove Township and their resolution pertaining to WECS setbacks. It was reasoned that this is a compromise position on this matter, in that the potential to waive the setback requirements is part of the language. Not all property owners would be willing to waive setback requirements, but that some property owners may agree to setback waivers. It was mentioned that a company has offered neighbor agreements up to a half mile from turbines, so possibly waivers could also be compensated. The proposed Indian Grove WECS setback language is a path to engage all of the property owners in proposed wind energy developments, and to limit potential surprise elements of proposed wind energy developments.

Review and Approval of Bills:

An invoice in the amount of \$3,595.50 from Deigan and Associates, LLC for Professional Services for the period of May 26, 2015 to July 29, 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.

And, an invoice from AMS Environmental Inc., in the amount of \$2,564.00, for the cost of recycling batteries, as part of Livingston County's participation in a county wide battery recycling program was presented to the committee. Daryl Holt moved, seconded by Bob Young, that these statements be approved for payment. This motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment:

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

This meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles T. Schopp". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Charles T. Schopp, Administrator
Livingston County Regional
Planning Commission



**LIVINGSTON COUNTY
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August, 2015 Report

From: Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB)
To: Agriculture, Zoning, and Emergency Services Committee

This report is submitted as per the Governance agreement between ETSB and Livingston County.

August 4, 2015

- Personnel
 - 6/5- We are currently budgeted for 12 dispatchers, and have 10 on staff. Resumes have been received and interviews are scheduled for later this month to identify 2 additional hires.
 - 7/8-Note: 11 dispatchers are budgeted. We are still waiting to schedule interviews.
 - 8/4-No changes
- Finances
 - 6/5- Currently, spending is on target compared to the budget.
 - 7/8-No change.
 - 8/4-No change
- Capital Project – Total Budget=\$3,000,000
 - Phone System (Intrado)
 - 6/5-The entire system is installed, operational, and in use. Minor issues are being addressed. Functionality proves to be far better than expected.
 - 7/8-A service call is scheduled for 7/28 to resolve a printer problem, the lone remaining open issue.
 - 8/4-Printer problem resolved, fully functional.
 - Radio System (StarCom)
 - 6/5-All wiring has been installed by Supreme Radio. T-1 line is installed and is currently being tested. Consoles (for Dispatch Center) are installed downstairs and are being used to test T-1 line. After successful testing, Dispatcher training will begin. Currently defining unique needs for the mounting hardware for various vehicles. Fairbury PD is the only group yet to submit vehicle list. Vehicle installs will be done to the 3 PD's, and then the Sherriff's vehicles. The plan is to install 2/day, and be completed by July 1. The work will be done in the jail's sally port.
 - 7/8-Console installation has started, scheduled to complete mid-July. Training is scheduled for July 9. All portables are configured and ready for distribution. Vehicle installs are scheduled to begin July 22, to be completed by mid-August.

- 8/4-All units in the dispatch center installed. User training is complete. Dwight and Fairbury PD mobile units are 100% installed, Pontiac PD 80%, Sheriff 50%. Portables scheduled to be issued August 12.
- CAD System (Spillman)
 - 6/5-Reviewing the hardware and operating system requirements will review various proposals with Spillman before purchases are made to insure compatibility. Currently finalizing ESRI mapping software (used by Spillman) contracts. Randy Wittenberg, Al Lindsey, and 2 Dispatch supervisors attended the annual Illinois user conference in Effingham on May 28. Reaction by all was very positive and information gained very useful. On July 7, Spillman will be here and offer 2 hour demonstrations to users and elected officials. Details and times for 4 proposed sessions will be announced shortly.
 - 7/8-After the Effingham user group, it was discovered that installation on Linux Red Hat servers were much more cost effective, and will provide capacity for other departments within the County. Spillman was here on 7/7 to load software, and provide demo's to users and elected officials. Configuration training for users is scheduled for mid-August.
 - 8/4-Linux servers installed in dispatch center and Spillman software installed. Clients running in training environment, training started 8/4.
- State effort to consolidate dispatch operations
 - Over the past months, there has been a group (Candi Bradshaw has participated) that has been addressing surcharges and the need for a uniform system for responding to 911 calls throughout the State.
 - 6/5- Last Friday SB 96 was passed and awaits action by the Governor. All indications are that he will sign. Highlights include:
 - Funding to be set at \$.97 for all phones. Although that is a reduction from our \$1.50 surcharge on land lines, the increase over the \$.73 on cell phones appears to not reduce our overall income.
 - Consolidation will require a single center in each county. While this is not the case in most, Livingston County is already meeting this!
 - Funding for various activities is not clear, but we expect some additional income for required activities.
 - 7/8- Note: the above mentioned fee of \$.97 was a typo, should have been \$.87. The Governor recently signed SB 96 with amendments. We are currently waiting on specifics, especially if we are able to retain our \$1.50 land line surcharge. We have had several discussions with City of Streator about joining us, and are initiating discussions with an adjoining county in the spirit of the new legislation.
 - 8/4- Still waiting on a definitive answer on the \$150 vs. .87 question. Randy is meeting with the ICC to get answers about consolidation.
- Other
 - 8/4-Alarm system for generator has been installed. It will send text messages when generator is running.

- 8/4-Dwight Fire Chief Paul Johnson has volunteered to coordinate an effort to seek grants for fire and EMS to upgrade to StarCom radios and a digital paging system.