AGIRICUTURE, ZONING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 3, 2015 MEETING

This committee meeting began with a moment of silence in honor of Dawn Thorson, a county employee that recently passed away.

Then 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, James Carley, Daryl Holt, Paul Ritter and Bill Peterson.

Absent: Justin Goembel.

Additional County Reps: County Board Chair Marty Fannin, County Administrative Resource Specialist Alina Hartley, State's Attorney Seth Uphoff, 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 October 6, 2015 committee meeting were referred to the committee. James Carley 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 his continuing printed ETSB Report as updated for this November 3, 2015, of which copies had been handed out to the committee members. Mr. Ingles explained that the new details of this report are the last comments listed under each section, and it is these areas of which Mr. Ingles focused his review. Mr. Ingles commented on the finance section remarking that staff and some ETSB members are continuing their work on a five year budget plan. He related that Motorola is continuing their work on a solution to improve the radio system coverage in the Dwight area. Mr. Ingles then commented about how Streator is consolidating with Livingston County to be served by Liv Com. The administration and work to have the ICC approve this merger was diccussed. This consolidation approval will also package the approval of new back up agreements for both LivCom and Streator. Mr. Ingles remarked that Streator will cover their costs for changing over to this system, and Streator will be providing ongoing revenue to the operation of the system, similar to the other system users. Mr. Ingles related that the budgeted staff will be able to handle the addition of Streator; with it being explained how in part the new CAD system will be reducing the dispatch workload. It is being planned that Streator will come part of the working system during the second quarter of next year, when the new CAD system becomes active. Consideration is also being made to allow for Streator to have a representative on the ETSB.

John Clemmer, the county's Finance Resource Specialist, was present at this meeting. Committee chair Flott introduced Mr. Clemmer to those present at this meeting.

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

Livingston County State's Attorney Seth Uphoff informed that committee that the attorney general's office has not contacted him in regard to the wind energy regulation issues he has asked for their opinion. Mr. Uphoff then commented that he had reviewed some of the other wind energy regulation issues and that he is willing to meet with the ad hoc committee when desired by the committee. Comment was then made that it would be beneficial if the attorney general's opinion(s) could be correlated with this committee review. Then thr scheduling of an ad hoc committee meeting was discussed, along with the timing of proposing a referendum for the March 2016 election. The county board would need to have a wind energy related referendum proposed by December 28th. Therefore, action for a March 2016 referendum would need to be part of a December County Board agenda. A November 2016 election would be an alternative for placing a wind energy regulations related referendum on the ballot. The committee then agreed to tentatively scheduled a December 15, 2015 Ad Hoc committee meeting. This meeting is tentatively scheduled to begin at 5 pm, in the Historic Courthouse.

Mr. Uphoff then mentioned that the Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Appeal is in its' early stages, and it has yet to be assigned to a judge. Mr. Uphoff then stressed his responsibility to defend the County Board's decision, though he cannot get into specifics since it is pending litigation.

Solid Waste Report:

A copy of the planning commission monthly synopsis of landfill information and correspondence along with Deigan and Associates landfill submittal reviews were presented to the committee members and were discussed. This synopsis focused on the landfill gas system and groundwater reporting. Host fee information from the last month was also presented to the committee.

Review of Deigan and Associates Proposal and Work Agreement for Livingston County for 2016:

A copy of Deigan and Associates Proposal and Work Agreement for 2016 was provided in the committee packets. The zoning administrator made comments, as to how this agreement compares with the 2015 agreement. Then 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 Deigan and Associates Proposal and Work Agreement for 2016. This motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Discussion on Regulations for Drones:

As part of the committee packets were copies of four articles pertaining to the FAA planning to provide additional regulations for drones, including registration. The zoning administrator made some brief remarks about these articles. It was the consensus of the committee to allow for the FAA to announce their planned Drone regulations, with the committee reviewing this issue again if it becomes necessary.

Other Issues to Come Before the Committee:

Reappointments to the RPC and ZBA were noted to this committee. Bob Young then commented on the status of Iberdrola's work on the turbine that had been damaged by fire that was part of the Streator Cayuga Ridge Wind project. The cause of the fire is still unknown to the county at this time. Mr. Ritter related that the Civil War tombstones are to be placed in the Odell Cemetery this month.

Public Comment: The location of the Odell Cemetery was given.

Review and Approval of Bills: None

Adjournment:

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

This meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Charles T. Schopp, Administrator Livingston County Regional Planning Commission