

AGRICULTURE, ZONING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 3, 2017 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: Justin Goembel, Jason Bunting, James Carley, Marty Fannin, Steven Lovell.
And Paul Ritter.

Absent: Daryl Holt.

Others Present: Additional County Representatives included: County Board Chairman Bob Young and County Administrative Resource Specialist Alina Hartley, Non-committee county board members present were Tim Shafer, Vicki Allen, Carolyn Gerwin and John Slagel. Several interested citizens of the county were also present at this committee meeting.

In the absence of the Committee Chair, Committee Vice-Chair Justin Goembel noted the agenda. Jason Bunting then moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that the agenda for this meeting be approved. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Committee Vice-Chair Goembel then referred to the minutes of the December 13, 2016 meeting. Then Paul Ritter moved, seconded by James Carley, that these meeting minutes be approved as presented. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Business:

ETSB Report:

County Board Chair reported that he had attended a recent ETSB meeting, and that evolution into the Vermilion Valley Regional Emergency Communications Authority is progressing, with expectations that this new authority will be assuming additional responsibilities in February.

Solid Waste Report – Review of a synopsis of solid waste related documents and host fee information:

A printed copy of the planning commission monthly synopsis of landfill information and correspondence was presented to the committee members. This correspondence primarily related to gas system reports, groundwater monitoring results. It was noted that a notice of public comment period is open now for Hoosier Energy's (the landfill gas to energy facility operator) proposal for a revision to their IEPA Bureau of Air permit. It was mentioned that if the new committee members or any committee members would like a tour of the Livingston Landfill contacts would be made to arrange such a tour.

Committee members inquired about

A printed copy(s) of host fee information from the last month was also presented to the committee.

Begin the Committee Review of the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals Report and Recommendation pertaining Livingston County Zoning Case application ZT-3-16; a proposed text amendment regarding wind energy regulations:

Committee members were provided with copies of the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals, Report and Recommendation, for Application No. ZT-3-16, Zoning Text Amendment to Chapter 56, Article VIII, Wind Energy, Code of Ordinances, Livingston County, Illinois; and a highlighted alternative text amendment document submitted by the Zoning Board of Appeals, as it related to the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals Report and Recommendation and their review of Livingston County Zoning Case ZT-3-16. This alternative text amendment copy reflects the highlighted areas of the proposed zoning board of appeals suggested text language, along with the crossed out text language which the zoning board of appeals would like to see removed from this draft zoning ordinance section. Some explanation remarks were made about these documents. Justin Goembel related that the committee members will be given time to review these documents, and allow time especially for new committee members to ask questions about these documents. Then Mr. Goembel remarked that a committee meeting later in the month could be held to have a detailed committee discussion on proposed WECS text amendments.

A general discussion then took place, generally focusing on setbacks and how they differ from the county board proposed language and the zoning board of appeals proposed language. Carolyn Gerwin remarked that decisions should be fact based. Dialogue then took place regarding setbacks related to safety, and decisions being based on evidence at hearings. The need for continued legal advice on these matters was then noted. Views on the determination on setbacks were then expressed. Justin Goembel reiterated that the committee will work on their review and a plan to present to the county board to move forward with this matter. The committee then determined that they will plan to meet again on January 18, 2017 At 5 pm, at which they would like to have legal counsel present.

Review the results on the Advisory Referendum on the distances between wind turbines and residences:

Advisory Referendum results and how they may be incorporated into zoning regulations will be part of the discussion at the meeting to be held on January 18, 2017.

Other Business as Needed:

Other Issues to Come Before the Committee: None

Public Comments:

During public comments Bill Flott noted an increase of plastic waste along the I-55 corridor from Dwight to Pontiac. This will be communicated to Livingston Landfill representatives, so that their personnel can cover this area as part of their litter control operations.

Review and Approval of Bills:

An invoice with a total amount of \$ 2,510.00 from Deigan and Associates, LLC for their Professional Services for the period from November 14, 2016 to December 19, 2016 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. Marty Fannin moved, seconded by Steven Lovell, that the committee approve the payment of this invoice.

Adjournment:

Then Marty Fannin moved, seconded by Jason Bunting, that this meeting be adjourned. This motion was approved unanimously.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Charles T. Schopp, Administrator
Livingston County Regional
Planning Commission