

AGRICULTURE, ZONING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 8, 2021 MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m..

Present: Jason Bunting, Gerald Earing, John Slagel, Tim Shafer, Paul Ritter, and Scott Mennenga

Absent: Steven Lovell

Committee Chair Jason Bunting commented about the agenda for this June 8, 2021 meeting. Tim Shafer then moved, seconded by Paul Ritter that this agenda be approved as presented. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Committee Chair Jason Bunting then referred to the minutes of the May 4, 2021 committee meeting noting a correction needed for the date listed above. Paul Ritter moved, seconded by Scott Mennenga, that these meetings minutes be approved as amended. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Business:

Briefing on Solid Waste:

The assistant zoning administrator presented a brief overview on solid waste updates by informing committee members that there was no significant issues or concerns to report. The assistant administrator did, however, note that Republic increased its premature closure financial assurance from \$24.9 Million to \$25.3 Million back in late April.

The increased tonnage and host fee for April was noted by Shafer.

The assistant administrator also updated committee members on discussions that were previously had with Republic regarding coming up with a better way to prevent litter from occurring on the truck route of trucks brining in waste to the landfill. The assistant administrator noted that in an email he received from Bill Janes from Republic, it appeared as though Mr. Janes had reached out to some major trucking companies who did not seem interested in making any significant changes to help with the issue. Ritter noted his concern for the unwillingness of the trucking companies to help with the issue.

Electronic Recycling Discussion:

Chairman Bunting noted that the e-recycling drive is coming up this Saturday, the 12th. Discussion amongst members occurred regarding logistics of the event and when volunteers should show up to the site. There was also discussion about the forecast for that day and how it would be hot & humid. Additional items needed to mitigate the heat were discussed. There was also discussion about where

to acquire more volunteers. Ritter offered to reach out to other coaches and extra-curricular program leaders to inquire about obtaining volunteer high school students.

The assistant zoning administrator noted that he had acquired event insurance for the event as well through Diamond Brothers Insurance.

Wind Energy Update:

The zoning administrator informed committee members that EDF Renewables whose footprint is anticipated to expand from the Campus area to Cullom has sent out notices to surrounding property owners and that they anticipate to host an open house in Pontiac around the 3rd week of August to field questions and concerns about the project from citizens. The zoning administrator also noted that they are expected to file an application sometime in September. The assistant zoning administrator noted that they currently anticipate to break ground sometime in the 2nd half of 2023 going into 2024.

The Heritage Prairie wind project whose footprint is anticipated to be contained to the Northeast corner of the county was also discussed and it was noted by the zoning administrator that they were still finishing up land acquisition the last time that the zoning office had spoken with a representative of the project. The zoning administrator anticipated that they would potentially be ready to file an application in early 2022.

There was also discussion about where the wind projects would be connecting to the power grid.

Other Issues to Come Before the Committee:

Chairman Bunting noted the committee's pleasure to have the zoning administrator back after an extended amount of time away.

Slagel noted a concern from a community member about a property located in rural Cornell where there are an abundance of school buses accumulated on the property.

The assistant zoning administrator noted that the matter has been referred to the state's attorney's office who has contracted the David Babb law office to prosecute.

Public Comment: None

Review and Approval of Bills:

Two bills were introduced by the chairman; one from Deigan & Associates for \$1,264.50 and one for Diamond Brothers Insurance for \$411. It was then moved by Gerald Earing, seconded by Paul Ritter to approve the payment of the bills. The motion carried with a voice vote of all ayes.

Adjournment:

With there being no further business to come before the committee, there was a motion by Paul Ritter, second by Scott Mennenga to adjourn. The motion was carried with a voice vote of all ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m..

Jesse J. King, Assistant Administrator
Livingston County Regional
Planning Commission