

AGRICULTURE, ZONING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE JULY 5, 2022 MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Jason Bunting, Tim Shafer, Gerald Earing, Joel Barickman, Steven Lovell, and Scott Mennenga

Absent: Paul Ritter

Committee Chair Bunting commented about the agenda for this July 5, 2022 meeting. With no needed corrections or amendments noted, Tim Shafer moved, seconded by Steven Lovell that this agenda be approved as presented. This motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Committee Chair Bunting then referred to the minutes of the June 7, 2022 committee meeting. Joel Barickman then moved, seconded by Gerald Earing that the June 7, 2022 minutes be approved as presented. This motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Business:

Wind/Solar Discussion:

The assistant zoning administrator provided an update to committee members on the recent influx of solar companies that have contacted the zoning office who have either filed a community solar farm application or have communicated their interest in filing a community solar farm application. The assistant zoning administrator also explained that there are two large utility-scale solar projects out there that are being developed and that one of them is tentatively looking to file an application later this year in the fall. There was then discussion amongst committee members about the impact to farmland that an abundance of solar farms could cause compared to a wind farm.

The assistant zoning administrator then updated committee members about the EDF Renewables wind energy project. It was related to committee members that a special use application could potentially have been filed as early as this week. The zoning administrator informed committee members that EDF Renewables had also filed an application for a variance relating to their proposed substation location. There was then a question about the footprint of the EDF Renewables wind farm. The assistant zoning administrator explained that the wind farm would span from the Cullom area to up around the Campus area and that the project would consist of around 80 wind turbines.

Briefing on Solid Waste:

The zoning administrator then provided an update on the Livingston and Streator landfills to board members.

The zoning administrator gave an overview on the correspondence between Republic and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency that his office had received copies of.

It was noted that the Enbridge pipeline relocation project was complete.

There was a question about when the landfill would begin dumping trash into their new cell. The zoning administrator believed that dumping would commence around November. Committee Chair Bunting noted that the change in elevation would be big help with the issues that the landfill is dealing with regarding wind, due to the elevation that they are currently dumping at.

Update of Solid Waste Plan:

The zoning administrator then presented a draft update of the county's solid waste plan to committee members. The zoning administrator noted various aspect of the plan as well as an added recommendation for implementation.

After some discussion on minor corrections needed, Tim Shafer moved, seconded by Gerald Earing that the presented update of the county's solid waste plan be implemented.

The motion carried with a voice vote of all ayes.

Other Issues to Come Before the Committee: None

Public Comment:

The floor was open for public comment.

Review and Approval of Bills:

There was one bill in the amount of \$500 to Dynamic Lifecycle Innovations for an underweight trailer fee from the electronic recycling event in April.

Gerald Earing moved, seconded by Scott Mennenga that the bill be paid as presented.

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 Steve Lovell, seconded by Joel Barickman to adjourn. The motion was carried with a voice vote of all ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m..

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

