

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD  
AGRICULTURE AND ZONING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 1, 2024 MEETING

Committee Chair Gerald Earing called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Gerald Earing, Steven Lovell, Michael Haag, Jack Vietti, Joel Barickman, Rebekah Fehr

Absent: Paul Ritter

Board Members Present: James Carley, Bob Weller, Bill Mays, Marty Fannin, Linda Ambrose, Jim Blackard, Seth Welch

Also Present: Zoning Director Brittney Miller, Executive Director Alina Hartley, Attorney Andrew Keyt (Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen), Hamilton Carrier (Ironwood Renewables)

Earing called for any additions or corrections to the agenda with none requested. Motion by Vietti, second by Lovell to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the March 4, 2024 meeting. Motion by Earing, second by Barickman to approve the minutes as submitted. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

**Business:**

**SU-7-23 – Beckham Solar Decommissioning Plan & Amendment**

Miller gave an overview of the decommissioning plan and Earing gave an overview of the amendment, which included a modification of the panel type, and relocation of the access roads. The decommissioning plan in the amount of \$212,923.50 was presented for the Committee's consideration. Hamilton Carrier, a representative for Ironwood Renewables, gave clarification of the proposed amendment, requesting usage of solar trackers rather than fixed tilt panels, as well as relocation of the access road.

Motion by Earing, second by Vietti to recommend approval of decommissioning plan and amendment as presented and send to the full county board. **Motion carried on roll call vote. Ayes:** Gerald Earing, Steve Lovell, Michael Haag, Jack Vietti, and Joel Barickman **Nays:** Rebekah Fehr **Absent:** Paul Ritter

**SU-19-22 – TPE IL LI77 Decommissioning Plan**

Miller gave an overview of the decommissioning plan for TPE IL L177, presented in the amount of \$318,666.

Motion by Vietti, second by Haag to recommend approval of decommissioning plan as presented and send to the full county board. **Motion carried on roll call vote. Ayes:** Gerald Earing, Steve Lovell, Michael Haag, Jack Vietti, and Joel Barickman **Nays:** Rebekah Fehr **Absent:** Paul Ritter

### **SU-20-22 – TPE IL LI18 Decommissioning Plan**

Miller gave an overview of the decommissioning plan submitted by TPE IL LI18, in the amount of \$356,773.

Motion by Haag, second by Lovell to recommend approval of decommissioning plan as presented and send to the full county board. **Motion carried on roll call vote. Ayes:** Gerald Earing, Steve Lovell, Michael Haag, Jack Vietti, and Joel Barickman **Nays:** Rebekah Fehr **Absent:** Paul Ritter

### **Resolution Outlining of Ordinance Changes**

Attorney Andrew Keyt was present to review the resolution outlining recommended changes to the zoning processes related to efficiencies. Keyt further reviewed a memorandum with further explanation in regards to those efficiency changes, including ordinance changes that reference the powers and duties of the regional planning commission, review of the zoning applications, as well as miscellaneous changes to kennels and tourist homes.

A question was raised regarding the main role of the duties of the regional planning commission, to which Keyt stated that the regional planning commission creates an overall plan for the county's Comprehensive Plan and makes recommendations for the Comprehensive Plan. Barickman recommended that the resolution be amended to reflect that the regional planning commission would hear solar farm cases that are 6 megawatts or larger.

Discussion took place regarding tourist homes being a permitted use in a General Business District and it was decided that a tourist home shall be permitted in all zoning districts. Recommended amendments to the definition of a kennel was also discussed.

Motion by Haag, second by Vietti to recommend approval of the amended resolution to the full county board. **Motion carried on roll call vote with all ayes. Ayes:** Gerald Earing, Steve Lovell, Michael Haag, Jack Vietti, Rebekah Fehr, and Joel Barickman **Nays:** None **Absent:** Paul Ritter

It was noted that the ordinances amendments will be drafted and presented to the Committee for review in May.

### **Solid Waste Update:**

Miller advised there was nothing to report.

### **Other Issues to Come Before the Committee:**

Earing reminded the committee of the E-Recycling event that will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2024.

**Public comment:**

The floor was open for public comment.

**Review and Approval of Bills:**

Motion by Vietti, second by Haag to approve the bills as submitted. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Vietti, second by Barickman to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

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Brittney Miller, Administrator  
Livingston County Regional  
Planning Commission