

AS APPROVED FEBRUARY 9, 2009

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Champaign County Environment & Land Use Committee	DATE:	January 12, 2009
Champaign County Brookens Administrative Center	TIME:	7:00 p.m.
Urbana, IL 61802	PLACE:	Lyle Shields Meeting Room Brookens Administrative Center 1776 E. Washington Street Urbana, IL 61802

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carol Ammons, Jan Anderson, Chris Doenitz, Brad Jones, Alan Kurtz (VP), Jon Schroeder, Barbara Wysocki (C)

OTHER COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: C. Pius Weibel (Chair)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ralph Langenheim, Steve Moser

STAFF PRESENT: John Hall, Leroy Holliday, Susan Chavarria (Regional Planning Commission)

OTHERS PRESENT: Teri Legner, Terry Benson, Hal Barnhart

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M. The roll was called and a quorum declared present.

2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Schroeder moved, seconded by Mr. Kurtz to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion carried by voice vote.

3. Approval of Minutes (November 10, 2008 and December 18, 2008)

Ms. Ammons moved, seconded by Ms. Anderson to approve the November 10, 2008 and December 18, 2008, minutes as submitted. The motion carried by voice vote.

4. Correspondence

- A. Illinois Environmental Protection Agency**
- B. Ameren Illinois Utilities**

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2 **Ms. Ammons moved, seconded by Mr. Kurtz to accept and place file the correspondence from the**
3 **Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and Ameren Illinois Utilities.**

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5 Ms. Ammons stated that the Champaign County Health Care Consumers are also working with Ameren on
6 this project.

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8 **The motion carried by voice vote.**

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10 **5. Chair's Report**

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12 **A. ZBA vacant position**

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14 Ms. Wysocki stated that the Zoning Board of Appeals is now complete in its membership. She said that the
15 County Board Chairman has appointed Mr. Paul Palmgren to fill the last vacant position. She said that Mr.
16 Doug Bluhm has satisfied the requirements in order to be the next Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals.
17 She said that these two appointments will be confirmed at the January 22, 2009, County Board meeting.

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19 **B. Windfarm forum**

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21 Ms. Wysocki stated that there are several wind farm forums and tours that need to be brought to the
22 Committee's attention. She said that staff distributed information from Illinois State University regarding
23 the conference titles, *Siting, Zoning & Taxing Wind Farms in Illinois*, which is to be held on February 4,
24 2009, Peoria. She said that she has also been informed that the Champaign County Farm Bureau has made
25 arrangements for a tour of the wind farm site in Bloomington on February 7, 2009, beginning around 8:30
26 A.M. and ending in the early afternoon. She said that the Farm Bureau will be extending invitations to the
27 County Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Regional Planning Commission, Land Resource Management Plan
28 Steering Committee, and township highway commissioners. She said that the Farm Bureau has made
29 arrangements for the County's counter-parts to meet in Bloomington so there will be at least one County
30 Board member, one township highway commissioner, an owner, a neighbor and other pertinent people to be
31 up-close to a wind turbine. She said that there are some open meetings issues that must be resolved in the
32 event that two or more County Board members choose to attend. She said that at some point the question
33 will be posed as to how many County Board members intend to attend this tour and act upon whatever is
34 necessary to comply with the *Open Meetings Act*.

35
36 Mr. Weibel stated that he has spoken with Ms. Papavasiliou about this issue and she stated that in order to
37 be in compliance with the *Open Meetings Act* the event will be posted.

38
39 Mr. Kurtz asked Mr. Hall if Suzion Wind Energy Corp is one of the companies that have approached
40 Champaign County for a wind farm.

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42 Mr. Hall stated no. He said that the article from *BusinessWeek* was only included because it was one of the
43 handouts distributed by Ms. Schildt during her testimony at the November 10, 2008, ELUC meeting.

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Ms. Wysocki stated that Champaign County is part of a six county regional development group which includes Vermilion, Champaign, Douglas, Piatt, Ford and Iroquois counties. She said that the group’s focus in on the economic development side not necessarily the land use side of a wind farm. She said that it was at the group’s December 2008 meeting that they made the decision that collectively they all wanted to have a greater understanding of wind farms as it effects their county in regard to economic development. She said that the group has charged Susan Chavarria to put together a bit of a forum with that perspective in mind and the plans are to hold this forum on January 30, 2008.

Ms. Chavarria stated that tentatively the forum is scheduled for the morning of January 30, 2008, and there is another wind farm forum scheduled on Thursday, February 5, 2008, 12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. at the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center. She noted that there is a Wind Farm in Central Illinois Seminar presented by Randy Boyd, McLean County UIUC Extension Office.

Ms. Chavarria stated that due to the other wind farm forums that are scheduled we are going to lessen the wind forum agenda because the information will be very similar. She said that she will try to have two different speakers at the forum but no one has been confirmed to date.

Ms. Wysocki stated that no Board member should have an excuse that they know nothing about wind farms. She requested that the Committee take note on these announcements as they come before them and she encouraged the members to attend at least one of the events if not more to broaden their knowledge base about wind farms.

6. Public Participation

None

7. Recreation and Entertainment License: Hideaway of the Woods Bar & Grill, 809 S. Prairieview Rd, Mahomet, IL. January 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2009.

8. Recreation and Entertainment License: Last Call for Alchol, Inc, 105 Main St. Penfield, IL. January 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2009.

9. Recreation and Entertainment License: Gordyville, LLC, 2205 CR 3000N, Gifford, IL. January 15, 16 17, 2009. Tractor pull.

An omnibus motion was moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Doenitz to approve the Recreation and Entertainment License for the following:

- Hideaway of the Woods Bar & Grill**
- Last Call for Alchol, Inc**
- Gordyville, LLC**

1 The motion carried by voice vote.

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3 **10. Joint Champaign County-City of Champaign Enterprise Zone: Boundary Agreement**

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5 Ms. Ammons moved, seconded by Mr. Doenitz to recommend approval of the Joint Champaign
6 County-City of Champaign Enterprise Zone: Boundary Agreement.

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8 Ms. Wysocki asked Ms. Teri Legner, Economic Development Manager for the City of Champaign, if the
9 City of Champaign has already voted on this issue.

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11 Ms. Teri Legner stated that the City of Champaign City Council voted last Tuesday, January 6, 2008, and
12 recommended unanimously for the amendment.

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14 **The motion carried by voice vote.**

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16 Mr. Weibel requested that Item #10 not be included on the County Board Consent Agenda due to the fact
17 that he must abstain from the vote because he has known the principal owners for twenty years and the
18 secondary owners for a brief time.

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20 **11. Updates:**

21 **A. Champaign county Land Resource Management Plan**

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23 Ms. Chavarria stated that the Steering Committee met on December 18, 2008, and Goal 4 was completed.
24 She said that the Committee has gone through the majority of Goals 1 and 2 and it is anticipated that the
25 goals will be completed by April. She distributed the LRMP Steering Committee 2009 Tentative Calendar
26 for the Committee’s review. She said that the Steering Committee will be meeting twice a month to make
27 up some of the time that has been lost due to the thorough discussions that have taken place. She said that
28 with two meetings per month she anticipates getting through the Steering Committee meetings by late
29 August and then add about six or seven months to that and we will be at the end of our product. She said
30 that a new anticipated deadline for the project is Spring 2010 rather than October 2009.

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32 **B. Champaign County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

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34 Ms. Chavarria stated that she anticipates that the Champaign County Hazard Mitigation Plan will be
35 completed by the middle of 2009. She distributed the Champaign County HMP Mitigation Measures Survey
36 to the Committee for review. She said that this survey is an online survey that is only available through this
37 week therefore she would appreciate the Committee’s participation in the survey regarding the Hazard
38 Mitigation Plan. She said that the handout also provides additional information regarding the HMP.

39

40 Ms. Anderson asked if the Hazard Mitigation Plan applies to just Champaign County.

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42 Ms. Chavarria stated that the Hazard Mitigation Plan applies to all the municipalities as well as the County.

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1 Mr. Weibel asked Ms. Chavarria if the Hazard Mitigation Plan applies to ice storms.

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3 Ms. Chavarria stated that ice storms would fall under the category of Severe Winter Storms.

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5 Ms. Wysocki asked Ms. Chavarria if they are seeking a response from elected officials or the public or both.

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7 Ms. Chavarria stated that they are seeking input from anyone. She said that a public announcement has been
8 made so that the public can submit their responses but they specifically would like a response from the
9 participating agencies and others so that they receive an official response as well as a response from elected
10 officials.

11
12 Ms. Wysocki asked Ms. Chavarria if there has been publicity for this site to encourage people to look for the
13 site and respond.

14
15 Ms. Chavarria stated yes.

16
17 ***C. House Bill 2518 (regarding Chatham decision)***

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19 Mr. Hall stated that with the new session of the General Assembly our representatives contacted staff about
20 resubmitting the Bill. He said that the deadline for resubmission is early February therefore they want a
21 quick answer. He said that at this time Representative Jakobsson is planning to submit House Bill 2518 just
22 like it was submitted last time. He said that the Committee may recall that we had two representatives going
23 to bat for us during the last session. He said that Representative Jakobsson had her bill and Representative
24 Rose was a co-sponsor of the bill with Representative Poe from Sangamon County. He said that the Poe Bill
25 attempted to fix the *Chatham* decision for all counties whether or not they had zoning and that bill did not
26 make it out of the House Rules Committee. He said that House Bill 2518, which was sponsored by
27 Representative Jakobsson, was the one which was specific for Champaign County and was passed out of the
28 House of Representatives and stalled in the Senate Rules Committee. He said that technically there is still
29 the debate about which is the best way to go and at this time Representative Jakobsson is proceeding with an
30 identical bill to House Bill 2518. He said that he does not know anything that could be done differently this
31 time to increase the chances of passage and he has no reason to doubt that it will make it out of the House
32 but he does not know what could be done in the Senate.

33
34 Mr. Weibel stated that he met with Ms. Jakobsson and Mr. Frerichs last week and they both indicated that
35 they would push House Bill 2518 through the Senate.

36
37 Mr. Schroeder asked Mr. Weibel if Senator Frerichs said anything about new Senate President John
38 Cullerton and if he would be more apt to let something like Bill 2518 move through.

39
40 Mr. Weibel stated no. He said that they mainly discussed House Bill 2518 and the County's general
41 initiative to provide jobs to its residents.

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43 ***D. Zoning Ordinance Amendment for wind farms***

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 2 Mr. Hall stated that Case 634-AT-08 has been docketed to open at the Zoning Board of Appeals on February
 3 12, 2009. He said that unless he gets a sense from the Committee that he should not request this, he will ask
 4 the ZBA to suspend their rules and docket Case 634-AT-08 as the exclusive case for the next four meetings
 5 which would be February 12, 2009; February 26, 2009; March 12, 2009; and March 26, 2009. He said that
 6 this schedule will hold up two existing cases for about one month which means that two citizens who have
 7 submitted their applications after the case was docketed will have their decisions delayed for one month. He
 8 said that four other cases have been moved ahead based on when their full applications were received but in
 9 order to reserve subsequent meetings for Case 634-AT-08, some people will have to wait. He said that if the
 10 Committee has issues with this approach then it can be changed but this is how he plans to proceed. He said
 11 that if things go better then the two cases that were delayed may be moved up to the March 26th meeting or
 12 perhaps even the March 12th meeting but he wouldn't anticipate it.

13
 14 Mr. Weibel asked Mr. Hall what type of roll County Board members may have at these ZBA meetings.

15
 16 Mr. Hall stated that he would suggest that the County Board members who attend be quiet observers.

17
 18 **12. Monthly Reports (October, November, December, 2008)**

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 20 None

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 22 **13. Other Business**

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 24 None

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 26 **14. Determination of Items to be placed on the county Board Consent Agenda.**

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 28 None

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 30 **15. Adjournment**

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 32 **Mr. Doenitz moved, seconded by Mr. Kurtz to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 P.M. The motion carried**
 33 **by voice vote.**

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 35 The meeting adjourned at 7:29 P.M.

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 38 Respectfully submitted,

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 42 Secretary to the Environment and Land Use Committee

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