



Champaign County Board
Environment and Land Use Committee (ELUC)
County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

MINUTES – APPROVED AS AMENDED 10/6/16

DATE: Thursday, September 8, 2016
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: Lyle Shields Meeting Room
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E Washington, Urbana, IL 61802

Committee Members

Present	Absent
Aaron Esry (Chair)	
C. Pius Weibel (Vice Chair)	
Astrid Berkson	
Stan Harper	
Matt Hiser	
Patti Petrie	
Jon Schroeder	

County Staff: Rick Snider (County Administrator), John Hall (Zoning Administrator), Brian Nolan (Recording Secretary)
Others Present: Susan Monte (Regional Planning Commission), Kathleen Oldrey (Regional Planning Commission)

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Esry called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

II. Roll Call

A verbal roll call was taken and a quorum was declared present.

III. Approval of Agenda and Addendum

Ms. Petrie asked to move item VII. E. to become item VIII. B. and to move item VIII.B to become item VIII. B. 1.

MOTION by Ms. Petrie to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Ms. Berkson. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. ELUC Committee meeting – August 4, 2016

MOTION by Mr. Harper to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2016 ELUC meeting as distributed; seconded by Mr. Hiser. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

V. Public Participation

Keith Padgett, Champaign Township Road District Commissioner, noted that he is here to answer any questions the committee may have in regards to electronics waste, landscape waste and automobile tire waste.

Rob Schaffer commented that he does see any changes in the Landscape Waste Burning Ordinance since last month's meeting and asked the committee to focus the scope of the burning ordinance to focus on certain times of day and certain types of landscape waste. Mr. Schaffer asked the board to consider adding language to the ordinance that limits burning based on the proximity to other dwellings in the area, especially if those in proximity have respiratory problems.

VI. Communications

None

VII. For Information Only

A. Champaign County Forest Preserve District Projects

Dan Olson, Executive Director of the Champaign County Forest Preserve District, shared a PowerPoint presentation with the committee and reviewed the district's current and future projects.

Ms. Berkson commented that wildlife are dependent on dead trees and asked why dead trees are being removed from the Kickapoo Rail Trail during its construction. Mr. Olson explained that all dead trees that have been removed in Phase I of the project were a threat to the trail project and within a falling zone of the trail.

Ms. Petrie asked for a projected time lime for the completion of the Kickapoo Rail Trail. Mr. Olson noted that it will take 10 years to complete the project. Ms. Petrie asked how the agreement works between the three owning entities of the trail project. Mr. Olson explained that the main Intergovernmental Agreement, concerning land ownership, is between Vermillion County and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Mr. Weibel asked if a hiking trail will be established from the Vermillion County Fairgrounds to Downtown Danville. Mr. Olson noted that it is has been proposed but the rail line that the proposed hiking path would be established on is still an active rail line.

Mr. Esry asked if there are any other trails in the area that are intersected by County highway's as much as the Kickapoo Rail Trail. Mr. Olson noted that it is common practice in Illinois and explained that the trail has fewer intersections than most in the state. Mr. Olson additionally noted that stops will added to the trail at all intersections for the safety of all trail users.

B. Online Registration for the October 15, 2016, Countywide Residential Electronics Collection (CREC)

Ms. Monte that online registration for the CREC began at the end of August and is now filled. An online registration system was put into place due to the large number of participants who attended the previous CREC. It was calculated that the CREC could 1,100 participants in the 4-hour collection and all 1,100 spots have been registered.

Ms. Petrie asked if other area communities have tried an online registration system or if the system was developed specifically for this event. Ms. Monte noted that she is unaware of any other communities that have tried this system; however, the system was modeled after hazardous household waste collection online registration systems that have been very successful in other communities. Ms. Petrie asked why the event isn't limited to only televisions since other types of electronics have additional ways to be recycled in the community. Ms. Monte noted that the online

registration system draws attention to additional community recycling centers that handle different types of electronics, and she is hopeful that making participants aware of the different recycling centers in the community will help limit this event only televisions.

C. *Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to provide a Local Government Used Tire Collection for Local Government Entities in Champaign County*

Ms. Monte noted that she received a call from Kirk White, the Illinois EPA Used Tire Program Coordinator, and the IEPA is able now able to process the County's 2014 application for a used tire collection. This fall, Keith Padgett will assist Ms. Monte in establishing a used tire collection. Champaign Township will serve as the location for the pickup and will coordinate the two-week pickup period. The Champaign County Regional Planning Commission will notify all local governments. Ms. Monte noted that depending on the volume of tires collected, the IEPA will travel to the City of Champaign and City of Urbana to pick up used tires directly.

Ms. Petrie asked if members of the public can participate in this event. Ms. Monte noted that it is for local governments only. Ms. Petrie asked if an option can be established for members of the public to participate.

D. *Mid-Course Summary Regarding Status of LRMP Implementation*

Ms. Monte reported that 68% of the 193 LRMP Priority Items have been completed. Ms. Monte provided a summary report of completed and uncompleted projects for the committee's review.

E. *Proposal for Statutory Amendment to Grant Stormwater Planning and Management Authority to all Illinois Counties to Provide for Adoption of Countywide Stormwater Ordinances, Projects and Programs*

Mr. Hall reported that the proposed amendment would not impose any unfunded mandates on the county and could provide flexibility into the future.

Ms. Petrie encouraged Mr. Hall to make this a county-wide program.

VIII. Items to be Recommended to the County Board

- A. *Zoning Case 844-AM-16: Request by Aric and Lauryl Silver to amend the Zoning Map to change the zoning district designation from the B-3 Highway Business Zoning District to the AG-1 Agriculture Zoning District to allow construction of a new dwelling on property formerly occupied by the Burr Oak Restaurant and located at 2667 CR2100N, Ogden.*

MOTION by Mr. Schroeder to recommend Zoning Case 844-AM-16; seconded by Mr. Harper.

Mr. Weibel asked when the Burr Oak Restaurant was last operated. Mr. Silver noted that it was closed for operations between 1993 and 1995. Currently, a shed, a garage and a house stand on the property.

Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- B. *Subsidizing Reduced Landscape Recycling Center fees for a Limited Time for Property Owners in an Expanded Prohibited Burn Area*

Ms. Monte reported that City of Urbana Arborist, Mike Brunk, suggested an alternative for County Board consideration with regard to providing a low-cost option to property owners in the proposed prohibited burn areas (PBA). Mr. Brunk suggested a voucher system where property owners could use vouchers to bring leaf bags or landscape waste to the Landscape Recycling Center (LRC) in

Urbana at a reduced cost. LRC would collect vouchers used by a property owner of the PBA, tally them, and then invoice the county for reimbursement.

Mr. Brunk noted that the LRC is interested in increasing volume and developing partnerships. The LRC would be willing to offer a reduced rate of \$5 per cubic yard of landscape waste brought to the LRC as an introductory incentive. The fee would then increase by \$1 per year until the fee reaches the current rate of \$9 per cubic yard. If funding for the program were available and a program were established, Mr. Brunk estimates that 40% of households receiving vouchers would use the program.

Ms. Oldrey reported that the estimated county cost to administer the program would be between \$12,000 and \$35,000 each fall with the higher cost assuming three vouchers utilized by approximately 40% of households in the proposed PBA.

1. *Proposed Landscape Waste Burning Ordinance*

Ms. Berkson asked for clarification in regards to the definition of landscape waste. Ms. Monte explained that landscape waste is defined as any tree, tree trimmings, branches, stumps, brush, weeds, leaves, grass, shrubbery, yard trimmings, and any vegetable or plant refuse except food, food product garbage and agricultural waste.

Mr. Harper noted that he does not support having a financial obligation at the county level to collect and dispose of leaves.

Mr. Schroeder asked if costs were included for operating and administrative overhead fees at the county level. Ms. Oldrey noted that administrative overhead costs were not included. Mr. Schroeder asked for an estimate. Ms. Oldrey noted that administrative overhead costs have not been calculated.

Mr. Weibel asked for a definition of recreational burning. Ms. Monte noted that recreational burning includes the burning of fuels for legitimate campfire, recreational, and cooking purposes or in domestic fireplaces provided that no garbage shall be burned. Mr. Hall noted that the level of smoke must be within the scope of the ordinance.

Mr. Weibel asked Mr. Padgett if he burns leaves for Champaign Township for no cost. Mr. Padgett confirmed and noted that a charge is included in the pickup program, but residents or Champaign Township can drop off their leaves at the Champaign Township burn pit for free. Mr. Weibel asked how the pickup program works. Mr. Padgett explained that the Homeowners Association coordinates the pickup and Champaign Township Road District bills the Homeowners Association \$10 for every house they collect from. Additionally, Mr. Padgett clarified that he will not accept leaves or waste from outside of Champaign Township as the Champaign Township Road District does not operate for profit.

Ms. Petrie asked Mr. Brunk to explain his cost calculations for the voucher programs and asked if the cost can be less than the proposed \$5 while research is conducted to find outside grant money and funding rather than using the county as a subsidy for the program. Mr. Brunk explained that he brought the idea to the county to gauge their interest in recycling and to also increase the volume at the LRC in order to reduce costs charged for services. Mr. Brunk additionally explained that the LRC would like to have more regular users and this program would incentivize members of the community to use the LRC.

MOTION by Ms. Petrie to recommend Option B of the Proposed Landscape Waste Burning Ordinance to the County Board; seconded by Mr. Schroeder.

Ms. Petrie explained that she supports Option B because it fills a short-term need for prohibited burning and allows for more time for research to be conducted before Fall 2017.

Ms. Berkson reminded the board to consider the medical conditions and hospital costs that are associated with this prohibited burn area and outweigh the costs of taking landscape waste to the recycling center.

Mr. Hiser asked what would happen to Option A should Option B pass. Ms. Petrie explained that both options could pass without a recommendation to the County Board. Mr. Hiser supported Option A due to the respiratory health conditions of children in the County and the medical costs the families must pay for smoke inhalation and sickness.

Mr. Hall reminded the board that passing Option B with the contingency that more research will be conducted for a more thorough proposal for Fall 2017 is not feasible. Staff time is already completed devoted to the MS4 Stormwater Program for the foreseeable future.

Mr. Weibel asked what will happen if one of the options is recommended to the County Board and passed. Mr. Hall and Ms. Monte noted that a passed ordinance will be put into place 10 days after adoption on Oct. 2nd.

Mr. Schroeder supported Option B as a way to phase in this restriction, to gauge public reaction, to see the feasibility of enforcement and to see how this impacts Mr. Padgett's operations in Champaign Township. Ms. Petrie supported Mr. Schroeder's comments.

Upon vote: Aye (5) Esry, Hiser, Schroeder, Shore, Weibel
Nay (2) Petrie, Berkson

MOTION CARRIED.

RECONSIDER by Mr. Hiser to recommend Option A of the Proposed Landscape Waste Burning Ordinance to the County Board; seconded by Ms. Berkson.

Upon vote: Aye (3) Berkson, Hiser, Petrie
Nay (4) Esry, Harper, Schroeder, Weibel

MOTION TO RECONSIDER FAILED.

C. *Zoning Case 619-FV-08: Variance from the Special Flood Hazard Areas Ordinance for the estate of Larry L. Peters on property located at 2501 North High Cross Road, Urbana*

MOTION by Mr. Schroeder to recommend Zoning Case 619-FV-08 to the County Board; seconded by Mr. Weibel.

Ms. Berkson asked how long the house has been on the property. Mr. Hall noted that the house has been there since approximately 2006.

Upon vote, Aye (5) Esry, Harper, Hiser, Schroeder, Weibel
Nay (2) Berkson, Petrie

MOTION PASSED.

IX. Monthly Reports

A. *July 2016*

MOTION by Mr. Esry to accept and place on file the July 2016 Monthly Reports.

X. Other Business

A. *Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes*

MOTION by Mr. Harper to maintain the closed session minutes as closed as recommended by the State's Attorney's office; seconded by Ms. Berkson. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

XI. Chair's Report

None

XII. Designation of Items to be Placed on Consent Agenda

VIII. A.

XIII. Adjournment

MOTION by Ms. Petrie to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Berkson. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously. There being no further business, Mr. Esry adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.