



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

MINUTES – APPROVED AS DISTRIBUTED ON MARCH 7, 2019

DATE: Thursday, February 7, 2019
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)	
Jodi Eisenmann	
	Stephanie Fortado
Jim Goss	
	Tanisha King-Taylor
Kyle Patterson	
Eric Thorsland (Vice-Chair)	

County Staff: John Hall (Zoning Administrator), Susan Monte (Planner), Tammy Asplund (Recording Secretary)

Others Present: Giraldo Rosales (County Board Chair), Chris Stohr (County Board member)

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Esry called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

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

III. Approval of Agenda and Addenda

MOTION by Thorsland to approve the agenda; second by Patterson. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. ELUC Committee Meeting – January 10, 2019

MOTION by Eisenmann to approve the minutes with one amendment of the January 10, 2019 ELUC meeting; second by Goss. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

Eisenmann stated the minutes mistakenly noted her as present for the meeting on January 10, 2019.

V. Public Participation

Michael Butler

Butler stated he is with TLC Environmental, representing SolAmerica. He noted the four members of the ZBA supported this project. Butler explained the reason for the request for a special County Board meeting to discuss this project is the February 13, 2019 deadline for the lottery program application.

Chris Stohr

Stohr stated the Mahomet Aquifer Protection Task Force Report was released in December 2018 on the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency website. He offered several recommendations:

1. Support the HTEM Helicopter-borne Transient or Time-domain Electromagnetic geophysical soundings.
 - a. This \$19M will collect geophysical data for a framework upon which all the water well, geologic, and other drilling records can be interpreted and compared to refine knowledge of the sole source aquifer including likely recharge zones and perhaps where contamination is occurring.
 - b. Learning where water quality can be or already is affected alerts us to where management is wanted and specifically how to protect the resource.
2. Conservation and protection of water resources both quality and quantity.
 - a. The MAPTF final report did not address conservation of water resources. This was an oversight in the opinion of some observers.
 - b. There is no restriction on how much water can be pumped from the aquifer and how it can be used or where it can be relocated.
 - c. Residents of Joliet, Illinois recently learned that there is only 5 years of water remaining in the aquifer which serves their community of 200,000 – about the same population as Champaign County. Discussion with a consultant shows that one of the likely alternatives is to cleanup and treat the sewage water to the extent possible and recharge the water back into the aquifer for reuse. This is called aquifer storage and recovery.
3. Encourage our legislators to implement the recommendations of the MAPTF in full and soon.
4. Requests County staff ‘follow’ these recommendations and report to the ELUC and the Committee of the Whole (CoW).

VI. Communications

Esry reminded everyone to speak directly into the microphones.

VII. New Business: for Information Only

A. *Notice of Non-Compliance with Illinois Noxious Weed Law*

Hall explained Illinois requires the County to annually survey all noxious weeds in the County, create and implement a plan to remove them. Hall commented resources are not available to survey the more than 1000 square miles of the County. According to Hall, when the Planning and Zoning office receives a complaint, it investigates and acts accordingly.

B. *Residential Electronics Collection Annual Report for 2018*

Monte reviewed the results from 2018, including municipality participation, costs, collected amounts and community service volunteers. Monte stated Fund 676, the Solid Waste Fund, has decreased steadily since 2014.

VIII. New Business: Items to be Recommended to the County Board

A. *Resolution Appointing Recycling Coordinator for Champaign County*

Monte stated this change is being requested due to her move from Regional Planning to Planning and Zoning.

MOTION by Goss; seconded by Thorsland. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- B. *Resolutions Authorizing Residential Electronics Collection in 2019*
- i. Agreement between Collector, Coordinator, and Host Site Agreement for Residential Electronics Collection Events in 2019*
 - ii. Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Champaign, the City of Champaign, the City of Urbana, and the Village of Savoy to Share Costs of Residential Electronics Collection Events in 2019*
 - iii. Letter of Understanding between the County of Champaign and MRM*

Monte noted in 2019 we are operating under a different law called the Consumer Electronics Recycling Act. According to Monte, this is a progressive law for a Manufacturer Electronic Waste program, based on weight not a convenience standard. So far, only 51 Illinois Counties have opted in. The three resolutions reflect changes required to be consistent with this new program. Monte noted a 31% reduction in costs due to this new law. Monte stated all agreements were reviewed by the State's Attorney's office and will be reviewed by the other participating municipalities.

OMNIBUS MOTION by Goss; seconded by Thorsland. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- C. *Resolutions Approving Written Notice to Participate in the Manufacturer E-Waste Program in 2020 Under the Illinois Consumer Electronics Recycling Act*
- i. Champaign County Opt-in Form to Illinois EPA*

Monte stated the deadline is March 1, 2019. She noted the form can be modified in the future.

MOTION by Thorsland; second by Eisenmann. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- D. **Zoning Case 922-S-18.** *A request by SolAmerica Energy LLC, 1819 Peachtree Road, Suite 100, Atlanta, GA 30309 via agent Ryan Peters, Environmental Engineer with SolAmerica Energy, with Executive Chairman and Co-Founder, R. Stanley Allen; President and Co-Founder, George Mori; and participating landowner Phyllis Jane Sinclair, 290 Chase St., Sonoma CA 95476-7155, to authorize one Community PV Solar Farm with a nameplate capacity of 2 megawatts (MW) and occupying approximately 14.6 acres, including access road and wiring, in the AG-2 Agriculture Zoning District. The subject property is a 75.33-acre tract in the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 9, Township 18 North, Range 14 West of the Second Principal Meridian in South Homer Township, and commonly known as the property bordered by the Norfolk-Southern railroad tracks to the north, the Village of Homer to the west, CR1050N to the south, and the Vermilion County line to the east. The following waivers of standard conditions are necessary:*

Part A: A waiver for a distance of 1,340 feet between a PV Solar Farm and a municipal boundary in lieu of the minimum required one-half mile (2,640 feet), per Section 6.1.5 B.(2)a. of the Zoning Ordinance.

Part B: A waiver for not providing a Decommissioning and Site Reclamation Plan that includes cost estimates prepared by an Illinois licensed Professional Engineer prior to consideration of the Special use permit by the Board, per Section 6.1.1A.3. of the Zoning Ordinance.

Part C: A waiver for not entering into a Roadway Upgrade and Maintenance Agreement or waiver therefrom with the relevant local highway authority prior to consideration of the Special Use permit by the Board, per Section 6.1.5 G. of the Zoning Ordinance.

Part D: A waiver for not including a Landscape Plan as part of the Special use Permit application, per Section 6.1.5 F.(9)a.(b)iv. of the Zoning Ordinance.

Part E: A waiver for not including a Weed Control Plan as part of the Special use permit application, per Section 6.1.5 P.(3). of the Zoning Ordinance.

Hall noted the waivers (Parts B – E) will be approved by this committee prior to a Zoning Use Permit to allow construction. The committee discussed the decommissioning process and potential recycling of panels. In response to a question by Eisenmann, Butler stated panels are sometimes re-used in developing countries. According to Butler, these panels operate at 80% efficiency.

MOTION by Thorsland; second by Patterson. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously. Per Chair Esry, this item will not be on the consent agenda.

IX. Other Business

- A. *Monthly Report*
 - i. *December 2018*

X. Presiding Officer's Report

None

XI. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

VIII A, VIII B, & VIII C

XII. Adjournment

There being no further business, Esry adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.