



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

MINUTES – Approved as Distributed February 4, 2021

DATE: Thursday, January 7, 2021
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: Lyle Shields Meeting Room
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E Washington, Urbana, IL 61802
and remote participation via Zoom

Committee Members

Present	Absent
Aaron Esry (Vice-Chair)	
Stephanie Fortado	
Mary King	
Kyle Patterson	
Jacob Paul	
Chris Stohr	
Eric Thorsland (Chair)	

County Staff: John Hall (Zoning Administrator), Susan Monte (Planner), John Dwyer (Emergency Management Agency) and Mary Ward (Recording Secretary)

Others Present: Stan Harper (County Board Member)

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Thorsland called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

II. Roll Call

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

III. Approval of Agenda/Addendum

MOTION by Mr. Patterson to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. King.

MOTION by Mr. Paul to remove item X. B. Status of Health Department Review of Recreation and Entertainment Licenses from the Agenda. Seconded by Mr. Esry. Discussion followed. Mr. Stohr asked why he would like the item removed. Mr. Paul's concern was that we could be adding more burden to Public Health at a time when they are already overwhelmed with tasks. Mr. Thorsland stated that the Health Department already has a roll with Liquor Licenses and that this was just a discussion only item.

Upon vote, the **MOTION** to remove item X. B. Status of Health Department Review of Recreation and Entertainment Licenses **FAILED** by a 5 to 2 vote.

Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously to approve the Agenda.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. November 5, 2020

MOTION by Mr. Esry to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2020 meeting, seconded by Mr. Patterson. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

V. Public Participation

Jim Cottrell was available to answer questions regarding the Bullington Minor Subdivision Case that is on the Agenda.

VI. Communications

There were no communications to be shared with the committee.

VII. New Business: For Information Only

A. Champaign County Solid Waste Management – Information Series (Part 1 of 5)

Ms. Monte presented the first of five slideshows on Champaign County Solid Waste Management. The Solid Waste Management Plan is updated every five years. The County also partners with municipalities to hold e-waste residential collections and an annual IEPA sponsored one-day HHW collections. The presentation reviewed Ms. Monte’s work and involvement along with some historical and background information as to how we got to where we are today. Information was also shared regarding the Material Classes and percent of each class that is currently landfilled along with the top ten individual material categories in landfills.

Mr. Thorsland thanked Ms. Monte and stated that he found it interesting that beverage containers, which everyone talks about reducing, was such a small amount and construction and demolition is such a large amount. Ms. Fortado asked about the process of updating our plan, is there a public input type of meeting. Ms. Monte said that ideally there is a public component to the process, and she is working on that process. Ms. Fortado would like to see the board get more active in trying to influence state policy and feels like ELUC is a natural fit to try to engage in state policy. Ms. Monte stated, just as a foreshadowing of what’s coming in the upcoming legislation: Paint, Carpet and Pharmaceuticals. Mr. Stohr acknowledge Ms. Monte’s large role in helping establish the Champaign County Environmental Stewards, who are among those that have helped spearhead the collection events. This is a new non-profit that hopes to have year-round or more frequent collections.

B. Notice of non-Compliance with Illinois Noxious Weed Law

Mr. Hall explained the state has a Noxious Weed Law that says every county is to appoint a Weed Commissioner who surveys all the noxious weeds in the county and prepares a plan for control of them. It would be a huge effort to do this. We have never done this, but what we do is if people call with complaints; we follow up on those complaints. Almost every landowner that has been contacted about a complaint with noxious weeds has taken the necessary action to correct it without Champaign County having to do anything else. Mr. Hall knows of only one county in the state that never gets this notice. We do respond when we get complaints. Luckily, we don’t get many complaints in any given year.

Mr. Stohr wanted to inform members of the committee about the Lincoln Heritage Resource Conservation and Development Organization, of which Champaign County is a member, has a program of getting rid of noxious/alien species of weeds. They get no federal or state funding. They get funding through doing supervised controlled burns. There is lots of volunteer support for this from various conservation groups. They also do some education for schools and they also talk about pollinators and plants that are friendly to pollinators. While we may be out of compliance, we do participate in a program with five other counties.

VIII. New Business: Items to be Approved at ELUC

A. Annual Renewal of Recreation & Entertainment License

- i. Hudson Farm Wedding & Events, LLC, 1341 CR1800E, Urbana, IL 61802.
01/01/21 – 12/31/21
- ii. Alto Vineyards, 4210 North Duncan Road, Champaign. 01/01/21 – 12/31/21

OMNIBUS MOTION by Mr. Esry to approve the Recreation and Entertainment Licenses for both Hudson Farm Weddings and Events, LLC and Alto Vineyards. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stohr. There was no discussion.

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

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

- A. Subdivision Case 204-20: Bullington Subdivision – Final Plat Approval of a Two-Lot Minor Subdivision located in the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 29 of T21N-R14W of the Second Principal Meridian in Compromise Township and commonly known as the house located at 2549 CR2700E, Penfield.

Comments from Mr. Hall included anytime a minor subdivision comes up that the perc data and certification of the lot characteristics are common waivers. They're not trying to skirt the regulations. This has been reviewed by the Health Department and they've signed off on the lots and soil characteristics. The waivers are more of an indication of how out-of-date our subdivision regulations are. The proposed subdivision complies with the Minimum Subdivision Standards.

MOTION by Mr. Esry and seconded by Mr. Patterson

Mr. Stohr stated that originally, he was prepared to contest some of this. After discussion with Susan Burgstrom at Planning and Zoning and Jeff Blackford at Public Health; they persuaded him that some of his concerns could be mitigated by methods that are used.

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

- B. Request to Adopt the Champaign County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2020

John Dwyer from EMA spoke on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. This is something we look at every so often. Some of the threats include severe weather, chemical issues and even before Covid, pandemic was included as well. It's a good plan as far as where we're going and what we can do to prevent as much loss of life, limb and property as we can. It's an all-encompassing plan. It's been adopted by multiple jurisdictions and villages across the county and we've received great support from the U of I as well as Parkland.

Ms. Monte added that we have also updated all the risk assessments and received input from new advisory committee people. It's new, updated information that will be posted and eventually printed.

MOTION by Ms. King to adopt the Champaign County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2020. The motion was seconded by Mr. Paul.

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

X. Other Business

A. Monthly Reports

i. October

The October report was received and placed on file.

B. Status of Health Department Review of Recreation and Entertainment Licenses

Mr. Thorsland led the discussion on this issue. He had been asked by a committee member to discuss this. The County Clerk's office signs off on these as to the fees, the Sheriff's office also signs off on these for police record and credit check, then Planning and Zoning signs off on zoning and restrictions and then it comes to ELUC. One of the items we don't know, is if any of these establishments have health department violations.

When Mr. Thorsland asked about putting this on the Agenda, Mr. Hall said that he could only think of one R & E Licensee that didn't also carry a Liquor License. The Champaign County Health Department is involved in the review of Liquor Licenses. Liquor Licenses are approved by the Liquor Commissioner (the County Executive) and are not reviewed by ELUC.

Do we want to know about that, or any health department concerns, when we approve these R & E Licenses? Ms. Fortado asked approximately how many we do a year. There are about 15 annual licenses and then maybe five or so smaller events in a typical year. Ms. Fortado said it would be beneficial in some ways knowing, but agrees with Mr. Paul's reasoning to remove from the agenda. If we put another burden on the health department and not give them any more resources to do that, it is not a good idea. They are at max capacity right now. We would need to work things out before we add another checkbox.

Mr. Stohr agrees with Ms. Fortado's concern of putting more on the health department right now. It would be interesting to see what the Health Department would have to say about this. Does the Health Department have dedicated staff to do this? Mr. Hall answered that he didn't think they did, but they do already do the Liquor Licenses. They are already inspecting for Liquor Licenses. They probably wouldn't want to do redundant inspections. In the case of the one without a Liquor License, they get inspected anyway because of the amount of food they sell. Mr. Stohr asked if they have to have a safety check. Mr. Paul said the Health Department can already shut down facilities they deem a danger to the public.

R&E and Liquor Licenses are renewed 6 months apart, R & E on 1/1 and Liquor on 6/1. Mr. Thorsland asked what would be the difficulty for reporting to ELUC if the Liquor License is current. Mr. Hall stated that it should be fairly easy.

Ms. Fortado stated that if one of these venues get their Liquor License pulled, will they be back to us to renew their R & E? It would be hard to hold a wedding, concert, etc. without a liquor license. Mr. Esry added that he agreed with Stephanie. Does knowing their liquor license was pulled change much?

Ms. Fortado thought the work should flow the other way. The Liquor Commissioner should inform ELUC if a liquor license has been pulled.

XI. Chair's Report

There was no Chair's Report.

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

Items to be placed on the Consent Agenda include 9. A. and 9. B.

XIII. Adjournment

Ms. Fortado moved the adjourn the meeting with a second by Mr. Paul. Mr. Thorsland adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Please note the minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.