

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the DeKalb County Regional Planning Commission at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

DEKALB COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
(September 25, 2014)

The DeKalb County Regional Planning Commission (RPC) met on September 25, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the DeKalb County Administration Building, Conference Room East, in Sycamore, Illinois. In attendance were Commission members Misty Haji-Sheikh, Anita Sorensen, Don Pardridge, Rich Gentile, Les Bellah, Cheryl Aldis, Brian Gregory, Dawn Grivetti, Becky Morphey, Martha May, and Derek Hiland. Also in attendance were County staff members Paul Miller and Rebecca Von Drasek.

- 1. Roll Call** -- *Commission members Bill Beverley, John Fischer, Liz Peerboom, and Linda Swenson were absent.*
- 2. Approval of Agenda** -- *Mr. Bellah moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Aldis, and the motion carried unanimously.*

Ms. Grivetti arrived at 7:01 p.m.

- 3. Approval of Minutes** -- *Ms. May moved to approve the minutes from the July 31, 2014 meeting, seconded by Mr. Gentile, and the motion carried unanimously.*
- 4. Northwest Water Planning Alliance - Presentation on NWP Strategic Plan**

Mr. Miller introduced Dr. Tim Loftus from Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP). Dr. Loftus was present to make a presentation on the Northwest Water Planning Alliance's (NWP) three-year strategic plan. This Plan focuses on the need to collect data regarding the region's water supply, usage, demand, and loss, particularly from municipal water systems, in order to allow development of drought planning and strategies. In cooperation with the Illinois Water Inventory Program and State Water Survey, NWP seeks the cooperation and participation of municipalities in this data gathering effort. All of DeKalb County is within the NWP region, and the County and the City of DeKalb have participated in the efforts of the NWP since its inception. The Alliance wants to reach out to the other communities in DeKalb County through the Regional Planning Commission. Commission members were encouraged to review the Plan, which may be accessed online at:

<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/programs-and-resources/Ita/northwest-water-planning-alliance>.

Dr. Loftus highlighted the NWP strategic plan and its mission statement. He emphasized three

objectives of the NWPA: 1). to encourage more communities to join the Water Sense program; 2). to ask communities to consider adopting an outdoor watering ordinance; and 3). to join other NWPA communities utilizing the monthly water inventory reporting available on the NWPA web site. Dr. Loftus explained that the monthly reporting would satisfy the communities' annual required IWHIP reporting. He further detailed how these objectives will assist the NWPA in raising awareness about groundwater in the region and work toward a cooperative approach to conservation of a finite resource.

The Commission members briefly discussed water issues within their communities.

Ms. Morphey thanked Dr. Loftus for taking the time to visit with the Commission.

Mr. Miller asked Commissioners to take the information back to their communities discuss the NWPA goals with their water operators.

5. Future Topics

Mr. Miller explained that Commissioners were asked to discuss possible topics of interest for 2015 with elected and appointed officials in their municipalities to share at the meeting.

Ms. Haji-Sheikh suggested that the Commissioners might be interested to learn about the new approach the Sheriff's office was taking on heroin overdoses.

The Commissioners also had topic suggestions of the Zero Waste Task Force, the East Branch South Branch Kishwaukee River Watershed Plan, grant applications, the proposed Enterprise zone, de-platting and de-annexations of defunct subdivisions, and property maintenance and liens on abandoned property.

6. Municipal Development Projects/Issues

Mr. Bellah, Kirkland reported on the status of the Hickory Ridge subdivision, a new tattoo shop, and a proposed cell tower.

Mr. Gentile noted that the Genoa library was making progress.

Ms. Grivetti explained that Hinckley was waiting for AT&T to finalize the cell tower and noted the ongoing negotiations with Royal Estate subdivisions new owner.

Ms. May iterated her desire to learn more about property maintenance for an abandoned property

in the Village of Lee.

Mr. Hiland reported on the progress of the City of DeKalb's library. He also mentioned the University Plaza residential improvements to convert from a rooming house to apartments, and a new Culver's.

Mr. Gregory reported that Hauser Ross was building a new building, and Well No. 10 was now online. He also mentioned a private grant was awarded to plant 250 new trees in the City of Sycamore.

Ms. Haji-Sheikh highlighted her recent Highway Tour with the County Highway Department.

Mr. Pardridge reported on the ongoing efforts to create a trail system to the State Park in Shabbona.

Ms. Aldis from Cortland explained to the Commissioners that she had asked that Illinois Municipal League pursue legislation that would require property transaction be recorded within a certain time limit so that ownership is apparent.

7. Next Meeting Date -- The Commission agreed that the next RPC meeting would be held January 29, 2015 at 7 pm in the Conference Room East of the Administration Building.

8. Adjournment -- *Ms. Haji-Sheikh moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Aldis, and the motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Morphey
Chairman, DeKalb County Regional Planning Commission

RGV:rgv

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