

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD  
AGRICULTURE, ZONING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2, 2013 MEETING

The committee chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm at the Livingston County Historic Courthouse, 112 W. Madison St., Pontiac, Illinois and roll call was taken.

Present: Bob Young, Bill Flott, Earl Rients and Bill Peterson

Absent: Mike Ingles, Ronald Kestner and Paul Ritter.

Others

Present: County Board Chair Marty Fannin, non-committee county board member Joan Bullard, County Planning Commission Representative Chuck Schopp, Livingston County Administrative Resource Specialist Alina Hartley, Livingston County Finance Resource Specialist June Slagel, Liv Com 911 Manager of Communications Randy Wittenberg, ETSB members Joe Stock, Jeremy Stoller and Cindy Knight, attorney Ron Fellheimer and Don Immke representing the Livingston County Farm Bureau.

Committee Chair Young noted the agenda requesting that proposed business item a. to also include the ETSB report, and that under #3. Deigan and Associates proposed 2014 agreement be discussed. Then Bill Flott moved, seconded by Earl Rients, that the agenda for this meeting be approved as outlined by the committee chair. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Minutes of the November 5, 2013 committee meeting were noted to the committee by the committee chair. Bill Peterson moved, seconded by Earl Rients, that these meeting minutes be approved as presented. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Dispatch Agreement/ETSB Report:

As part of his ETSB report, separate from the draft dispatch agreement, Randy Wittenberg, 911 manager of communications, addressed the committee informing them that they are currently testing for an additional telecommunicator.

A discussion then began on a draft copy of an "INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT ADOPTING THE GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVIDING OF EMERGENCY("911") AND NON-EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SERVICES AND CENTRALIZED DISPATCHING SERVICES FOR LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS." It was related that the month mentioned in point number 5 should be changed to April. The composition of the ETSB board was discussed, and how this board composition reflects the number on the board from Dwight. The discussion then focused on the funding of 911 and central dispatching services. Funding questions in a request to see fixed costs on a spread sheet to compare with income were expressed. A discussion then followed on the current amount of funds that the county provides to 911 and central dispatching, the approximate \$60,000 (25%) increase being sought by the ETSB, and the increased funding provided by the county starting in 2009 because of a need for additional funds. Funds provided by phone fees, which are generally decreasing as fewer land lines are being used, and how other users also provide funding was talked about, as a 25% increase from all users is being sought.

It was related that current county funding for 911 and central dispatching comes from the county's enterprise zone account. Mr. Wittenberg and the ETSB board members present commented after the user meeting to discuss 911 funding was held last month, only the City of Pontiac and Livingston County are currently the only known entities that are discussing issues. Users are generally understanding of the need to increase 911 funding. The talk continued focusing on the proposed annual 5% or CPI increase.

Other forms of funding such as grants and an increase in sales tax were then mentioned. Remarks about how to address this increase in the 2014 county budget were made, with a potential need to amend this current budget being made. The county's relatively recent funding for narrow banding radios and the construction of new radio tower were mentioned along with how much funding the county has provided over the last few years. Mr. Wittenberg then commented on how central dispatching functions. Committee chair Young then requested information to be provided for this committee's January 2014 meeting; with this information including fixed budget figures for 2012 and 2013 along with where the ETSB funding is coming from during the same time period, with additional information estimating costs for capital improvements. Remarks were made as to how some of this information is already available and will be provided to the committee next month, with additional remarks being made as to how it will be difficult to provide exact figures on future capital development costs. Then the ETSB funds held in accounts was talked about, in how these funds are dwindling as they are being used to cover current and future budget needs and how these funds will be depleted within a few years if the current practice of using these funds continues. The ETSB members remarked about the intricacies of their budget. The option of proposing a ¼ % sales tax increase with funds from this increase being dedicated to 911 funding was then discussed. Mention was made that if such a sales tax increase was approved potentially \$750,000 in this tax funding could be provided to 911, addressing several 911 funding and budgeting issues. The timing of placing such a proposed tax increase on a ballot was discussed, along with how the need for such a proposed tax increase needing to be explained.

#### Schneeman Subdivision Review:

The committee members were provided with a copy of a report pertaining to Livingston County Zoning Case SF-3-13 – Schneeman Subdivision. This is a proposed one lot subdivision to be 3.91 acres located in Section 5 of Pontiac Township on the south edge of the unincorporated area of Rowe. The committee was informed that the Livingston County Regional Planning Commission had reviewed this proposed subdivision at a public hearing held on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Present at this hearing was Ronald Fellheimer the attorney representing the petitioners along with Doug Schneeman representing the interest in the family property and Mike Schneeman being the proposed purchaser of the subject property. The planned division and reasoning for the proposed new lot configuration was discussed. The committee was informed that the regional planning commission recommends that this subdivision be approved as it was presented to the planning commission. Mr. Fellheimer representing the petitioners commented to the committee about the subject property and the proposed one lot subdivision. Mr. Fellheimer further commented on how the larger parcel of Schneeman property is to be divided and transferred to new owners. Bill Peterson moved, seconded by Bill Flott, that this committee recommends to the county board the approval of this proposed one lot Schneeman Subdivision.

Other Issues to Come Before the Committee:

A copy of a proposal and work agreement from Deigan and Associates, LLC for continued Environmental/Solid Waste Landfill Consulting Services to Livingston County for 2014 was presented to the committee members. After discussion it was the consensus of the committee to forward this to the county board for the county board to review this proposal and work agreement.

Review and Approval of Bills:

An invoice in the amount of \$8,457.75 from Deigan and Associates, LLC for Professional Services from May thru November 13, 2013 relating to landfill monitoring and technical reviews of Republic/Allied Waste's Livingston and Streator area Landfills, for environmental/solid waste landfill consulting service to Livingston County was reviewed by the committee. Bill Flott moved, seconded by Earl Rients, that this statement be approved. This motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Solid Waste/Landfill Issues:

A monthly synopsis of landfill information and correspondence was presented to the committee members. Hoosier Energy is operating their Livingston Landfill gas to energy facility. In information provided at the Hoosier Energy Livingston Renewable Energy Station dedication ceremony it is stated that this renewable energy station is projected to produce enough energy to power 9,000 homes. Host agreement information was also presented to the committee.

Comprehensive Plan Review: Will continue the discussion of reviewing the comprehensive plan in January.

Public Comment:

Don Immke informed the committee that Livingston County Farm Bureau manager Teresa Grant-Quick is retiring and her replacement will begin working in Livingston County at the end of January. The committee expressed their gratitude for the dedicated service that Teresa Grant-Quick has provided to the citizens of Livingston County.

Then Bill Flott moved, seconded by Earl Rients, that this meeting be adjourned. This motion was approved unanimously.

This meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

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Charles T. Schopp, Administrator  
Livingston County Regional Planning  
Commission