

**McHenry County Regional Planning Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 22, 2009**

**Commissioners Present:** Chairman Charlie Eldredge, Ron Bauman, Dennis Dreher, Jim McNutt, Nancy Schietzelt, Jerry Davenport, Jim Heisler, Frank Harrison, RB Thompson, Craig Hubert and Bill Swenson

**Commissioners Absent:** Jeremy Shaw and Mike Rein

**Staff Present:** Dennis Sandquist, Maryanne Wanaski, Darrell Moore, Sean Foley and Cindy Sassaman

**Also Present:** Ken Koehler, County Board Chairman; Pete Austin, County Administrator; Jim Heisler, Vice-Chairman County Board, Ersel Schuster, Kathy Bergan Schmidt, County Board members; Cassandra McKinney, Pat Kennedy, Tom Harding, Tammy Valentine Garza, John Darger, Joshua Blakemore, Russ Farnum, Audie Beeson, Julie Richardson and Kim Willis

Chairman Eldredge called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Baumann seconded by Mr. McNutt to approve the minutes of December 11, 2008 and January 8, 2009 Regional Planning Commission meetings. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**Public Participation**

Kim Willis made comments pertaining to the infrastructure write up. Specifically, page 10, before "Metra rail.....", she felt that this was an opinion statement. On page 12 under "why not a bus system...", she asked for a source and also on Other Transit section she requested documentation regarding need of an airport. She would like to see the wind map included in the section. The mention of wind turbine prices that are increasing is time sensitive information and that should be considered as to whether it should be included. She questioned if anyone else besides MCCD would be considering wind power. She also voiced concern over nuclear power and to consider the issue of storing the waste. Page 17, Technology and Communications section says that the economy is moving away from manufacturing and moving toward high tech service, and she would like documentation referring to this.

**Director's Remarks**

Mr. Sandquist asked that the Commission start the infrastructure section and then start with LEAM as soon as their arrival. He asked the Commission complete review of the infrastructure section. He also mentioned the timeframe which would be reviewed later in the meeting.

**New Business**

**Infrastructure** – The Commission began review of the infrastructure draft. Areas were highlighted for future discussion.

## **Presentations**

**LEAM** – Dr. Brian Deal, University of Illinois Champaign Urbana, began with an oversight of the portal. He explained how to maneuver through the website and reviewed several scenarios and how to manipulate the data layers. He also answered questions from Commissioners as he presented each scenario. The Conservation Ordinance scenarios where the cumulative triggers were shown could require more clarification. The way the scenario works it does not limit areas of development. He asked what the Commission is trying to accomplish with this Ordinance and how they would like to accomplish it, and he can then produce an effective model.

Mr. Sandquist suggested that the Commission take the time to review LEAM and staff will bring back ideas from what they heard and will produce a list of scenarios/evaluation tools that they would like changed. From that analysis it will be decided which scenarios should be released to the public.

Chairman Eldredge requested that the changes are concise.

Mr. Sandquist suggested that Mr. Dreher work with Dr. Deal regarding the Conservation scenario, and Cassandra McKinney work on groundwater protection and one other area that needed additional information was the LE score greater than 80 and how to implement the contiguous areas.

Ms. Schietzelt felt that municipalities should have access to the website. Ms. Wanaski reported that MCGG has access to the website. Dr. Deal explained that it is up to the Commission if scenarios are available to the public. The Commission will make a decision at the next meeting as to when the access will be given to the public.

The Commission thanked Dr. Deal.

Ms. Wanaski handed out copies of the Community Character section which will be reviewed at the next meeting.

## **Old Business**

**Timeline** - to be discussed at the next meeting. Copies were provided.

**MCCG** – Julie Richardson felt that LEAM is a great tool.

## **Member's comments**

None

## **Additional Public Comment**

None

## **Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. McNutt, seconded by Mr. Swenson to adjourn the meeting. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.