

TUSCOLA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Tuscola County Administration Building
125 W. Lincoln Street
Caro, MI 48723

MINUTES

4:00 p.m. – January 5, 2011
Commissioners Board Room

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Chairman Keith Kosik called the meeting to order at 4:03 P.M and led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL –

- A. In attendance: Members – Delores Damm, Zygmunt Dworzecki, Lonnie Kester (arrived at 4:15), Keith Kosik, Joe Robbins and Ione Vyse, and Board Representative Commissioner Gerald Peterson.
- B. Absent Excused: Don Richards
- C. Guests: Bill Campbell

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion by Joe to “approve the Minutes of December 1, 2010”.
Seconded by Ione. Motion Carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Zygy moved to “approve the Agenda as amended with addition C. to Section VIII-New Business - Wind Energy-EDC request”. Seconded by Ione. Motion Carried.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

VI. COMMUNICATION CONCERENING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

- A. E-Mail Communications – None

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Airport Ordinance Update- Ione reported the Airport Zoning Ordinance passed and became effective as of January 1, 2011. The posted position for a Default Airport Zoning Administrator had three applicants. Ione was appointed to fill the position. Board of Appeals positions need to be filled. The Airport Zoning Ordinance Information and Training Class held on December 16, 2010 at 9:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. was a success. Twenty-one Municipalities most affected by the new ordinance were invited and twelve were represented. It was open to anyone interested in learning more about the ordinance and to help them decide if they would want to do their own zoning or defer to the default Airport Zoning Administrator. Guest Bill Campbell from Indianfields Township reported that in a meeting with Michigan Aeronautics Specialist Linn Smith they were assured that their Airport Zoning Ordinance section was compliant with PA 110 and PA 113.
- B. Thumb Regional Renewable Energy Collaborative Support Letter: Delores suggested the planning commission provide a letter in support of the TRREC. Discussion followed. Delores was instructed to develop a letter to be sent to the municipalities educating them on the importance of what TRREC is trying to

accomplish and how it could affect them. The letter will be reviewed at next months meeting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:


- A. 2011 Meeting Schedule – Reviewed. Zygy moved to approve the schedule. Seconded by Lonnie. Motion Carried.
- B. Koylton Contact – Ione stated Koylton Township Planning Commission wanted to know if the county had suggestions or input on a private land use problem. She referred them to their Township Zoning Ordinance.
- C. Wind Energy – EDC Request – Zygy had a discussion with Jim McLoskey, EDC Director, concerning a possible Wind Energy Road Show to educate municipalities on the windmill taxation issue. Discussion followed. It was decided the TRREC Support Letter should be our first option. Clarification and discussion on the “opt out” verbiage as used in the windmill taxation information. Municipalities must “Opt Out” in order to receive any taxation benefits from wind energy development. Guest, Bill Campbell, stated he learned from Michigan Township Assoc. meeting that the State could set the tax level for municipalities concerning wind energy development. It may be discussed again in the 2011 Legislative Session.

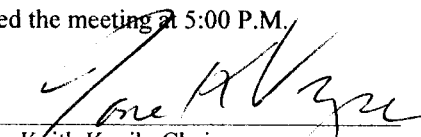

IX. OTHER, ON GOING BUSINESS:

- A. Education/ Training – No Report
- B. Parks and Recreation Commission: Commissioner Peterson reported Lisa Valentine and Christina Martens were reappointed.
- C. Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative: Zygy reported Blue Water Coastal receives federal funding but no recipients from the first round, and now on hold. Commissioner Peterson stated he is a member of the Nat’l Committee on Clean Water and warned of excessive water regulations impacting all landowners, not just farmers. The 2012 Farm Bill will address many of these issues.
- D. Township Communications: No Report
- E. EMCOG (East Michigan Council of Governments): Zygy reported the membership drive is on and 13 or 14 of Tuscola County Municipalities are included. More is being done with Economic Development and Tourism in the Gladwin, Clare, and the Roscommon areas bringing businesses together to achieve a common goal. He would like to do the same with ThumbTourism.Org.
- F. State Law Information Review: Zygy discussed a recently signed State Law regarding Complete Streets.
- G. 2011 Budget: Reviewed.

For our information: Lonnie stated there is a Medical Marijuana Distribution Facility open in Denmark Township, corner of M-46 and M-15.
Chairman Kosik added that 2011 Standing Committee’s will remain the same as 2010.

Meeting Adjourned: Chairman Kosik adjourned the meeting at 5:00 P.M.


Delores Damm, Secretary


~~Keith Kosik, Chairman~~

Ione K. V. J. S. G.
Vice Chair