

TUSCOLA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro, Michigan 48723

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012 @ 4:30 P.M. – Commissioners' Conference Room

I. CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

The February meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Don Richards at 4:30 pm followed by the pledge to the flag .

II. ROLL CALL – Members present: Zygmunt Dworzecki, , Don Richards, Bill Thayer and Ione Vyse. Cindy Kapa Lonnie Kester, Keith Kotic and Board Representative-Jerry Peterson were absent.

Bill Cambell was our only guest.

Wm. Thayer was welcomed as our new member, replacing Doris Damm.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Ione Vyse made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Zygmunt Dworzecki. Motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA -

Items added: Under Communications – A. Planning Commission E-mail. B. Connect Michigan. C. Blue Water Heritage. Under New Business – B. City of Vassar Zoning Ordinance. C. Pipeline Safety Seminar. The motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Zygmunt Dworzecki. Second by Wm. Thayer . Motion Carried.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT –

Bill Campbell commented on the importance of planning and zoning. Don Richards noted that the 5 year update is not yet known to all municipalities, including his own Village of Cass City. Discussion followed.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA –

A. **E-mails.** - Zymunt Dworzecki requested that e-mail communications be added to the agenda as a regular item. Lisa Valentine sent an e-mail about parks and Rec meeting cancellation. This was forwarded to all.

B. **Connect Michigan** – Zygmunt Dworzecki reported on meeting dealing with broadband coverage. Might be a topic to put in the masterplan

C. **Blue Water Heritage Trail** – Zygmunt Dworzecki discussed the plan to market of the coastline for tourism purposes and making M-25 a heritage trail.

VII. OLD BUSINESS –

A. **General Development Plan Update** - Ione Vyse reported that the data updates would be ready to print within the week but expressed concern as to whether we wanted to print now or wait until 2013 and do a more extensive review. She also noted that the County Discount with Office Depot is still available to help defray the cost. Discussion followed. By consensus it was decided to prepare the updates and make them available but to wait until 2013 to print and include the cost in the new budget.

B. **Area of Representation Choices** – A listing of the municipalities was presented to each member for them to make their choices of the communities convenient to their location. Ione Vyse will get the same form out to the absent members and compile for the next meeting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS –

A. **Fremont Township, Haverstick, 109.37 Acres, Section 17** – The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the application on the motion by Zygmunt Dworzcki and seconded by Ione Vyse.

B. **City of Vassar Zoning Ordinance** – The Planning Commission notes receipt of the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Vassar. A letter of acknowledgment will be sent by the Secretary.

C. **Pipeline Safety** – A document regarding a seminar on Pipeline safety was received. The item will be filed, Wm Thayer is interested in attending the seminar at the Horizon Center March 6.

IX. OTHER, ON-GOING BUSINESS:

**Education/Training:**

Ione Vyse reported that the county had cut Education and Training budgets by ½ across the board except for mandated training, so this probably will affect us.

At the present time, no registrations have been received for the March 10 seminar we are sponsoring. The speaker will contact Don Richards next week. We have 2 weeks prior to cancel the meeting if we do not get enough reservations. A motion was made by Zygmunt Dworzecki, seconded by Ione Vyse to place an ad in the Advertiser if it is not going to be printed for free. Motion carried.

**Parks & Recreation:**

No report, meeting cancelled

**Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative:**

Zygmunt Dworzecki reported on the plans, including deep water ports for tourism cruises on the great lakes and imports. He also reported on the upcoming Saginaw Bay Watershed Conference.

The 2012 Saginaw Bay Watershed Conference will hold an all day seminar on Friday March 16 at SVSU. Due to the nature of the material to be presented regarding water quality and protection, the planning commission felt that the scope of the material required the attention of the county. A motion was made by Zygmunt Dworzecki and seconded by Wm. Thayer that a letter be sent to the County Commissioners recommending that one of their members and/or the County Drain Commissioner attend this seminar. Motion Carried.

**Township Communications:**

Contact was made by Fremont Township clerk, City of Vassar manager. Ione Vyse visited Denmark Township and fielded some questions from them regarding Zoning Board of Appeals makeup and appointment process. Bill Cambell noted that a Guidebook for Zoning Board of Appeals and also Planning Commission Members was available on the MML website. He recommends it for townships. (possible newsletter topic)

**East Michigan Council of Governments (EMCOG):**

Zygmunt Dworzecki reported on the activities of the group.

**State Law Information Review:**

Rep. Damro was at the Denmark township meeting and talked about 2 bills regarding the taxation of wind towers that is coming out of committee. He expects both to pass. Monies to be distributed 40% to the County, 40% to the Township and 20% to public education in the county.

Bill Cambell, made note that laws under consideration that impacted Planning and Zoning were available in the Township Association monthly publications and also the Planning and Zoning News.

Zygmunt Dworzecki noted that there is also action at the state level regarding railroads.

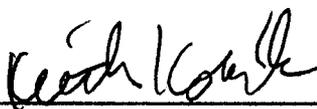
**2012 Budget Review:**

Because the meeting was the first day of the month, the budget material was not available.

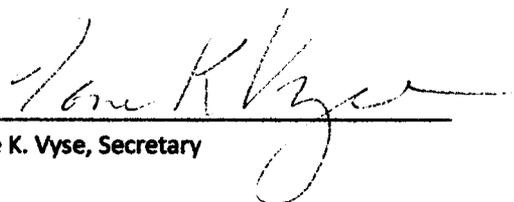
X. FOR THE GOOD OF THE GROUP

XI. ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 pm.



Keith Kosik, Chairman



Ione K. Vyse, Secretary