

EEHW COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, May 21, 2015
5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tim Dudley
Linda Little
Gary Minich
Matt Brown
Kevin Bird
Jerry Potts

MEMBERS ABSENT

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Kevin Greenfield, Board Chairman
Kris Horton, Animal Control
Kathy Powless, Vet Administration
Deb Garrett, Environmental Mgmt
Laurie Rasmus, Environmental Mgmt
Jennifer Hoffman, P&Z
Dianna Heyer, Health Dept Administrator

Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tim Dudley at the Macon County Office Building.

MINUTES

Jerry Potts made a motion to approve the April 16, 2015 meeting minutes, seconded by Linda Little, motion carried 6-0.

CLAIMS

Linda Little made a motion to accept the report of the claims as presented, seconded by Matt Brown and motion carried 6-0.

ZONING –

Macon County Board Resolution Regarding Case S-01-05-15: A Petition for a Special Use Permit by Blue Mound Township Road District

Jennifer Hoffman explained that this is a request to build a machine shed for storage of township equipment. The property is commonly located on Boody Road in Blue Mound Township. On May, 6th, 2015, the ZBA Hearing was held and the ZBA approved with the stipulations noted in the resolution by a vote of 5-0.

Linda Little made a motion to forward the Petition on to the full board with recommendation for approval, seconded by Kevin Bird and the motion carried 6-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Regarding Case S-03-05-15: A Petition for a Special Use Permit Submitted by C. Deadrick Development (Cynthia Deadrick)

Jennifer Hoffman explained that the request is to use the property as a venue for personal & corporate celebrations. The property is located on 4202 W. Route 36. On May 6th, 2015, the ZBA Hearing was held and the ZBA voted 5-0 to approve with the stipulations as noted in the resolution.

Kevin Bird made a motion to forward the Petition on to the full board with recommendation for approval, seconded by Jerry Potts. Linda Little asked if the stipulations in regard to septic systems was something that would be followed up on by the P&Z Department. Ms. Hoffman explained that it had to be approved by the Health Department. She went on to explain that it had been handed to her just prior to the meeting. They have permanent bathrooms out there. The motion carried 6-0.

SUBDIVISIONS – None

REPORTS

Mental Health Board –No Report

Regional Office of Education – No report

Health Department –

Dianna Heyer gave an update on the position of the Health Department on Lyme's Disease in Macon County. They are very much about prevention and awareness. Recently the board was informed by a public comment that there were 200 cases of Lyme Disease in Macon County. The Health Department's viewpoint is that Lyme's Disease has been a reportable infection to the Health Department since 1992. Doctors are required to report the illness to the Health Department so that they can conduct an investigation to see where the person may have been exposed. The state also does surveillance of deer ticks. She distributed copies of a map showing the identified cases since 2013.

In the last 3 years in Macon County, there have only been 3 reports of Lyme illness in Macon County; one in 2014 & two in 2013. Ms. Heyer said that in her 18 years as a public health nurse, there have been a number of years that have gone by with no cases reported and never a year with more than 2 cases. There are very specific criteria that must be met before IDPH will count a case as a confirmed case of Lyme Disease to the CDC who keeps track of it. The accepted test is a two tier test which is often not done by a physician. Specific signs and symptoms must be met in order for the state to count it as a case.

Ms. Heyer said that they truly empathize with those who are suffering and they in no way dispute their diagnosis of Lyme. A physician can make any diagnosis they want. She said that they do not have the data to support an outbreak of Lyme in Macon County. She said that they feel it is important to give the board the information they have confirmed. It is very possible that these individuals that say they have Lyme were infected in another part of the state or another state. The Health Department's position is one of awareness of all vector borne illnesses such as mosquito illnesses & tick illnesses.

Heading into the summer months, West Nile Virus and other mosquito & tick borne illnesses can occur. Macon County had more cases of West Nile Virus diagnosed since 2002 than Lyme Disease. She said she was working at the Macon County Health Department in 2002 when West Nile Virus hit Macon County hard. There were 9 people severely affected and she thought 3 people had died from it. It is interesting that the prevention measures for tick &

mosquito illnesses that the prevention measures are very much the same; use of repellent, wearing light colored clothing, long sleeves & pants, checking promptly when coming in from outdoors, taking measures to decrease the incidents of developing ticks or mosquitos on your property. With mosquitos, you get rid of all the standing water & with ticks, you get rid of the brush around the property. The prevention measures are very much the same.

Planning & Zoning –

No report

Veteran's Assistance –

Kathy Powless reported that the Memorial Day event is coming up on Monday @ 10 a.m. in Fairview Park pavilion. She invited everyone to attend and asked they let her know if they come so she can introduce them. The Korean Vets program follows that. Ameren is having a parade here in town on Sunday. Spare Time Lanes is having free bowling & free lunch for veterans.

Both Kathy & Gregg will be out of the office the first week of June for CEU training so they can both keep their accreditation and not spend a bundle getting back again.

Environmental Management

Deb Garrett said that they receive a lot of calls from people asking why some things can't be sent to the landfill so she thought it would be a good idea to go over some of the laws that ban certain items & why.

Laurie Rasmus reported that Illinois regulations spell out that a number of items may not be disposed of in the landfill. She said that she was going to identify the items and explain options available to Macon County residents to either insure the recycling or safe disposal of them

Appliances with white good components, which are refrigerant gas, mercury switches & PCB's, are in refrigerators, air conditioners and dehumidifiers. The white good components must be properly removed prior to recycling or disposal. Best options include having the old appliance hauled away when purchasing a new one or using Act On Energy which is funded through Ameren. They have a rebate program they call a bounty program where old refrigerators or freezers that are working can be turned in. They will come and pick them up for free and give you a check for \$50. Other options include calling the hauler who can do a bulk pick up. Most haulers require that the white good components be removed prior to pick up and that is an expense for the home owner. HVAC contractors can be hired to remove the components and then haul it off to a scrap yard.

Auto batteries are accepted at a lot of places that sell batteries. These are probably one of the most recycled items. The EPA reports that a new battery contains between 60% & 80% of recycled material. That is a good closed loop system.

The electronics category contains 17 items that are banned from landfills and include computers, TV's, etc... The state has set up a program where they have a certification process for collectors. Locally, Best Buy & Staples will accept computers. Best Buy has quite an

extensive list, but they have restrictions and do not accept TV's larger than 32" that are the fat back CRT type or projection TV's or console TV's. The next county collection is coming up on Saturday, June 6 at 9 a.m. She said that they have found that they are getting a lot of the larger projection TV's because there needs to be an outlet for that.

Landscape Waste options include the most environmentally friendly one which is to keep those resources at home. Things like grass clippings, wood chips, etc... can be used at home. They help retain moisture. Other options include utilization of the curbside hauling services or haul it to a privately owned compost facility.

Mercury switch thermostats are being upgraded to the programmable type by many folks and find themselves with the need to find a proper way to dispose of the mercury type. The Thermostat Recycling Corporation is a non-profit group that has national members. Locally, the South Side Control Supply Co is a participant and will take those at their location.

Motor Oil has been banned from landfills since 1996. There are a number of drop off locations for the "do-it-yourselfer". Otherwise, people are encouraged to use a reputable automotive service provider. The US EPA has said that the oil from one oil change can contaminate one million gallons of ground water. In terms of recycling, one gallon of used motor oil can produce the same amount of lubricating oil as 42 gallons of crude. All the processing was already done and recycling can save processing & transportation costs.

Tires were banned from landfills because they kind of float to the top, not because they are toxic. They are just a problem in the way that landfills are designed. Tire dealers in the State of Illinois are required to accept tires and can charge a fee for doing it. \$2.40 of the fee goes to the IEPA. There are a number of places that will only accept tires if you purchase new ones from them, but there are also some that will accept them for the fee, without a purchase. Jerry Potts asked if there was anything new going on in the tire recycling area. Ms. Rasmus said a lot of them are burned for fuel. Many cement kilns use them. Rubber mulch used on playgrounds, etc... is a big use as well.

Ms. Rasmus explained that all of this information can be found on the website, www.MaconGreen.com under safe disposal.

Jerry Potts asked Ms. Rasmus to elaborate on the recent explosion at the landfill.

Laurie explained that at approximately 7 a.m. on the past Friday morning, there was an explosion at the landfill owned by Advance Disposal. It is on Bear Road. They immediately searched through the trash looking for some type of material that would have caused the explosion. They were unable to find anything so they immediately called in Bodine Environmental who did air monitoring and determined that there was not a problem in terms of neighboring residents. They did a search as well and were not able to find anything. The Macon County Sheriff's Office was asked to come out and assist because there was an odor that could not be identified. The FBI and bomb squad from the Secretary of State came in. An investigation was made and it was determined that whatever caused the explosion was consumed completely and there was no leftover material that might be dangerous. The actual material was not identifiable. There were samples taken from the area, but the results are not in.

Deb Garrett added that it is fortunate that nobody was injured. The compactor driver was taken to a local hospital, but was released. We are happy about that.

Animal Control

Kris Horton reported that the new cat room is about ¾ finished. It looks good and matches the building. They are finishing the drywall now.

Citizen's Remarks - None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS –

Chair Dudley mentioned that Merv Jacobs has decided to retire. Merv spent about 30 years on the board and is a former chairman. He did a great job on this committee, did a great service to the County Board and will be missed. Jerry Potts added that he really liked Merv and thought he was a great guy.

Linda Little reported that she had attended the Purple Heart Ceremony earlier in the day at the Civic Center and thought it was a very cool service.

Closed Session – None Needed

NEXT MEETING Next regular meeting - Thursday, June 18, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

Jerry Potts made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Linda Little, the motion carried 6-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham