

EEHW COMMITTEE MEETING

April 26, 2018 5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tim Dudley, Chair
Helena Buckner, Vice Chair
Kevin Meachum
Jerry Potts
Laura Zimmerman
Rachel Joy
Debra Kraft
Matt Brown

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Greg Collins, VA
Sgt Reynolds, Animal Control
Dianna Heyer, Health Dept
Laurie Rasmus, Env Mgmt
Jennifer Gunter, P&Z

MEMBERS ABSENT

Grant Noland

Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

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

MINUTES

Mr. Meachum made a motion to approve the March 22, 2018 meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Kraft and the motion carried 8-0.

CLAIMS

Ms. Kraft made a motion to accept the report of the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Brown and the motion carried 8-0.

ZONING –

Macon County Board Resolution Regarding Case S-02-04-18, A Petition Requesting a Special Use Permit Submitted by Oreana Solar, LLC% Geronimo Energy

Ms. Gunter explained that this is to allow the development and construction of a solar energy system consisting of approximately 20 acres on an 80 acre tract of land zoned A1 Agricultural zoning. The property is commonly located at 6816 N. Brush College Road in Whitmore Township. On April 4, the Public Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing was held and based on the finding of facts and staff recommended approval, the ZBA voted 5-0 for a special use permit with the stipulations seen in the resolution. Ms. Gunter explained that since the county has not yet approved a solar ordinance, the stipulations were assembled from the current draft ordinance.

Mr. Meachum asked if the petitioner was ok with all of it. Ms. Gunter confirmed.

Mr. Meachum made a motion to approve forwarding to the full County Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Brown, and the motion carried 8-0.

SUBDIVISIONS – None

REPORTS

Planning & Zoning – No Report

Animal Control

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations in the FY18 Animal Control Budget

Sgt. Reynolds explained that the department has recently found itself in need of a new pickup truck for a warden. They have a 2008 Ford truck with almost 145,000 miles that is in disrepair. It will cost more to repair than what it is worth. An amendment to the Animal Control budget for the appropriation of \$26,815.94 for the purchase of a new warden vehicle. Bids were obtained from 3 different dealerships and two places that would provide the needed accessories that go with the truck. He also gave the committee a list of current vehicles in the Animal Control fleet.

Mr. Meachum asked if the Sheriff's department would have to increase their total budget for this. Sgt. Reynolds explained that they would not. This is an appropriation from the animal control fund.

Chair Dudley asked if the attached bid was the lowest bid. Sgt. Reynolds confirmed it was. Chair Dudley asked if the truck would do what they need for it to do. Sgt. Reynolds confirmed that it would.

Ms. Kraft asked what would happen to the old truck. Sgt. Reynolds said it would go to the auction. Ms. Kraft asked what would happen to the money. Sgt. Reynolds said it would go back into the fund.

Chair Dudley asked if they would offer the truck out to the townships first like the Highway Department does. Sgt. Reynolds said they generally just send them to surplus auction.

Ms. Kraft made a motion to approve forwarding to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Meachum, and the motion carried 8-0.

Sgt Reynolds distributed statistics and offered to answer questions. Currently there are about 25 adoptable pets.

Veteran's Assistance - No Report

Health Department –

Ms. Heyer reported that their nurses have been going around to the high schools giving the meningitis vaccine to students that are 16 or in their senior year. Students also need this vaccine when they are 11 or 12. This is a booster dose and it protects against the meningitis B disease. This is the disease that can be life threatening. Sometimes there are outbreaks in colleges so it is important that the vaccine is offered to the students and it is convenient for them to get it in the school if the parent approves so they can be protected.

Across the US, since March 7, 2018, there have been 155 cases including 4 deaths from the use of synthetic cannabis or synthetic weed. These products have been causing severe bleeding. The most common age range is 25 – 34, but it starts as young as 15 and goes up to 55+. It can be purchased in quick markets, convenience stores, dealers, and friends. It is also called K2 Spice, synthetic marijuana, and legal weed. If anyone has purchased this, especially in the past month, it should not be used. If they have been used and unexplained bleeding or bruising is seen, that person should be taken to the emergency room immediately or call 911. They should not drive. It is a human made, mind altering substance that can have the same effect as weed. They believe some of this may have rat poison in it that is causing the bleeding.

A multi-state breakout of E-coli that causes severe diarrhea and can affect kidneys and cause death. There have been a total of 84 people across 19 states as of April 25 that have been diagnosed. Illinois has had 1. It is believed that it is coming from Romaine lettuce from Yuma, AZ. Most packages do not indicate the growing region, so it is best not to buy or eat any type of romaine lettuce.

Mr. Meachum thanked Ms. Heyer for the department's hard work on keeping the restaurants in town. He said he has had several people ask why we are seeing this now and his reply is that they are doing their job and keeping you healthy. Ms. Heyer explained that the newspaper has contacted them wanting to do a story on the issue. She said they are wanting to convey their story of why they do what they do. She said the newspaper has submitted a FOIA request asking for a list of all restaurants closed in the last 5 years. She said they've had to stop everything they're doing and go through 5 years worth of files. Mr. Meachum said they've noticed and he has explained to them that the health department is out there doing their job and assuring that when we go to restaurants, we are eating safe foods.

Ms. Heyer said she wants to work over the next year or so on getting electronic medical records systems. It is available for environmental health and all records would be on the computer and could just be pulled up. She said they are still operating in the paper world.

Environmental Management –

Ms. Rasmus reported that Valley View is the only active landfill in Macon County. The Environmental Management Department inspects it on a regular basis. There is a 21 acre section that has received its final cap. That is an older section that received its final cover last year. It is being certified closed even this year. A new cell was built last year and it opened this year. Waste is being placed in that cell now. As they continue to expand in the future, they will move further to the east.

The IEPA Delegated Enforcement Program - reimbursements have been received from the state in a timely manner. The IEPA wishes to delegate the inspection of retail tire facilities to the counties. They expect to offer additional funding beyond what was being funded for the current enforcement program for this proposed additional work. The details have not been fully worked out by the IEPA. Right now they are trying to gauge interest. She encouraged committee members to share their thoughts on that. Mr. Meachum asked if a cost analysis would be done on what it would cost the department with staff, vehicle, fringes, etc. to do the work for the state. Ms. Rasmus confirmed that they would. She said the details of what the funding would

be have not been worked out. She also was not sure of how many retail tire sales sites there are in Macon County. She thought it might be about 2 dozen. They wouldn't all be hit every year, but they are proposing once every 3 to 5 years. Mr. Meachum said he did not want us to go into something where we end up using our resources to pay more than what we receive from the state to do this work. He said he's seen in the past where the state has delegate to other agencies, say they're going to pay, and then don't. He said he has big concerns about that. Ms. Rasmus said they would hear more once more details are available and a decision could be made at that time.

Ms. Rasmus updated the committee on the acquisition of the 110 acres off Wyckles Road. The sales agreement for the land has been signed by both the sellers and the county. The DPBC commissioners expect to sign on May 3rd and the City of Decatur will follow. Regarding the contingency activities in the agreement, those are being fulfilled now prior to closing. The Phase I Environmental Study has been completed and the report is now being compiled. The land survey has been finished and that report is also being compiled. The seeding for the vegetative cover has been specified. In regard to the proposed recycling and compost facility, the cost projections for building constructions are being finalized. Preliminaries are being done to prepare for the preparation of an application for a compost facility permit.

Regarding collections that have been held in 2018, there have been 5 electronics collections so far that brought in 701 TV monitors with 465 people in attendance. A paper shred event was held on April 17th with 96 people in attendance. Two paint collections have been held during April so far with 176 people in attendance.

Regional Office of Education - No Report

Mental Health – No report

Historical Museum No report

U of I Extension No Report

Citizen's Remarks –

Amber Miller, 1225 Brentwood Place, Joliet, IL with Geronimo Energy
She said she was aware that this is a new process for the county and that the solar ordinance is still underway. She said the staff has been very good to work with and thanked them for their hard work because it is not an easy process. She offered their assistance if anyone has questions regarding solar because they are a good resource to help educate people, boards or commissions. She said they are available to offer additional information on solar in general.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS – None

Closed Session – None needed

NEXT MEETING Next regular meeting –May 24, 2018

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Potts, the motion carried 8-0 and Chair Dudley adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office