

# MINUTES

## KANKAKEE COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

**MARCH 28, 2006**

### IN ATTENDANCE

Members:

George Washington, Dave Bergdahl, Frank Koehler, Rich Howell, Craig Bayston, Chad Miller, Jim Tripp, Mel Blanchette, and Loretto Cowhig

Others:

Mike Van Mill, Eric Sadler, Donna Shehane, Kankakee County; Ron Swager, Patrick Engineering

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Washington called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.

### MINUTES

Mr. Bayston moved that the minutes of the January 24, 2006 meeting be approved. Mr. Miller seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Lee Marcotte – Ms. Marcotte commented regarding the update of the Kankakee County Solid Waste Management Plan. She was concerned with the potential contamination of aquifers within the County.

Mike Watson – Mr. Watson commented regarding the update of the Kankakee County Solid Waste Management Plan. He stated that there was little or no advertisement of public notice for the hearings regarding the update. Mr. Watson also stated that the Draft Plan leaves out the history of the Volini site in the City of Kankakee, the Otto Township Ordinance to prohibit burying waste, the recent Sammons Point incorporation, and that the Kankakee County Board has already rejected the approval of the Waste Management Site. He also would like the Plan to focus more on gasification and the transferring of garbage to another site.

Keith Runyon – Mr. Runyon commented regarding the update of the Kankakee County Solid Waste Management Plan. He urged the Planning Commission to table the adoption of the Plan because he believes the Plan is flawed, and narrowly focuses on the Waste Management site. He also believes the Draft Plan validates the Volini site, located in the City of Kankakee. Mr. Runyon stated that there is a false analysis of land filling versus alternative technologies.

Chris Bohlen (representing the City of Kankakee) – Mr. Bohlen commented regarding the update of the Kankakee County Solid Waste Management Plan. Mr. Bohlen doesn't believe the law was followed in updating the Plan, he cited a lack of public involvement, copies of the Draft Plan were never sent to municipalities for their review/comment, and the Plan doesn't encourage intergovernmental cooperation. He doesn't agree with the language in the Plan stating that the County has the authority over all landfills regardless of location. Mr. Bohlen also stated the Plan doesn't make reference to the approved Town and Country landfill. Mr. Bohlen believes the Plan is flawed legally on the facts and violates the Illinois Constitution.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **LAND USE**

No update

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

No update

### **SOLID WASTE**

Donna Shehane introduced Ron Swager of Patrick Engineering. Mr. Swager gave a presentation outlining the Kankakee Solid Waste Management Plan.

Following Mr. Swager's presentation, Mr. Bayston made a motion to send the Plan back to the Solid Waste Subcommittee for further review and discussion and make recommendation to the County Board, Mr. Blanchette seconded.

Ms. Cowhig requested additional time to review the Plan, comments submitted by the Public, and Staffs response to those comments. Ms. Cowhig made a motion to bring the Plan back before the full Commission after further review by the Solid Waste Subcommittee. Mr. Bergdahl stated that he believes with the issues regarding solid waste within the County, current/pending litigation he would like to see the Plan approved by the Planning Commission as soon as possible and to County Board for their consideration.

Discussion followed to clarify the motions that were on the table. Mr. Bayston agreed to amend his motion to bring the Plan back before the full Commission and Mr. Blanchette also agreed, and the vote was unanimous.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Mr. Koehler gave an update of the issues/projects that the Transportation Subcommittee was involved with. The Metra Feasibility Task Force will be meeting next month to select a consultant to conduct Phase II of extending commuter rail service to the area. Mr. Koehler stated that they have received notice that funding was approved for the study by the Illinois Department of Transportation. Mr. Koehler advised the Commission that IDOT is expected to make an announcement regarding the 6000 N. Road Interchange within the next four to six weeks. Mr. Koehler stated that IDOT is looking at replacing and upgrading overpasses along I-57 at 4000 & 5000 N. Roads. Lastly, he stated that the Committee continues to monitor the status of the proposed airport near Peotone.

## **NEW / OLD BUSINESS**

There was no new or old business.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Chairman Washington stated that the next meeting would be Tuesday, May 23, 2006.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Koehler moved to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Bergdahl seconded. Chairman Washington adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:10 P.M.