

LEE COUNTY RENEWABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

Ad Hoc Meeting

March 3, 2022, at 9:00 AM

County Board Room
Old Lee County Courthouse, Dixon, Illinois

Zoom Video- & Tele-conferencing

Meeting ID: 828 7215 0974

Password: 797986

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTuucbeiJFU&t=64s>

Appointed Committee Members

Chris Norberg – Chair
Marilyn Shippert
Tom Kitson
Tom Wilson
Danielle Allen
Dave Bally
Bob Olson

Advisory Members

Dee Duffy, Zoning Administrator
Alice Henkel, Renewable Energy Coordinator/Clerk
Charley Boonstra, State's Attorney

At 9:00 AM, Acting Chair Tom Kitson called the meeting to order.

Acting Chair Kitson called for roll call of members of the committee and county staff.

Appointed Members present: Shippert, Kitson, Allen,
Appointed Members absent: Norberg, Wilson, Bally, Olson
Acting Member for 3/3/2022: John Nicholson

Advisory Members present: Duffy, Henkel, Boonstra
Advisory Members absent: None

The following visitors were present:

Len Saunders, Jr., Business Agent with Carpenter's Local 790
Adam Henkel, Lee County Farm Bureau President
Martha Johannson, Interested Party
Curtis Cook, P.E. – Chastain & Associates, LLC
Chris Henkel, Independent Consultant
Will Hantzmon, Associate Development Manager at Hexagon Energy
Scott Reamer, Director of Development at Hexagon Energy (via ZOOM)
Emily Skill, Enel
Steven Hall, Ameresco (via ZOOM)
Mark Zwieg, Senior Director of Development for Summit Ridge Energy
Anthony Neve, Recall Strategies

Under old business, was the solar ordinance update, the pipeline ordinance discussion and the wind energy conversion systems ordinance update. Renewable Energy Coordinator Alice Henkel explained that at the February meeting of the Lee County Board, the Board approved the agreement with Chastain and Associates, LLC (“Chastain”). Under the County’s agreement with Chastain, they will be taking over the preparation of the ordinances for wind, solar, and pipeline. Ms. Henkel stated she would be meeting with Chastain after this meeting to establish a plan for moving forward on those ordinances.

Also under old business was an update on the Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) with the City of Amboy with regard to the proposed biogas facility. Ms. Henkel explained that the MOU had been drafted and forwarded to the attorney for the City of Amboy (“the City”). To her knowledge, no response from the City had been received at the time of the meeting.

Lastly under old business was the battery energy storage systems ordinance discussion. At the last meeting of this committee, Enel had provided a draft ordinance for battery energy storage systems. There were no comments from the committee regarding the draft. Ms. Henkel explained that Chastain would also be assisting the County with developing an ordinance for battery energy storage systems.

There was no other old business.

There was no new business.

Under comments from visitors, John Nicholson said that LCIDA and Blackhawk Hills Regional Council have concerns about how utility solar developments located near municipalities may affect future growth of that municipality. They would like to see the County amend its solar ordinance so that it prohibits a special use permit for solar form being granted without a municipality’s agreement within one (1) mile of the city limits if the land is either identified as commercial/industrial in the municipality’s current land use plan; or, if there is evidence of development investment having already taken place such as creating a subdivision or building out infrastructure. Mr. Nicholson provided a copy of an e-mail from LCIDA stating same to Ms. Henkel that she will provide to Chastain.

There was no other business.

There was no executive session.

The next meeting will be April 7, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

At 9:22 a.m., Danielle Allen made a motion to adjourn.

*Live feed can be viewed on **YouTube** at [Lee County Renewable Energy Committee – 03/03/22](#).*

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Henkel