

# **LEE COUNTY RENEWABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE**

## **Ad Hoc Meeting**

**May 26, 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=eShlxa\\_zLXE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eShlxa_zLXE)

#### **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, Chair Chris Norberg called the meeting to order.

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

Appointed Members present: Norberg, Shippert, Kitson

Appointed Members absent: Allen, Wilson, Bally, Olson

Advisory Members present: Duffy

Advisory Members absent: Henkel, Boonstra

The next order of business was the approval of the minutes for the May 3, 2022 meeting. The minutes were approved as written.

Chair Norberg proceeded to the pipeline ordinance discussion. Stephanie Brown with Chastain and Associates ("Chastain") was present via ZOOM. Zoning Administrator Dee Duffy presented some changes suggested by County Engineer Dave Anderson suggested. The committee agreed his suggestions should be incorporated into the draft.

Member Bob Olson arrived.

Member Tom Kitson made a motion to forward the draft pipeline ordinance to the Properties Committee once Mr. Anderson's suggestions have been incorporated into the draft. A second was discerned, and there was no debate. A vote was taken, and the ayes prevailed. Motion passed, 4-0.

Chair Norberg proceeded with the review of the renewable energies survey. Some of the highlights noted were the majority of the responses were from Dixon and Amboy residents; the public seems to favor community solar more so than large scale/utility solar; the public seems to have some concerns about how these projects will affect property values; there is a public concerned regarding wildlife; and overall general concern regarding battery energy storage systems.

Scott Reamer with Hexagon Solar spoke about the positive impact solar projects may have on wildlife. Gordy Simanton with SolarStone agreed with Mr. Reamer and noted that they have raised fences several feet off of the ground in areas of known animal migration to allow the animals to travel through the area. Attorney Courtney Kennedy noted that these companies typically hire a wildlife consultant to address any wildlife issues. She also said there are typically setbacks for environmentally sensitive areas.

With regard to the concerns surrounding battery energy storage systems, Chair Norberg feels that it reflects the fear of the unknown.

Chair Norberg stressed that this committee is aware of the urgency to get these ordinances completed but also wants to make sure they are done correctly. He intends to meet with Chastain several times over the next month to get hopefully get the wind and solar drafts completed.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be cancelled however if the wind and solar drafts are not ready.

There was no other old business.

There was no new business.

There was no other business.

There was no executive session.

At 9:27 a.m., Tom Kitson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded, and there was no debate. A vote was taken, and all were in favor. Motion passed, 4-0.

*Live feed can be viewed on **YouTube** at [Lee County Renewable Energy Committee – 05/26/22](#).*

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Henkel