

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
OF AUGUST 17, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M.

Members Present: Dick Joyce, Jackie McKinney, and Dick Steele

Committee Members Absent: Greg Redford and John Galloway

County Board Members Present: None

Staff Present: Dan Duffy, Heidi Miller, Lisa Kneller, and Karen Campbell

Public present: Don J. Hansen, City of Morris Alderman

Location: Grundy County Administration Center, 1320 Union Street, Morris, IL

**I. Meeting Called To Order**

Dick Joyce called the meeting to order.

**II. Roll Call**

Three members were present from the committee including staff and the above listed public representation.

**III. Minutes Approval**

A motion was made by Dick Steele and seconded by Jackie McKinney to approve the July 20<sup>th</sup> 2009, minutes. The motion carried.

**IV. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**V. Claims**

Joyce asked for a motion to approve the claims. McKinney motioned, Steele seconded. Motion passed.

**VI. Additions to Agenda**

Joyce asked if there was anything to add. There was nothing.

**VII. Technician Report**

Kneller reported that she is currently working on the Green Guide for Schools for administrators and teachers and free educational information and materials are being researched and collected on plastics, foam packaging and glass that eventually can be loaned to classrooms in the area schools. The Green

Guide will contain information on good websites for recycling information, green cleaning in the schools, different contests that the state conducts and other informative environmental information. The first installment of the quarterly newsletter is being completed to be sent electronically to all teachers in the Grundy County schools. Kneller will conduct a demonstration with the landfill model and speak on recycling to Ms. Jelm's class on the week of September 14<sup>th</sup>. Kneller and Campbell visited the Smart Home – Green and Wired exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry which showcases an “Eco” Home, Chicago's Greenest Home and incorporates five eco-principles throughout the home, demonstrating sustainability and environmental conscientiousness in action, smart design, material efficiency, energy efficiency, water efficiency and healthy environment.

Kneller plans on taking orders for compost bins at the next French Country Market which will be held on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009, and October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009, in Morris. The office was contacted regarding participating in the Morris Illinois River Sweep, but the date doesn't necessarily work to be on-site that day but our services were offered for promotion of the event. Miller contacted the event coordinator to see what is being done with recyclables, but the event coordinator said that due to the large volume of materials that is collected they are unable to recycle anything.

Kneller discussed that Sarah Peterson from the Grundy County Chamber of Commerce & Industry contacted her to speak at the August meeting of the Morris Business & Professional Women's Group because the topic for this month is “going green”. This will be a good opportunity to discuss the County's efforts in promoting green businesses and distribute Green Guides. With only one compost bin left, a new order was placed, but there was a price increase and to cover this increase the price for the new compost bins will be increased to \$50.00 rather than the old price of \$45.00 and press releases and posters will reflect this change in price.

Kneller reported that on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009, she and James Leonard, Director, of Environmental Health for Grundy County went along with employees from the IEPA who tested three wells and basically, it was the three individuals that had requested for their wells to be tested for over a hundred different chemicals and natural occurring materials. Those addresses are listed in the report and each one of those tests actually lasts probably from 35 minutes to an hour. The IEPA finds the spigot next to the outside of the well and they let it run for fifteen minutes, that way it clears itself of potentially anything that can cross contaminate the sample itself and then they have approximately twenty different containers which they top off to make sure there is no air in the container and then it is sealed, marked and then they do a control sample, tape it and fill out a chain of custody form. This particular sampling was conducted by Gino Bruni, Field Agent for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Mark Retzlaff from the Bureau of Land, and their supervisor Chuck Grigalauski, Regional Manager for IEPA- Des Plaines Office. Joyce asked if they said why they tested three wells, was there a time factor. Kneller stated those were the three people who requested after our last meeting that had actually called the IEPA to have their wells tested. Kneller said it was all done through the IEPA and they had a courtesy contact with James Leonard, Director of Environmental Health for Grundy County and the Grundy County Office of Solid Waste Management has no involvement with this testing. Joyce said the IEPA is paying for this testing of these three wells and two of these wells were tested before and they have the records so this will be a baseline to compare it with. Joyce said he asked Gino Bruni before they left that day how many items they were testing for and he said over one hundred. Kneller said that she expressed to Chuck Grigalauski that time is of the essence for receiving results of those tests. Gino Bruni stated that the process that follows is those containers go to

Springfield and they are tested by the IEPA laboratory and the results go to the IDPH and their toxicologist reviews those and from there the reports are made and the time limit for the results are about a month and a half. The landfill tour was on Friday and they had the groundwater testing station with representatives from CEC, along with Allied/Republic personnel, the hydrogeologist Eric Ballenger and they were answering questions. Joyce responded that he felt they did a good job of explaining on how they fused the liner and took you to the top of the landfill and explained the procedure, water testing sampling and to the plant that converts methane gas to energy.

Joyce informed the committee that last Wednesday night he went to a CMAP meeting in Yorkville and on every table for four people they had these little things the size of a credit card with buttons on it to vote. They showed how all these different criteria of growth and how it affects the traffic, housing, water use and then with this card it had 0 through 9 and you could vote and they would show you different things they are planning for the next 40 years. They would show on the screen low density like individual housing, townhouses or condos and high rise apartments and then you could vote on which housing would be the best for the next forty years. The results would be displayed on a screen. Miller said if we have more population growth in Grundy County then we could start to be included in the eleven counties of CMAP.

#### **VIII. New Business**

Joyce asked if there was any new business. There was none.

#### **IX. Old Business**

Joyce asked if there was any old business. There was none.

#### **X. Executive Session**

A motion was made by Dick Steele and seconded by Jackie McKinney to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Executive Session minutes – 5ILCS 120/2(c)(21). Karen Campbell and Lisa Kneller along with the public attendee left the meeting. Upon roll call, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Jackie McKinney and seconded by Dick Steele to return to Open Session. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Dick Steele and seconded by Jackie McKinney to approve the Executive Session minutes of May 28, 2002, June 24, 2008 and March 16, 2009. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Dick Steele and seconded by Jackie McKinney to release the Executive Session minutes of May 28, 2002, June 24, 2008 and March 16, 2009. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Jackie McKinney and seconded by Dick Steele to destroy the Executive Session tapes of March 27, 2007 and August 28, 2007 which have met the eighteen month time limit. The motion carried.

#### **XI. Adjournment**

Joyce asked for a motion adjournment. Jackie McKinney motioned, Steele seconded. Motion passed.

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