

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 30, 2018 Minutes

H. H. Purdy Building

Commissioner Bardwell called the special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held at the H.H. Purdy Building in the City of Caro, Michigan, on the 30th day of August 2018, to order at 10:02 o'clock a.m. local time.

Prayer – Commissioner Bierlein

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Young

Roll Call – Clerk Jodi Fetting

Commissioners Present: District 1 - Thomas Young, District 2 - Thomas Bardwell, District 3 - Kim Vaughan, District 5 – Matthew Bierlein

Commissioner Absent: District 4 - Craig Kirkpatrick,

Also Present: Mike Hoagland, Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Tisha Jones- Holubec, Mike Miller, Steve Anderson, BJ Roach, Jim Tussey, Nancy Laskowski, Art Graff, Carmell Pattullo, Mark Jensen, Sandy Nielsen, Mary Brissette, Ken Hecht, Jim McLoskey, Jeff Damon, Norm Stephens, Erico Lopez, Drain Commissioner Bob Mantey, Jonathan Lauderbach, John Schneider, Garrett Tetil, Dan Grimshaw

Adoption of Agenda -

18-M-143

Motion by Young, seconded by Bierlein to adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only -

- Nancy Laskowski - Provided handouts to the Board and spoke in reference to the Juniata Wind Turbine project. Nancy referenced the Airport Zoning Ordinance and permit application. Nancy also discussed driveway permits that were issued.

Consent Agenda Resolution - None

New Business - None

Old Business -

-Reaffirming Proper Permitting Procedures by County Entities Involved in the Nextera Project -

-Commissioner Bardwell provided an overview as to why the Special Meeting was called.

-Commissioner Young provided an update from the meeting that Commissioner Young and Commissioner Bardwell had with the Road Commission regarding the issuance of driveway permits. The Road Commission stated no driveways were constructed prior to a driveway permit being issued.

-Mike Hoagland provided an update from a conversation that he had with Curtis Stowe. From that conversation, Mike Hoagland gathered that Curtis was confident the permits were issued properly.

-Drain Commissioner Mantey explained the direction of the Drain Commissioner's Office for soil erosion in regards to the county drains.

-Commissioner Bierlein expressed concern that the necessary players to answer questions were not in attendance at the meeting.

-Garrett Tetil stated that the County has oversight of the Airport Zoning Ordinance and Building Codes. He stated there are construction sites located within the airport zones that exclude wind turbines. Garrett stated that permits should not have been issued as the conditions have not been met and would like the permits pulled with suspension of the project. He stated they are trying to leverage the County as an avenue to suspend the project.

-Ken Hecht would like to involve the Airport Administrator in regards to the applications that have been filed in order to verify the heights are in compliance.

-Erico Lopez stated they have met with the former Airport Administrator regarding the ordinance. He stated once the FAA has granted permission then they will contact the new Airport Administrator to finalize. They have had preliminary discussions with the new Airport Administrator.

-Jim Tussey expressed the importance of the airport to his businesses and asked the Commissioners to protect the airport. He feels that NextEra is pushing this project through by starting the bases before receiving the FAA approval.

-Mary Brissette expressed concern that Curtis Stowe was not in attendance to answer questions at the meeting today.

Correspondence/Resolutions - None

Other Business as Necessary - None

Extended Public Comment -

-Ken Hecht suggested a Commissioner serve on the Airport Zoning Board of Appeals as a liaison.

-Norm Stephens presented a quote to the Board.

-Art Graff addressed the Board regarding the process of permits required to build a house and it should be the same for wind turbines.

-Dan Grimshaw stated in the title industry that construction is defined as the first day dirt is moved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk