

**TUSCOLA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro, Michigan 48723**

Minutes

Wednesday, February 5, 2014 @ 5:00 P.M. – Commissioners' Conference Room

- I. CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

- II. ROLL CALL – Present: Raymundo Cortez, Zygmunt Dworzecki, Aaron Gyrko, Lonnie Kester (arrived at 5:27 P.M.), Louis Smallwood, Ione Vyse
Absent Excused: Cynthia Kapa and Board Representative: Christine Trisch
Guests: Bill Campbell**

- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
A motion was made by Zygy and seconded by Lou to approve the minutes from last month's meeting. Motion Carried.**

- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
A motion was made by Zygy and seconded by Ray to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Carried.**

- V. PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

- VI. COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:
Columbia Township Letter: A proposed new master plan is in the works and is on track because it has been sent to all the surrounding townships.
Pipeline Safety Brochure: A brochure was sent to the Planning Commission that reviewed the safety procedures for dealing with pipelines. This is necessary given that domestic production of gas and oil will continue to increase in the future.
Items added to the agenda: Old Business C. and D.; New Business D. and E.; Other On-Going Business C.; For The Good Of The Order A., B. and C.**

- VII. OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. Citizen Planner:
Lou had trouble opening the attachment in the format that was sent to him and is working to resolve that at present time. Ray and Aaron have not yet signed up for Citizen Planner.**

 - B. Historical Resources Project:
The Historical Resources Project that Ione is working on is coming together. She met with a technical worker to put together the website and has sent out letters to the municipalities asking for historical sites, so they can contribute and participate with the project, as well. The Michigan Historical Society sent Ione the 250 historic farms**

that reside in Tuscola County and requested a "linkback" which will allow them to see the site when it is finished. Ione predicts the site will be operational in sixty days.

C. Local Visitations Communications:

Ray visited the Village of Gagetown and was impressed with their politeness and self-sufficiency. Ray looked at a map they had requested from MDOT and found it to be too generic to be useful and explained to them about GIS. Lonnie is finishing visits from last year, with Arbela Township being the last stop.

D. GIS Report:

Ray has requested information and it is coming in from Vassar. Ray has collected information and the next step will be for the Equalization Department to train its workers in the Eseri GIS program and most likely will require after hours effort. Ray has spoken with Mike Hoagland about this training. The county already has the Eseri program in its possession over at Mosquito Abatement. A plat was last done in 2008 and the Eseri program could take this and turn it into shapes for the purpose of GIS mapping.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. PA 116: Wisner, Dinsmoore

Lou made a motion to recommend approval of PA 116 in Wisner Township for the Dinsmoores and Aaron seconded it. Motion Carried.

B. PA 116: Dayton Township

This PA 116 was not addressed this month due to Cindy's absence.

C. Zoning Ordinance Amendment: Village of Mayville

Mayville changed the enforcement section of its zoning ordinance. Ione checked it with the criteria sheet and found it met the necessary requirements. Ione made a motion to recommend approval for the change to the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of Mayville. It was seconded by Zygy. Motion Carried.

D. Letter of Approval:

Zygy met with Frank Starkweather, in Cass City, who started a non-profit that wants to complete the water trail in the tip of the thumb and connect it to the Saginaw Bay Water Trail. A letter of support is needed to submit to the USDA for their grant application. Zygy predicts the grant could be 4-8 thousand dollars. Lonnie made a motion to approve the letter of support for the Arenac County EDC and the motion was seconded by Lou. Motion carried.

E. Spring Grants:

The 2014 Spring Grants were released by the Tuscola County Community Foundation. See the attached sheet for all the totals available from the different foundations giving money for community activities.

IX. OTHER ON-GOING BUSINESS:

A. Parks and Recreations Report: None

B. Local Government Report: None

C. Law Review:

Zygy made us aware of House Bill No. 4885, No. 5254 and No. 5255. No. 4885 gives tax breaks to oil companies. No. 5254 and No.5255 allow more processes for extracting oil, like CO₂, and allowing oil companies to access private land without landowner's permission or objection, so they can reopen old capped wells. Issues like these will become more and more prevalent as domestic oil production is increased now and in the future.

X. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Ione sent out a sympathy card from the Planning Commission to Christine Trisch, who was absent last month because her mother had passed away.

A. Contact List:

A new contact list was handed out and Lou's cell phone number was updated, as well.

B. Township List:

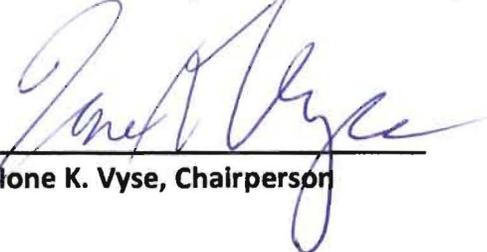
A new list of this year's township visitations was to be handed out but will be corrected and handed out next month.

C. Board of Review:

Lonnie made us aware that the State wants to make the Board of Review (which reviews contested tax rates) a County level organization, not a local level organization, which it is now.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Ione adjourned the meeting at 6:03 P.M.


Ione K. Vyse, Chairperson


Aaron Gyurko, Secretary