

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/
ENVIRONMENTAL/WELFARE/ZONING
COMMITTEE MINUTES
April 10, 2019**

Present: Phil Schneider, Chairman
Charles DeClerck, Linda Curtin, Dale Livingston, Craig Corzine
Absent: None
Others present: Becky Edwards, Cliff Frye, Bruce Engeling, Chad Coady, Vince Harris,
Brett Rahar, Zach Hicks, Mike McClure, Mellissa McMillan, Tom
Latonis, many interested parties in wind farms and Jan Bland

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called for on Wednesday April 10, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Public comments were called for prior to each agenda item.

COURTHOUSE UPDATES:

Zach Hicks reported:

- The final area of the air conditioning project was being completed and then the ceiling tiles on the third floor could be replaced.
- He has found two more leaks in the courthouse roof and has called Bill Kennedy.
- The outside Ameren lighting upgrade has been completed and the incentive money received.
- The change out of lightbulbs in the courthouse is almost completed.

Cliff Frye reported:

- Two of the four footings have been formed. When coordination with staff, weather and courthouse business coincides, the concrete will be poured.

LACTATION ROOM/AREA TO BECOME AVAILABLE

According to the State statute by June 1, 2019, the court systems must have available a private room/area, not in a restroom, for the purpose of mothers to express milk. Chief Deputy Bruce Engeling reported that a client/attorney room next to the elevator on the third floor will be the designated room. An arm chair is needed and signage designating the location. This notice will also be posted in all offices as this location will also be available to employees for the same purpose.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS:

Cliff Frye reported:

PANA BRIDGE #21 ENGINEERING AGREEMENT

A preliminary engineering agreement with Greene & Bradford, Inc. to update the plans for Pana Bridge #21 was presented. The structure was originally designed in 2006 but was shelved due to a lack of State funding. A change in the law for tax cap counties now allows State funding for

Pana Township and the plans need to be brought up to current standards. The contract is on an actual cost plus basis with a not to exceed amount of \$30,000. The Township Bridge Program will pay 80% of the final cost. A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Charlie DeClerck to approve the agreement with Greene & Bradford and authorize the County Board Chairman to execute the agreement. The motion carried.

ASSUMPTION BRIDGE #17

The contractor has started construction of Assumption Bridge #17. The project should be completed within two months.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Melissa Jones, Chair of the Christian County Taskforce for the National Day of Prayer has requested to use the north side of the courthouse lawn at noon on Thursday, May 2 to hold a prayer observance for approximately one hour. A second request is for Sunday, September 8 to hold a Bible Blitz on the courthouse lawn for the 100 participants to encircle the courthouse during the afternoon. A motion was made by Phil Schneider and seconded by Craig Corzine to grant the requests. The motion carried.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY ORDINANCE 2008 REGULATING THE SITING OF WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS THAT IS ON FILE

Committee Chairman Phil Schneider asked for public comments prior to the committee's review of the 2008 ordinance.

The following are public comments and opinions:

George Hiler-has concerns of the negative impact of the towers to family, real estate property values, health and cast shadows, how it might affect other areas, and public safety.

Len Corzine-His theme was about the legacy of his family farm and the good quality of the land for crops and livestock. His desire is "to leave the land better than he found it". Towers hinder the tillage planting, tiles could be affected, and homes will stop being built in the area of the towers.

Ted Hartke presented a video about his experience with a tower too close to his home and sleep deprivation which affected his family.

Nancy Handegan representing the Christian County Farm Bureau noted that the Farm Bureau does not take a stand on the wind energy towers. Their role is in hopes that neighbors do not pit themselves against one another. They suggest that the ordinance protect the land and for landowners to be aware of the agreements.

Phil Hartke—He commented on his son's presentation noting the personality changes in his family.

Kurt Corzine—His comments were the passion he has about his land and the noise.

Charlie DeClerck asked “what will the Board do about this”. Chairwoman Becky Edwards’ response was “We will evaluate all aspects of the towers, the needs of the landowners and the county”. The current ordinance needs to be reviewed.

Current zoning officer Vince Harris and former zoning officer Brett Rahar commented about the setbacks being outdated from the new towers and also the height of the towers in the ordinance. It was noted that there are currently temporary meteorological towers recording wind data—no permits are required. Additionally, many land use agreements have been recorded. The completion of any of these projects has two to four years before construction of the towers. Additional information and speakers will be invited to future meetings to give the board members further information before making changes in the current ordinance.

A motion was made by Charles DeClerck and seconded by Phil Schneider to adjourn. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Schneider, Chairman
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning/Welfare Committee
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