

**Venango County Regional Planning Commission
Minutes
Meeting July 15th, 2014**

Those present at the public meeting of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission held at Room 100, Courthouse Annex in Franklin at 6:30PM.

Present:

Willis Thomas - City of Oil City Citizen
Barb Crudo – Oil City Mayor
Bob Cross – Oil City Controller
Albert Abramovic – City of Franklin Citizen
Mike Swatzler – Venango Conservation District
Dave Owens – Polk Borough Mayor
John McClelland – Sugarcreek Borough Council
Fred Krizinsky – Mineral Township Supervisor
Ken Garland – Victory Township Citizen
Beth Graham Stumpf – Franklin School Board

Excused:

Keith Klingler - Oil Creek Township Citizen
Nick Melnick – Cornplanter Township Citizen
Rodney Gladd – Clintonville Borough Council

Absent:

Brian Stoltenburg – City of Oil City Citizen

Guests:

Garnet Wood –Franklin City Council
Bonnie Summers - Commissioner
Vince Witherup – Commissioner
Sheila Boughner - Press
Debb Kapp – Public
Karen Wenner – VC Housing
Lucy Walter – VC Humane Society
Barbara McGarvey - Public

Staff Present:

Jason Ruggiero
Erik Johnson
Judy Barrett

Monthly board meeting called to order by Bob Cross at 6:30PM.

A majority was present for the meeting. The attendance of 10 board members (of the 14 current appointees) was accounted for by Erik Johnson.

Approval of Minutes

Barb Crudo made a motion to ratify the minutes from the April 15th, 2014 meeting; seconded by Willis Thomas; so moved by those present. Fred Krizinsky made a motion to accept the minutes as presented from May 19th, 2014 meeting; seconded by Dave Owens; so moved.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

- None

SPECIAL PURPOSE MATTERS

- Karen Wenner presented on the Draft Land Bank Ordinance currently out for public comment and on display on the County website. She gave a brief history of the legislation and its purpose to the commission. She explained the main purpose of the Land Bank is to help communities with blight issues, properties in disrepair / foreclosures. It utilizes a revolving fund stream for purchasing and rehabbing properties and any profit will go back into the program. She advised that it would not use eminent domain to obtain properties and that the County is looking at possibly utilizing some of these rehabbed properties to house clients of the low income/subsidized housing program via the Housing Authority in the County. Commissioner Vince Witherup stated that the intent of this program is for it to be used as a tool for the County to work with municipalities for the benefit of the municipality; and, does not intend on dictating to the municipalities how the program will be used in their township/borough/city. He also advised that no General Fund tax dollars will be used towards any funding purposes regarding the program. Karen Wenner added that the Land Bank is advantageous for the municipalities because residential structures to be included in the program are currently off the tax rolls – most are vacant or abandoned. Commissioner Bonnie Summers reaffirmed that the County's role is to work with the municipalities and not force anything on them regarding the program.
- Erik Johnson presented the 2014 Venango Co. Solid Waste & Recycling Update agenda item summary before the board requesting action on Item II of the memo. Bob Cross asked the board for a motion for the ratification of the May 19th meeting motion to recommend the plan on to DEP, Commissioners and to announce opening of the Public Comment Period, Willis Thomas made that motion, seconded by Dave Owens; so moved. Additionally, a motion was made for recommendation for inclusion of addendum for meeting minutes from November 2013, between County Commissioners, Erik Johnson and Nestor Resources, Inc.), by Barb Crudo, seconded by Willis Thomas; so moved.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

- Jason Ruggiero presented a re-submission to board regarding the previous Humane Society Land Development. He gave a brief history of the previous submission and advised that the applicant is now changing the parking lot for the approved pervious to impervious – and will now require stormwater mitigation. He advised the applicant's engineer revised the stormwater plan accordingly and that it is consistent with the County SALDO and Cranberry Twp. stormwater ordinance. Jason asked that a motion be made to approve the revised plan in accordance with item II on the agenda briefing summary, motion made by Ken Garland, seconded by Fred Krizinsky; so moved.

- Jason Ruggiero addressed the rumors that a Taco Bell is coming to the area. He stated that Charter Foods North, LLC submitted plans earlier in the July; but, there are still quite a few items regarding water infiltration that needed to be addressed per County engineer. He advised EADS, the engineer hired for the development, plans to resubmit for August.
- Regarding future/ongoing land developments, Jason Ruggiero gave a brief summary of outstanding issues and/or final synopsis. He advised the Lowell Corners development is almost finished, that the Oil Region Astronomical Society should be submitting a development soon, that the Fluid Recovery land development's conditional approval has expired, and that there is still an ongoing issue with the Family Dollar's stormwater system in Clintonville.

OFFICER'S AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Executive Committee – Judy Barrett advised there is still one vacancy for the VCRPC board which is open to elected or non-elected citizen.
- Plan Review Committee – Nothing further to report
- COG – Fred Krizinsky gave a brief report on the previous meeting mentioning much of the discussion focused around road dust control measures. Garnet Wood advised the next meeting will be at Sandycreek Twp. on the 17th at 7PM.
- DEP Roundtable – Erik Johnson reported out on a Landfill Tour that the roundtable took to Vogel Landfill in Evans City. The group also toured a Mark West Marcellus Gas processing facility located adjacent to the landfill property.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Judy Barrett advised the County will be helping to administer the RACP funding for the Sandycreek Debence Drive road extension. She stated Erik Johnson will be performing wage interviews for the construction portion. Regarding the FEMA funding for the Chubb/Morrison Run stormwater retention basins – still no follow-up from FEMA.

PUBLIC COMMENT - GENERAL

- None.

Motion to adjourn 7:45 PM was made by Willis Thomas, seconded by Ken Garland; so moved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Erik Johnson