

DRAFT

**ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

July 22, 2015

BUSINESS MEETING:

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's Executive Board held its monthly meeting at the Regional Planning Commission's office in Middlebury with Chair, Thea Gaudette, presiding.

ROLL CALL

<i>Bristol</i>	Chico Martin
<i>Leicester</i>	Diane Benware
<i>Middlebury</i>	
<i>Middlebury</i>	Ted Davis
<i>Monkton</i>	Thea Gaudette
<i>Ripton</i>	
<i>Shoreham</i>	Nick Causton

STAFF: Adam Lougee, Director

Thea opened the meeting at 6:34.

MINUTES

The Board deferred the minutes to the next meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Adam did not have a new Treasurer's report since the one he presented at the full commission on July 8th due to vacations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Local Government Committee: No meeting.

ACT250/248: Adam noted that if the Commission chooses to intervene in the Next Generation Solar project in New Haven, 2.2 MW, it needs to file a motion by tomorrow. Adam does not have any concrete direction from the Act 250/248 Committee. Chico noted that the Committee had recommended that ACRPC intervene in every solar matter above 150kW. Adam noted that at the next Commission meeting he had requested that the Committee review each application and decide whether to intervene on a case by case basis. Adam noted that he was concerned about ACRPC's resources and ability to formally intervene in every case. He also wanted to make sure our actions in the intervention were consistent with a regional policy, specifically consistent with those siting recommendations offered by the Energy Committee. After some

discussion, the Executive Board unanimously felt that since the Next Generation facility proposed for New Haven was large at 2.2 MW and because New haven opposed it, ACRPC should file to Intervene.

Natural Resources: The Committee will meet just before the full commission meeting in September.

Energy: The Committee met last week and cosponsored a public meeting on the Statewide Energy Plan. The meeting was well attended and the State collected significant public comments for its plan. The Committee needs to continue its work to reconcile the model Town Energy Plan language for solar it created with the new legislation.

Transportation Advisory Committee: The TAC does not meet in July.

Plan Re-write. The Committee has not met since the full commission meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

TDI update: Adam noted that the project appeared to be moving along smoothly. TDI has entered into agreements stipulating to conditions in the CPG with nearly all parties to the action. The RPC and town position remains unchanged; they still reserve the authority to tax the infrastructure when it is installed. The Board suggested to Adam that he should try to convene a meeting of the impacted towns so all are prepared to act.

Emergency Management, HMGP Status. Adam reviewed the HMGP grant status, noting that the State had recently rescinded the contract issued two months ago after an 18 month delay. The reason for the determination stems from FEMA's interpretation of the CFR and its alleged lack of an obligation to pay indirect costs. Adam is working with VAPDA to resolve this issue as it impacts all RPCs. However, this issue has already gone on too long. The State has stated that to help matters, it will pay the 25 % match to the grant after local in kind contributions have been deducted. It has also secured the 3% administrative money from FEMA. This leaves ACRPC earning about 60 cents for each dollar of costs it incurs. Still, Adam stated that ACRPC's municipalities need the plans to secure a higher return from the ERAF funds. Accordingly, while still pursuing the indirect repayment, Adam would like to also go ahead and pursue the contract and minimize ACRPC's losses by not implementing them into plans with this money since it can be done more economically with other money and developing a plan to sub-contract certain aspects of the plans to others. Adam stated he would bring a more formal plan to the next meeting. The Executive Board endorsed this approach.

Review Director: The Board reviewed Adam as the Executive Director. At the end of an internal discussion, they welcomed Adam back into the room and gave him a favorable review. Thea will put it into writing and give it to Pauline for the personnel records.

Other: Adam noted that Sue Minter, the new Secretary of the Agency of Transportation would be visiting the Commission tomorrow to discuss transportation issues in the Addison Region.

NEW BUSINESS

Committees/ Committee Assignments: Adam noted that he had received responses to the Committee request from about half of the Commissioners. The Board reviewed the requests that had been submitted and asked Adam to resend out a new request reminding commissioners to submit committee requests prior to the next full commission meeting.

Other: Thea reminded Adam to send everyone a note that the full commission would not meet in August.

Nick asked whether anyone in the state was doing anything about poison parsnip. Adam noted that VTrans had some educational programs for local road foremen, but that noone really seemed to be in charge of addressing the issue. He stated he would ask Secretary Minter about any State programs tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT

Chico moved to adjourn. Ted seconded the motion. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Adam Lougee