

Minutes of the Land Use and Development Committee

The Land Use and Development Committee of the McLean County Board met on Thursday December 4, 2008 at 4:45 p.m. in Room 400, Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Gordon, Members Cavallini, Rankin, Segobiano and Soeldner

Members Absent: Member Ahart

Other Board Members Present: None

Staff Present: Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator, Mr. Bill Wasson, Director of Administrative Services

Department Heads/
Elected Officials

Present: Mr. Phil Dick, Director, Building and Zoning and
Mr. Michael Brown, Director, Ecology Action
Center

Others Present: None

Chairman Gordon called the meeting to order at 4:47 p.m. He welcomed the new Committee members, Mr. Cavallini, District #1, Mr. Jim Soeldner, District #2 and Mr. Erik Rankin, District # 9.

Chairman Gordon presented the Minutes of the October 2, 2008 and November 18, 2008 Special Meeting to the Committee for approval. Hearing no objections or corrections, Chairman Gordon accepted and placed the minutes on file as submitted.

Chairman Gordon presented the bills from November 30, 2008 which have been reviewed and recommended for transmittal to the Land Use and Development Committee by the County Auditor. The prepaid total and fund total for November 30, 2008 is \$18,172.10. He asked for a motion to approve the bills as presented by the County Auditor.

Motion by Segobiano / Rankin to recommend approval of the November 30, 2008 bills as presented by the County Auditor.
Motion carried.

Chairman Gordon informed the Committee that the only item for action is a request by the McLean County Solid Waste Technical Committee to approve a Resolution for Recycling Grants administered by the Ecology Action Center. He asked Mr. Michael Brown, Director of the Ecology Action Center, to address the Committee.

Mr. Brown noted that the Ecology Action Center is a not-for-profit environmental organization contracted by the County of McLean, City of Bloomington and the Town of Normal to administer and manage the County's Solid Waste Management Program. Mr. Brown stated that in the fall of 2008, the Solid Waste Management Fund offered to all McLean County Schools, Kindergarten through High School, recycling grants to be used for onsite recycling programs or educational efforts to further recycling programs. The grants are offered to the schools for up to \$1,000.00. This program is only available to schools. Mr. Brown recommended approval to award recycling grants to the following schools:

- Colene Hoose Elementary School \$500.00
- Blooming Grove Academy \$600.00
- Lexington Elementary \$1,000.00
- Ridgeview School District \$331.21
- Epiphany Catholic School \$240.00
- Heyworth Elementary \$1,000.00

In addition, the resolution designates \$12,500.00 for the ongoing McLean County Battery recycling program administered by the Ecology Action Center. This is the

second request for funding this year. He noted that the Battery Recycling Program has continued to grow. Following is a chart that tracks the growth of the program:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Pounds of batteries recycled</u>
2003	382
2004	1,726
2005	2,500
2006	6,000
2007	6,500
2008	8,700

Interstate Batteries and Batteries Plus are the processing and drop off sites for the Battery Recycling Program.

Mr. Cavallini asked if the County recycles computers and monitors. Mr. Brown answered that the County does recycle computers and monitors. The drop off site for electronics is the Normal Public Works garage located at 1301 Warriner Street, Normal, IL, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Segobiano pointed out how important the recycling programs have been to the County. Recycling programs have extended the life of our current landfill by more than 7 years. He stated that what Mr. Brown and the Ecology Action Center do is extremely important to the City and the well being of McLean County.

Mr. Brown noted that the funds for the Solid Waste Management Program do not come from taxpayer dollars. The funds are generated exclusively from the host fee agreement with the landfill operator.

Chairman Gordon referred to the amount of the Recycling Grant that Ridgeview School District received clarifying the amount to be \$331.21. He also wanted to clarify if the Recycling Grant was going to Blooming Grove Academy rather than Bloomington Grove Academy. Mr. Brown apologized for the mistake, it is Blooming Grove. Chairman Gordon made note of the change to the Resolution.

Chairman Gordon asked for questions, concerns or comments. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to recommend approval of the Recycling Grants for the schools and the Battery Recycling Program as submitted by the Ecology Action Center.

Motion by Cavallini / Soeldner to recommend approval of the Recycling Grants for the schools and the Battery Recycling Program as submitted by the Ecology Action Center.
Motion Carried.

Chairman Gordon informed the Committee that the next items to be presented to the Committee were items for Information. The first item for information is the Ecology Action Center Quarterly Solid Waste Report.

Mr. Brown referred the Committee to the Ecology Action Center Recycling Education for McLean County, Third Quarter Report. He noted that the programs and activities of the Ecology Action Center in Bloomington, Normal and throughout McLean County are presented in accordance with the Solid Waste and Waste Reduction Education Program agreement of January 1, 2008. Mr. Brown pointed out to the Committee that, in the fall of 2008, the Compact Fluorescent Lamp (CFL) recycling program was launched with four (4) drop-off points in Bloomington. To date, Mr. Brown reported 50 CFL bulbs have been recycled. He continued with the ongoing Plastic Pot Recycling program. Mr. Jerry Swartz, Master Gardner, is coordinating the program. Mr. Brown pointed out that because of the Plastic Pot Recycling Program, 15,000 pounds of recycled garden pots and trays will not be going to the landfill, increasing our recycling rate for the year 2008. He stated that it is possible, once the material is recycled, that there will be some revenue involved. The program may eventually become self sufficient, not requiring future Grant funding.

Mr. Brown informed the Committee that, in the fall, the Ecology Action Center applied for a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Unfortunately, we were turned down based on the fact that our community has had the event for the past three years. We are currently on a waiting list for the spring event in 2009.

Mr. Segobiano asked if garden pots and trays can be placed in recycle bins and picked up by the City of Bloomington. Mr. Brown answered that garden pots and trays should not be going to the curb site. Drop-off sites are located at local nursery centers. A & B Hatchery and Greenview Nursery are two of the participating nurseries.

Chairman Gordon asked if there were any items of information that needed to come before the Committee.

Mr. Phil Dick, Director of Building and Zoning, stated that we would like to have an orientation session especially for new members. Since some of the areas handled by the Land Use and Development Committee are also of interest to the Transportation Committee, Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator, suggested that it be held with the members of the Transportation Committee. Mr. Dick stated that he would contact Mr. Eric Schmitt, County Engineer and try to set up a date, possibly in January, 2009. Mr. Dick would also like to conduct a field trip for the Committee to view some of the rural residential subdivisions sometime in February, 2009. He noted that he would get a bus from Show Bus to drive the Committee. Mr. Dick pointed out that, due to the holiday, the next Land Use and Development Committee meeting will be on Thursday, January 8, 2009.

Chairman Gordon explained to the Committee that there may be times when Mr. Dick will inform him that there are no action items, especially during the winter months. If there are matters that the Committee members would like to discuss, Chairman Gordon asked that the members contact him and a work session rather

than a formal business meeting will be scheduled. He asked if there was any other information to come before the Committee.

Mr. Soeldner asked for clarification on the Grove Subdivision. Is it in the City of Bloomington or in McLean County? Mr. Dick answered that it appears to be in the County but there is a strip of land that goes all the way out to the subdivision from the City of Bloomington. It is actually contiguous and is in the City of Bloomington. Mr. Dick informed the Committee that the City of Bloomington can annex property without approval from the County.

Mr. Zeunik pointed out that Legislation has been introduced in Springfield to limit the ability of municipalities to continue to grow and annex without some involvement by the County or other adjacent entities. Unfortunately, this legislation has never made it out of Committee. The Illinois Municipal League, a powerful lobbying interest in Springfield, is very protective of Cities, Towns and Villages. The only constraint on municipalities is that, when they annex property they are expected to provide services to that property. They are expected to bring water, sewer, police and fire protection to the annexed property. He stated that Cities, Towns and Villages have more powers than do counties.

Chairman Gordon asked if there was any other business to come before the Committee. Hearing none, he declared the meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Diana Hospelhorn
Recording Secretary