

LAKE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Unapproved Minutes

Working Meeting

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

The meeting of the Lake Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:03 PM by Chairman Colletta. Geppert, Ehrlich, Lalley, McCallum and recording secretary Bolton were present.

Commission members discussed US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) recommendations. They would like to have a representative from USFWS attend a planning commission meeting to discuss the recommendations. USFWS has done extensive studies of the effects of wind turbine farms on the environment and natural resources. Bolton will contact USFWS to make arrangements.

The members discussed potential tax revenue from the wind turbine farm. McCallum will research that matter and report back to the commission.

The members reviewed a final report of the Township of Lincoln Wind Turbine Moratorium Committee. The report was compiled from information gathered over a two year period after 22 turbines were up and functioning. Lincoln Township received a number of complaints and dealt with many issues. Lalley noted that there were a number of complaints about the amount of time it took the power company to correct problems, he suggested that a time frame to correct problems be added to the ordinance.

The township is unique in that we are only 3- 3 ½ miles deep from the Lake Huron shoreline, and there are many natural areas like, Rush Lake wildlife area, Sleeper State Park, Pigeon River, Pinnebog River, cedar swamps, wetlands and there are two known eagle nests within our boundaries. There are a number of endangered and threatened species listed in Huron County on USFWS County Distribution of Michigan's Federally Threatened, Endangered, proposed, and candidate species list and the area is a well known avian migration area. The committee would like more time to gather information, the members discussed requesting a moratorium. Before finalizing the ordinance the members would like to meet with USFWS to discuss how their recommendations apply to Lake Township.

They will discuss the Wind Turbine Ordinance further at their next meeting.

Motion by McCallum to adjourn, seconded by Geppert. Motion passed, meeting adjourned at 8:37PM.

The next planning commission meeting is scheduled for September 26th at 7PM.

Kathleen Bolton, Recording Secretary