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2 Ms. Chavarria gave a power point presentation regarding the Land Use Resource Management Plan Existing  
3 Conditions & Trends Report. She said that during the presentation the Committee should consider if there  
4 are any Conditions and Trends missing from the draft Report, how does the identified Conditions and  
5 Trends relate to one another and how might they relate to perspectives that different County Board members  
6 and different Steering Committee members have on future land use and the decisions that will follow.

7  
8 For the power point titled Discussion and Themes, Ms. Chavarria said that what will be discussed tonight  
9 will be the Condition and Trends, Getting to Where We Are in the Process, People, Infrastructure and  
10 Services, Natural Resources, Land Use and The Bigger Picture. She said that this was not just for now but  
11 for the next twenty or more years in the County.

12  
13 For the slide titled Definitions, Ms. Chavarria said that Conditions are existing policies, general  
14 understandings and facts about the current situation while Trends are more data driven statements based on  
15 what has happened over time. She said in some cases she will be referring to Conditions in the presentation  
16 and in other cases she will be referring to Trends.

17  
18 For slide Getting to Where We Are, Ms. Chavarria said that Chapter 1, Existing Conditions and Trends  
19 Report is the Background of the Land Resource Management Plan process. She said this talks about how the  
20 County decided to come together to develop the Land Use Resource Management Plan and the other land  
21 use planning and regulations that occurred over time. She said that in Chapter 2, Plans and Policy Review  
22 they tried to look at the many documents that had been created that might affect the Land Resource  
23 Management Plan. Ms. Chavarria said that in Chapter 3 Defining the Plan Area, she wanted to show what  
24 kind of inputs would be made to make their primary boundaries in the County which would exclude the  
25 municipal areas but they are still working on what those primary boundaries should be. She said the purpose  
26 of getting to where we are is to use history to help shape the future, learning from mistakes and promoting  
27 our strengths as a County.

28  
29 Ms. Chavarria said that one of the Conditions and Trends identified is that there are inconsistencies between  
30 existing policies and regulations. She said the current Land Use Regulatory Policy from 2005 and the  
31 current Zoning code is contradictory in some elements and thus cannot be used in conjunction. She said that  
32 some existing plans contradict one another. She said that as they were going forward in the policy creation  
33 and the future land use map creation they need to remedy these contradictions.

34  
35 Ms. Chavarria said that another of the Condition & Trends is a condition of overlapping jurisdictions. She  
36 said municipalities with comprehensive plans and the County both have planning discretion within the one-  
37 and-one half-mile extraterritorial jurisdiction that are outside the municipalities corporate limits. She said  
38 there are some cases where zoning site and city land use planning conflict so we try to resolve those issues  
39 through this process.

40  
41 Ms. Chavarria said that Chapter 4 deals with the people in the county. She said that Chapter 4 provides a  
42 demographic profile of the County, employment, economic profile, population and employment projections.

1 She said that the purpose is to tell us what population we are planning for, what our economic strengths are  
2 and provide a basis for determining how populated we want our County to be.

3  
4 Ms. Chavarria said that another of the Condition & Trends pertains to the population growth trend. She said  
5 that since 1980, decennial growth rates have stabilized around 3% countywide. She said that since 1970,  
6 urban areas in Champaign County have increased in population by 20%, and rural areas decreased in  
7 population by 25%.

8  
9 Ms. Chavarria asked the Committee if there were any questions and there were none.

10  
11 Ms. Chavarria turned the presentation over to Susan Monte.

12  
13 Ms. Monte said that regarding Infrastructure and Services, Chapter 5 pertains to Public Sanitary Sewer,  
14 Private Wastewater Disposal, Public Water Service and Private Wells. She said Chapter 6 deals with Energy  
15 Distribution Systems and Chapter 7 deals with Public Facilities and Services such as drainage districts,  
16 school districts, fire protection and forest preserve districts. She said Chapter 8 is Parks and Recreation and  
17 Chapter 9 is Transportation. She said that Chapter 11 covers Agricultural Infrastructure. She said that the  
18 purpose for these chapters is that the Land Resource Management Plan is required to include this  
19 information and it provides a baseline of information regarding availability and possible gaps in the  
20 infrastructure and services provided as we move forward.

21  
22 Ms. Monte said the Trend identified in Chapter 5 which pertains to public water and public sewer systems in  
23 the County is that since 1985 the water rate consumption per capita has remained constant even though the  
24 population growth has increased by approximately 7% which results in a greater withdrawal from the  
25 ground water of the Mahomet Aquifer which is the primary source of ground water. She said for instance, in  
26 1995 the region wide withdrawal from the aquifer was estimated at over thirty million gallons per day and  
27 today, regionally, over fifty six million gallons per day are withdrawn for municipal use only. Ms. Monte  
28 said that the withdrawals from the Champaign-Urbana area reached an estimated level of twenty five million  
29 gallons per day usage and is increasing based on the population increase.

30  
31 Ms. Monte said a Condition from Chapter 6 would be that today's population primarily depends on  
32 electricity generated by coal, natural gas and nuclear facilities located regionally. She said that Champaign  
33 County is rated as having a fair potential for wind energy at a height of fifty meters which is 164 feet. She  
34 said that there are no wind turbines located in the County but some agencies and municipalities are studying  
35 the feasibility of this energy source. She said that in siting a wind turbine they need to be near existing  
36 substations and transmission lines. She said the impact of this type of development on existing uses in the  
37 County needs to be considered as well.

38  
39 Ms. Monte said that a Condition in Chapter 7 is that dredging of existing channels, ditches and streams is a  
40 prevalent means of maintaining drainageways within the County. She said that over several thousand miles  
41 of drain tiles lead to outlet pipes into drainage channels and the effectiveness of land drainage also the  
42 impacts agricultural productivity and economic return largely depends on these drain tiles and their outlets.

1 She said that the field drainage system tiles ends in tile outlets that need to remain above normal water levels  
2 in the drainage channel to ensure free drainage. She said that Drainage Districts may occasionally remove  
3 built up sedimentation within drainage channels or streams by dredging or straightening of drainage ways.  
4 Ms. Monte said in the process, natural vegetation and trees along drainageways are clear cut, and  
5 biodiversity of the stream is compromised. She said that with this form of stream maintenance the cycle of  
6 sedimentation, erosion, tile outlet blockages or other problems gradually repeats itself over time.

7  
8 Ms. Monte said that a Trend in Chapter 8 is that parks acreage continued to grow in Champaign County over  
9 a thirty five year span. She said although the principal growth in park acreage has doubled it has not  
10 necessarily been close to where the population growth occurred. She said that Champaign, Savoy and  
11 Urbana had participated in conducting an Open Space Needs Study over the past two years and it has shown  
12 that there was a need for additional parks.

13  
14 Ms. Monte said that a Trend in Chapter 9 pertains to changes in transportation modes. She said that over a  
15 twenty year period, focusing on persons over the age of sixteen, she said that the dark blue bar graph  
16 represents motorized vehicle use and has experienced the greatest increased over the twenty year period  
17 increasing from 72% to approximately 81%. She said that walking decreased the most as a transportation  
18 mode over the past twenty years from 17% to 10% of the population.

19  
20 Ms. Monte said that Chapter 11 describes agricultural related infrastructure and that is important to  
21 acknowledge because those systems and uses related to agriculture impact adjacent land uses. She said that  
22 noted in Chapter 11 are grain elevators and the primary transport routes to and from them. She said that the  
23 proposed ethanol plant sites and known locations of confined animal operations are also included.

24  
25 Ms. Monte said that Chapter 10 pertains to Natural Resources and in that chapter we covered several topics  
26 ranging from physical geography, water resources, mineral resources, water quality, soil resources,  
27 floodplain areas, woodlands and grasslands and a summary of sites included in the Illinois Natural Area  
28 Inventory. She said this chapter provides a baseline of information regarding natural resources in the County  
29 that could be useful as discussions occur about natural resources related policies. She said that aTrend  
30 derived from Chapter 10 is that today the rural areas in the County are dominated by commercial agriculture  
31 whereas in pre-settlement times prairie was the dominate land cover.

32  
33 Ms. Monte said that tonight they passed out a summary of the power point presentation and a draft of  
34 Chapter 13. She said that on page 7 there is a graphic that shows the reduction of wooded areas over the past  
35 century and a half. She said today it is about 4% of the County's land cover so pre-settlement was prairie  
36 and today shifting to agriculture and only a trace amount of about one acre of un-degraded prairie remains  
37 today in the County.

38  
39 Ms. Monte said that Chapter 12 is a description of land use trends in the County which are broken down by  
40 townships so that trends could be discussed for each township and information could be reviewed at the  
41 township level. She said that as an example there are two Trends in Chapter 12. Ms. Monte said that the Big  
42 Small All identified farmland conversion in the period from 1988 to 2005. She said that on an annual

1 average 563 acres which is almost a square mile of farmland was converted to other land uses each year. She  
2 said that another Trend in regards to new residential development that had occurred in that 18 year period  
3 was that rural residential development on lots over 30,000 square feet in area comprised just 8% of the total  
4 of new single family dwelling permits issued but consumed 21% of the farmland converted during that  
5 period.

6  
7 Ms. Monte asked if anyone had any questions.

8  
9 Hal Barnhart said that there is a number that is 41% or 46% he is not sure of what it is and asked Ms. Monte  
10 what that number represents.

11  
12 Ms. Monte said that rural residential development on lots that were 30,000 square feet in area or larger was  
13 responsible for 46.6% of land converted for single family development and 21% of all farmland land  
14 converted.

15  
16 Ms. Chavarria said that Chapter 13 also pertains to the compilation of many of the existing Trends and is  
17 also meant to promote thoughts from everyone participating in this process about how the identified  
18 Conditions and Trends are interrelated and is also a segue to Stage 2.

19  
20 Ms. Chavarria said that right now they are in Stage 1 and moving to Stage 2 which is the Policy Framework.  
21 She said that this stage would be the creation of policy statements which will guide land use decisions for  
22 the future. She said everything that is created now regarding data information and maps will have some sort  
23 of influence on the policy creation.

24  
25 Ms. Chavarria said that Stage 3 is the Future Land Use Map. She said they are going to take what they  
26 learned from Stage 1 and Stage 2 and create a Future Land Use Map. She said that it also takes into  
27 consideration local knowledge and input from interested parties. Ms Chavarria said during Stage 2 they will  
28 be holding a public workshop to get input from interested residents to help them create the future land use  
29 map and policies.

30  
31 Ms. Chavarria said that Stage 4 is the implementation plan that is based on the previous 3 stages and  
32 everything they have learned to date will be used to identify responsible parties, time frames and other  
33 logistics of actually implementing this Land Resource Management Plan.

34  
35 Ms. Chavarria said that time frame wise, Stage 1 is through January 6, 2008. She said that the Study Session  
36 for Stage 1 was today. She said Stage 2 the Policy Framework is from December 2007 to September 2008  
37 and the Study Session would be August 2008 and the Public Workshop would be in April 2008. Ms  
38 Chavarria said Stage 3 is June 2008 to January 2009 with a Study Session in December 2008. She said that  
39 Stage 4 is in August 2008 to March 2009 with a Study Session in February 2009.

40  
41 Ms. Chavarria said that they are asking the County Board members to think about the Trends and  
42 Conditions, provide comments, ask questions and attend some of the meetings and help us maintain the

1 schedules set by noting comments they may have and resolving any conflicts that may arise before the  
2 approval date come along.

3  
4 Ms. Chavarria said that the next Steering Committee Meeting for Stage 1 will be December 13, 2007, at  
5 7:30AM at the Savoy Recreational Center. She said that all comments on the draft would be sent to ELUC  
6 for approval in January and are due by December 21<sup>st</sup>. She said that they would continue steps to finalize the  
7 committee's visions based on everything received before December 21<sup>st</sup> and on January 10<sup>th</sup> there will be a  
8 Steering Committee Meeting to present the final draft before it goes to ELUC on January 14<sup>th</sup>. She said that  
9 at January the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting they will ask for a recommendation for approval of Stage1.

10  
11 Ms. Chavrrria said that in Stage 2 Steering Committee Meetings 4 through10 would be held between  
12 December and August next year and meeting 8 in early April would be a community workshop. She said  
13 that they will be conducting Township and Municipal interviews between December 2007 and February  
14 2008. She said that they are working on workshop design, logistics and outreach between now and April and  
15 may have some ad hoc Meetings between January and May of next year if necessary. She said that they will  
16 work on the Policy Framework from February 2008 to June 2008 and there would be a County Board  
17 Update like tonight and the Board would have an approval between August and September of next year.

18  
19 Ms. Chavarria asked the Committee if there any questions about the process.

20  
21 Mr. Doenitz said that he talked to Mr. Hall about this when he saw this and it seems that the township roads  
22 had been left out. He said that there are about 1700 miles of it and it should be included.

23  
24 Ms. Chavarria said that she will include it in the draft.

25  
26 Mr. Weibel asked if anyone here could attend.

27  
28 Ms. Wysocki said that yes anyone could attend and the ELUC members understand that they're ex-officio  
29 members anyhow.

30  
31 Ms. Chavarria said anyone could stop in, call or email any comments they may have. She said that the  
32 deadline for the Stage 1 draft is December 21<sup>st</sup>.

33  
34 Ms. Wysocki asked the Committee if there were any questions.

35  
36 Mr. Schroeder said that in Chapter 13 Trends and Conditions for Chapter 7 on page 9 the Condition states  
37 that the dredging of existing channels, ditches and stream is a prevalent means of maintaining drainage ways  
38 within the County. He asked if the word dredging could be replaced by maintenance because in forty five  
39 years of his life he has only seen dredging done once and he believed that maintenance would be more  
40 appropriate.

41  
42 Mr. Schroeder said that in Chapter 13 for Chapter 10 on page 16 under Trend it states that today the rural

1 areas of the County are dominated by commercial agriculture. He said that is true. He went on to say  
2 whereas in pre-settlement times, prairie was the predominate land cover. He said that it is fair to say that  
3 commercial was out there too but before pre-settlement times there were no cities, towns or villages either  
4 so he thinks that should be included.

5  
6 Mr. Weibel asked Mr. Schroeder about the interpretation with regards to dredging.

7  
8 Mr. Schroeder said that it is left to interpretation of that condition and he thinks that it's a wide open  
9 interpretation to say that dredging of channels, ditches and streams are prevalent means, although it does  
10 exist it implies that it is daily, weekly, monthly or whenever and maybe the term maintenance of the streams  
11 and ditches should be used rather than the word dredging.

12  
13 Ms. Monte said that what they were trying to achieve was a neutral way of describing the phenomena of  
14 dredging. She said that she thinks the comment about the word prevalent is fair and that discussion needs to  
15 be refined.

16  
17 Mr. Doenitz said that he didn't think dredging or stream maintenance is a phenomena.

18  
19 Ms. Wysocki said that she invites the Committee to look over the presentation and if there are questions or  
20 comments please feel free to ask your question or air your comments.

21  
22 Mr. Doenitz said the stream maintenance helps keep the agricultural industry vital. He said that this is a  
23 billion dollar industry and it should be in the draft as well.

24  
25 Ms. Anderson said that she agreed with Mr. Doenitz but on the other hand sometimes there are new ways of  
26 doing things.

27  
28 Mr. Weibel said that he could not attend the meeting earlier because of a CUPHD Meeting that ran long and  
29 he could not get here.

30  
31 Ms. Anderson said that she appreciates what has been done so far and we have a lot of information we can  
32 use. Ms. Anderson asked Ms. Chavarria if this draft is available online.

33  
34 Ms. Chavarria said that it is not online and it was only given to Committee members.

35  
36  
37 **4. Public Participation**

38  
39 There was no public participation.

1 **5. Adjournment**

2

3 The meeting adjourned at 7:52pm.

4

5 Respectfully submitted,

6

7

8 Secretary to the Environment and Land Use Committee

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10 eluc\minutes\minutes.fm