



Champaign County Board
Environment and Land Use Committee (ELUC)
 County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

0

7 **MINUTES – Approved As Corrected**

8 DATE: Thursday, February 8, 2024
 9 TIME: 6:30 p.m.
 10 PLACE: Shields-Carter Meeting Room
 11 Brookens Administrative Center
 12 1776 E Washington, Urbana, IL 61802

13 **Committee Members**

Present	Absent
Aaron Esry (Vice-Chair)	
John Farney	
Emily Rodriguez	
Jilmala Rogers	
Chris Stohr	
Eric Thorsland (Chair)	

14
 15 **County Staff:** Steve Summers (County Executive), John Hall (Zoning Administrator), and Liz Dillingham
 16 (Administrative Services)

17
 18 **Others Present:** None

19 **MINUTES**

20 **I. Call to Order**

21 Committee Chair Thorsland called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

22
 23 **II. Roll Call**

24 Roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.

25
 26 **III. Approval of Agenda/Addendum**

27
 28 **MOTION** by Mr. Farney to approve the agenda and seconded by Ms. Rogers.
 29 Upon voice vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously to approve the agenda.

30
 31 **IV. Approval of Minutes**

32 A. January 4, 2024 – Regular Meeting

33
 34 **MOTION** by Mr. Esry to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2024, regular meeting,
 35 seconded by Ms. Rogers. Upon voice vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously to approve the
 36 minutes.

37
 38
 39

40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79

V. **Public Participation**

None

VI. **Communications**

Mr. Stohr attended a CO2 Pipeline Meeting in Gibson City. There is concern about having three ejection wells just west of Gibson City. Specifically, the ramifications for public safety and public health including long term effects over the Mahomet water aquifer are the areas of concern.

VII. **New Business: Items to be approved by ELUC**

A. Authorization for a public hearing on a proposed Zoning Ordinance text amendment to add requirements for Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

Mr. Stohr added that there is increasing concern about protecting the remaining ground water quality and sustainability in potable water. There are various antidotal occurrences around the stated and adjoining states. Mr. Stohr provided a handout explaining cooling information for the BESS topic.

The handout outlined that *“Cooling of a Tier-2 BESS shall not use groundwater other than for closed-loop geothermal cooling. The application shall include a description of the proposed cooling system of the Tier-2 BESS”*.

Mr. Thorsland indicated there are two common types of cooling including air & water. He stated it is difficult to control the quality of the water that goes into the expensive equipment. The major concern about the systems is worrying about things getting into the ground water, rather than us taking ground water out.

Upon voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

Mr. Esry asked when the BESS topic would show up on ZBA’s agenda.

Mr. Hall believes it will be discussed at the second meeting in March.

VIII. **New Business: Items to be Recommended to the County Board**

A. **Proposed amendment to Nuisance Ordinance to prohibit the keeping of roosters**

MOTION by Mr. Farney to recommend the Rooster Amendment for the Nuisance Ordinance to the full County Board and seconded by Ms. Rogers. Upon voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

80 Mr. Hall explained the amendment was requested by the Champaign Township Supervisor
81 which prohibits the keeping of roosters within 1000 feet of a Home-Rule municipality. There
82 have been additional complaints from residential districts more than 1000 feet from a Home-
83 Rule Municipality.

84
85 Ms. Rodriguez stated keeping roosters and hens is actively seeking to breed. She would be ok
86 with extending the distance. She added she is fine with the current proposal as well.

87
88 Mr. Thorsland stated there has been some discussion of extending this ordinance to all
89 residential zoning that we have purview over.

90
91 Mr. Farney added at the last ELUC meeting, he initiated moving the proposed ordinance
92 forward which is similar to the same rules as the City of Champaign. This will take care of the
93 immediate problem and agrees the rest of the County needs evaluated to fix the problem for the
94 counties bordering the Home-Rule municipalities. The distance of 1000 feet was decided which
95 mimics the 1000 feet for the leaf burning ordinance distance.

96
97 Mr. Thorsland asked what happens if ELUC moves the proposed ordinance to the full board
98 tonight and what happens if the board wishes to expand upon it in a few months.

99
100 Mr. Hall stated if this amendment is adopted, the next amendment would delete the wording
101 “within 1000 feet within a Home- Rule municipality” and it would prohibit the keeping of
102 roosters within any residential zoning district.

103
104 Ms. Rodriguez agrees with Mr. Farney in that this is a great first step. She added there is an
105 appetite to expand on this topic as well as education on chicken organizations in relation to
106 breeding and increased noise levels.

107
108 Mr. Thorsland stated roosters make continuous noise and agrees it is a first good step.

109
110 ***The recommendation to move the rooster amendment for the Nuisance Ordinance to the**
111 **Full County Board passed unanimously. (This item will not be on the Consent Agenda)**
112

113 **B. Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Cost-Sharing Agreement between**
114 **the County of Champaign, the City of Champaign, the City of Urbana, and the**
115 **Village of Savoy for Residential Electronic Collection Events in 2024**
116

117 **MOTION** by Mr. Esry to approve the Cost-Sharing Agreement and seconded by Mr. Stohr.
118

119 Mr. Hall explained this agreement does not include household hazardous waste collection
120 because the IEPA was short staffed when the collection event was implemented.
121

122 Mr. Farney asked what fund the event is paid out of.

123
124 Mr. Thorsland asked how the fund is replenished.

125
126 Mr. Hall stated the event is paid out of the Solid Waste Fund and there is a \$35.00 license fee.

127
128 **Motion to recommend Cost Sharing Agreement to the Full County Board passed*
129 *unanimously.*

130
131 **C. Resolution Approving Agreement between Champaign County,**
132 **Parkland College, and A-Team Recyclers regarding the Residential**
133 **Electronics Collections on May 18, 2024, and October 12, 2024**
134

135 **MOTION** by Mr. Farney to approve the Residential Electronic Collection Agreement and
136 seconded by Ms. Rodriguez.

137
138 Mr. Hall stated the maximum is still \$23,000 per event. Last year, the minimum was increased
139 to \$15,000 per event.

140
141 **Motion to recommend the Electronics Cost Sharing Agreement to the Full County Board*
142 *passed unanimously.*
143

144 **A. Resolution Approving Champaign County Opt-In Form to Illinois EPA to**
145 **Participate in Manufacturer E-Waste Program in 2025**

146 **MOTION** by Ms. Rogers to approve the Opt-In Form and seconded by Ms. Rodriguez.

147
148 John stated this form is for 2025 and has a deadline of submission to the EPA by March 1,
149 2024. The form as complex.

150
151 Mr. Stohr ask how the Champaign County Environmental stewards would contribute to the
152 hazardous waste events when they are up & running.

153
154 Mr. Hall stated he would hope to find out more information once the program is implemented.
155 Mr. Thorsland asked if the stewards would have a mechanism to organize the more global
156 events.

157
158 Mr. Hall mentioned it would be nice to have a site that is open on a part time basis so we
159 wouldn't rely on the single events being organized by the EPA and we can take control locally.

160
161 **Motion to recommend approving Opt-In to the Full County Board passed*
162 *unanimously.*
163
164
165
166
167

168 **IX. Other Business:**

169
170 **A. Monthly Reports**

171 No monthly report.

172
173 Mr. Hall updated the ELUC committee that Senior Planner, Susan Burgstrom will transfer to
174 RPC on March 15, 2024.

175
176 Mr. Stohr said that we are still working through the Workforce Development recommendations
177 and expressed sadness over the loss of Ms. Susan Bergstrom to RPC and he was concerned about
178 losing our institutional knowledge that way. Mr. Stohr asked if this loss was due to additional
179 pay? Mr. Hall said that he did not believe it was pay related and he believes it is not uncommon
180 to see the institutional knowledge to return to the department.

181
182 Mr. Hall replied he did not think Susan’s departure was related to pay.

183
184 Mr. Hall stated he believes it isn’t uncommon to see the institutional knowledge to return to the
185 department.

186
187 **X. Chair’s Report- None**

188
189 **XI. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda- VIII. B, C, & D**

190
191 **XII. Adjournment**

192 The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200
201
202
203
204
205