

Renewable Energy Committee
November 27, 2007 - 3 p.m.
Board Room - Polk County Government Center
100 Polk County Plaza, Balsam Lake, WI 54810

- Minutes -

Attendance: Art Gamache, Marlin Baillargeon, Thomas Engel, Gregg Westigard, Jeff Peterson, Mike Voltz, Mike Welch, Larry Jepsen, Arrived late

Others present: Pam Herdrich, River Country Resource Conservation & Development Sara McCurdy, Polk County Land Information Office Debbie Peterson, Polk County Parks & Recreation Tim Ritten, Polk County Land and Water Resource Director Ryan Sterry, UW Extension Office Steve Glaim and Todd Schulte, Polk-Burnett Electric Coop Kerri Michle, Press - Intercounty Leader

Meeting called to order by Jeff Peterson, Chairman @ 3:05 pm

Motion: (Gamache/Voltz) to approve agenda. Carried

Previous Minutes: Motion (Baillargeon/Welch) to approve 10/23/07 Minutes. Carried

Public Comments: Sara McCurdy reported on the status and progress on the development of Polk County's Small Wind Energy Ordinance

Guest presenters: Steve Glaim, Polk-Burnett General Manager presented a discussion on their load management and conservation programs. He also informed the committee that P-B is not an electric generating company; rather they rely on Dairyland Electric Coop to supply their electricity. P-B does cooperate with any customer adding electricity to their grid. Discussed their own rebate programs and the reluctance to be a Focus On energy participant.

Discussion: Pam Herdrich presented RCCD grant request response. Lengthy discussion on funding and strategy for a Biomass Inventory Study.

Motion: Gamache/Voltz to have RCCD to do a no cost search for grants to fund the Biomass Inventory Study. Carried.

Committee member's comments:

Gregg Westigard suggested that our committee be an agenda item on the next comprehensive county wide planning meeting. Also reported on contact with David Jenkins of the governor's Office of Energy Independence.

Mike Voltz reported on the History channel's Renewable Energy TV show. He also announced that the tentative date for Earth Day is 4/18/08 @ The Recycling Center.

Art Gamache commented on E-Waste and the upcoming TV changeover.

Mike Welsh commented on the change in development philosophy which has changed

From individual counties or groups to large multi-group/county planning and development efforts.

Jeff Peterson commented on the upcoming Spring Bioenergy Forum that is being

proposed by Andrew Dane.

Marlin Baillargeon raised the question in regards to proper county board representation on this committee.

New Business:

Consensus: To have Gregg invite David Jenkins of the governor's Office of Energy

Independence next meeting. Motion: (Westigard/Voltz) To set next meeting date
January 2, 2008 or January 8, 2008 at

3 p.m.. Carried Motion: (Gamache/Baillargeon) To adjourn. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Prepared by: Thomas G Engel