

Renewable Energy Committee

Thursday, September 17, 2015– 3:00 P.M.
Polk County Government Center, County Board Room
100 Polk Plaza, Balsam Lake, WI 54810

- Call to order
- Approve agenda
- Approve 8/20 minutes
- Public comments
- Review draft enabling resolution and potential committee renaming
- Update on OEI 25 X 2025 plan & updated energy usage
- Determine REC next focus area
- Member comments
- Set next meeting date
- Adjourn

(Agenda items may not be presented in this order)

This meeting is open to the public according to Wisconsin State Statute 19.83. Persons with disabilities wishing to attend and/or participate are asked to notify the County Clerk's office (715-485-9226) at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time so all reasonable accommodations can be made. Requests are confidential

September 17, 2015

Polk County Renewable Energy Committee Meeting

Held at the Government Center, Balsam Lake, WI

Members Attending: Jay Luke, Timm Johnson, Marvin Caspersen, Jeff Peterson, and Dave Muller. Also attending: Conall Gallagher, Engineer from Nexus Solutions. Members absent: Marlin Baillargeon, and Craig Moriak.

Chair Timm Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The agenda and the previous month's minutes were approved by voice vote with a motion and second from Caspersen and Luke.

Johnson asked Commissioner Luke for a review of the Polk County Committee of the Whole meeting held in early September. Luke stated that during the committee review, criticism of the REC included a number of items such as REC deviating from the original charge regarding the 25x2025 plan, the size of the committee, three commissioners and six citizens, and the approximate cost of \$15,000 for meeting per diem and mileage. Peterson noted that originally the REC was eight members and now it is nine. Discussion followed on lowering the number of committee members back to eight or seven, by eliminating one citizen and/or one commissioner to save meeting expenses. Johnson added that the original 25x2025 plan listed many projects to be implemented and energy efficiency is part of the plan.

Muller reviewed the 2014-15 goal summary that states the mission of the REC is to research, evaluate, and promote sustainability with a focus on conservation, project development and renewable energy systems for Polk County residents, businesses, and public agencies. He will write and distribute the REC Annual Report for review by the County Board before the third Tuesday of October. A preliminary draft will be sent to all REC members for input and review in the next few weeks.

Peterson reviewed the status of the REC resolution. He stated that the language in the resolution validated the work of the REC. Caspersen noted that the request for \$15,000 in the resolution will not be approved by Administrator Frey because it is outside of the normal budget process.

Johnson recommended dropping the last paragraph of the resolution, lines 43-47, which specifies the amount of \$15,000, and have one of the REC Commissioner members introduce the resolution to the County Board for approval. If approved, the resolution must be submitted to the county clerk ten days prior to the October County Board meeting. Peterson moved and Luke seconded a motion to approve the resolution with the proposed changes. Members approved unanimously by voice vote.

Other items by Johnson included requesting a REC review of the 25x2025 plan at a future meeting and scheduling a tour of three solar projects in Osceola: the Crystal Ball Dairy, Viebrock Construction, and the Osceola pool. Muller offered to make calls to schedule an REC tour with any other county officials invited as well for some time in October. Johnson will forward phone numbers.

Conall Gallagher was invited to join the REC as a new member and accepted.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Muller, Secretary