

**Ad Hoc Community and Public Works Planning Committee (CAPP)**  
**Alternative Energy Committee (AEC)**  
**May 27, 2010**

Members present: Burke Henry, Vice Chair; Carl Frederickson, Mark Eggleston, Alan Fischlowitz and Tom Banner (10:10am)

Members absent: Larry Bean, Chair

Also present: Nathan Hilligard ~~Hilligard~~ *Kilger* representing the Bad River Reservation and Jonathan Peters

The Alternative Energy Committee meeting called to order by Vice Chair B. Henry on Thursday, May 27, 2010 at 10:07 AM at the Town Hall. A quorum of the committee is present as reflected in the members listed above.

**2. Review and approval of the following AEC minutes:**

**A. April 14, 2010**

Motion by A. Fischlowitz to accept the April 14, 2010 AEC minutes as presented, second, T. Banner. All in favor, 4 ayes. Motion carried.

**3. Grant application status:**

**A. Windustry Rural Business Enterprise Grant Status**

B. Henry said he talked with Samantha Smart, project manager, of Windustry in Minneapolis, MN. Windustry has signed off on the grant. Negotiation for a project manager has begun and once the manger is hired the project will start.

The federal grant Windustry has been awarded is \$200,000. Windustry has raised the necessary \$160,000 match making this a \$360,000 project. Staff will be hired to help community wind projects in West Virginia, Madeline Island and two projects in Montana. One of the Montana sites has dropped out as the project was sold to a developer. The W. Virginia site might also drop out.

This committee will contact Windustry this coming week, after the Wind Energy Conference in Dallas, TX concludes. One of the speakers at the Wind Energy conference is George Baker from Vinalhaven, Maine.

**4. Future Grant Opportunities.**

T. Banner found an Energy Foundation in San Francisco, CA which requires a 501(c)(3) status. The guidelines state that this foundation does not fund community energy projects and T. Banner will find out what this means.

T. Banner also suggested contacting the major turbine manufacturers as those companies have foundations and grants available. A letter will be drafted by T. Banner and B. Henry that would be submitted to the manufacturers telling them who we are, what we are doing and that we are looking for funding. The letter will be emailed to committee members for their consideration.

A. Fischlowitz suggested contacting ~~T-Boone~~ *T-Boone* Pickens.

B. Henry said Duluth, MN and a city in Ohio are the finalists for a Furlander building plant; Ohio offers tax incentives, Duluth offers lowered transportation costs over the long run.

**5. Met tower Status.**

**A. Latest performance at Big Bay State Park.**

B. Henry has a copy of the latest wind chart after receiving the data from M. Eggleston. Data covers October 28, 2008 up until May 24, 2010.

This is the last data M. Eggleston will retrieve as Mark is retiring today. After this Greg Behling at the State Park will retrieve the data.

This committee and the Town of La Pointe wishes to thank Mark for everything he has done and the committee members will sign the photograph of the met tower at the State Park for Mark.

Mark said he would help in any way he can but will resign from the AEC and suggests that Greg Behling become a member of the AEC. Mark said his and Greg's role on the AEC is to help with the data, remind the people in Madison about issues and to act as a conduit to the DNR.

Motion by B. Henry to accept with great regret and with great thanks Mark Eggleston's resignation from the Alternative Energy Committee. Second, A. Fischlowitz. All in favor, three ayes, motion carried.

Motion by B. Henry to ask Greg Behling to join the AEC, second, A. Fischlowitz. All in favor, three ayes, motion carried.

These recommendations will go before the Town Board.

Agreement to discuss Agenda item C. Bad River lease next.

### **C. Bad River Lease.**

C. Frederickson and Nathan Hilligard of Bad River have been handling the lease. Nathan has taken the original lease to his legal counsel at Odanah and they have come up with a 17 month extension for \$2,000.

A contract has to be made with Seventh Gen who moved and set up the tower at Big Bay State Park (BBSP).

A. Fischlowitz said the check for \$1,600 from the Minneapolis Foundation has been cut and sent to the Island Association which has the required 501(c)(3) status in order to receive the grant.

The match of \$800 for this money was provided by Windustry so the total amount available will be \$2,100.00. A. Fischlowitz will email B. Henry the Island Association's form that has to be filled out before the money can be received.

B. Henry said one requirement of the tower lease was that the data is to be shared with Bad River. A hard copy and CD will be sent to Nathan. B. Henry has done all the analysis. A summary report from Bob Owen, consulting meteorologist, will be sent also. The new lease with Bad River will include language that the data will be shared.

### **B. Move to North end of Island.**

The cost estimate to move the tower from BBSP back to Bad River by Seventh Gen is \$5,000 which would put the project \$2,000 in the red. If the money just received from the Minneapolis Foundation is used the committee would be about \$1,000 short of the money needed to move the tower to the North End.

The Windustry grant is to provide \$35,000 in funds to each of the four sites. Suggestion that until the contract with Windustry is signed the AEC request Town funds which will then be reimbursed from the Windustry grant.

A. Fischlowitz will contact Seventh Gen and request a price to move the tower from BBSP and reinstall the tower on the north end. Once the cost is known we can put together a financial report for the Town Board. B. Henry will contact Arnie Nelson about putting the tower at the gravel pit. The exact location of the met tower needs research.

Discussion of the email B. Henry forwarded to committee members from Bob Owen who is under contract with us for SODAR data. Bob Owen is also involved with the site at Mt.

Ashwabab. Bob said Madeline Island is not the place to set up turbines because of how quiet the Island is.

Discussion of the noise issue. The committee needs to take a good look at the Vinalhaven project where a significant study is underway in response to the noise issue. George Baker of the Vinalhaven project is speaking at the Wind Energy Conference. Suggestion to see if this committee could purchase a tape of his presentation.

Discussion of the presentation at the Museum this summer hosted by the Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve. Prior to the presentation by the AEC there will be a presentation by someone from Byron, WI. where there is a large industrial wind project. That project has torn the community apart over noise.

Bob Owen, in his email, said noise would be an issue on Madeline Island and said turbines should be located 1500 feet or more from a property.

The State is now taking over zoning regulations regarding turbines because many towns in the eastern part of WI have kept turbines out by using local zoning regulations that require turbines to be located a certain distance away from a residence. The Public Service Commission has begun to hold public hearings to gather input on siting requirements.

Agreement scientific data is needed as well as education as to the pros and cons of wind energy.

Long discussion of noise. Agreement noise will be a bigger issue than birds and bats.

B. Henry attended the hawk conference in Duluth and said not people were there. The presenters were unable to answer B. Henry's questions about migration across the Apostle Islands.

Discussion of various bird migrations.

Discussion of property on the north end. Need to meet with Arnie and Ronnie.

#### **6. SODAR status.**

Bob Owen has not given the AEC the report on BBSP. B. Henry has been asking for this report for 6 months. Question if there were any time commitments for the report.

The money for this project came from the Office of Energy Independence (OEI) and was funded through the Town of La Pointe so Bob will be paid by a check made out by the Town. The Town will then have to be reimbursed by the OEI.

Thanks again from the Committee to Mark Eggleston.

#### **7. Set next meeting and agenda.**

Once we get information from Windustry a meeting will be set.

A. Fischlowitz will contact Seventh Gen.

A lease will be signed with Bad River in regards to the met tower. B. Henry will send Bad River copies of his wind data.

#### **8. Adjourn.**

Motion by T. Banner to adjourn, second, B. Henry. All in favor, four ayes, motion carried.

Meeting ended at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Minutes taken from recorder and respectfully submitted by Kathy Erickson, clerical assistant.

Minutes approved as corrected July 1, 2010