

Ad Hoc Community and Public Works Planning Committee (CAPP)
Alternative Energy Committee (AEC)
November 22, 2010

Members present: Burke Henry, Vice Chair; Tom Banner and Carl Frederickson

Members absent: Larry Bean, Chair and Alan Fischlowitz.

Also present:

1. Call to order.

The Alternative Energy Committee meeting called to order by Vice-Chair, B. Henry on Monday, November 22, 2010 at 10:05 a.m. at the Town Hall. A quorum of the committee is present as reflected in the members listed above.

2. Status of Windustry Grant

B. Henry would like to talk about the Windustry grant and how the grant might apply to the Chequamegon Bay Regional wind study.

A. Regional Wind Study

B. Henry attended the community and small wind energy conference presented by Windustry last week in St. Paul, MN. Windustry is holding three conferences: Rocky Mountain region in Denver, CO; Midwest region, St. Paul, MN and mid-Atlantic region, State College, Pennsylvania. Windustry ran concurrent sessions on community wind and small wind. Community wind is large scale; small wind is individual residences.

B. Henry attended the sessions on community wind. He met with Rory Artig, program manager for the Windustry Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) and Samantha Smart from Windustry. Also attending were Kelly Randleman Westland, executive director of the former Alliance for Sustainability and Tom Wojciechowski, UW Extension - Ashland County. Tom used to work for Bad River and was involved with Seventh Gen for the construction of the met tower at Bad River. Bob Owen, meteorologist who did the wind analysis study at Big Bay State Park and Mt Ashwabay also attended the conference.

Montana is a region that received RBEG funds through Windustry along with La Pointe and West Virginia. The Montana area has issues that involve transmission lines.

C. Frederickson asked if B. Henry attended small wind sessions. B. Henry said no. Focus on Energy and Mike Sagrillo, if you Google his name, has information on small wind.

B. Henry said the speaker the first night was Wesley Clark. His trip was paid for the owner of Juhl Wind, of Minneapolis, MN.

B. Henry's said he asked Windustry the following question: Since La Pointe has \$35,000 in grant funds that have to be spent by the end of April 2011 and another \$25,000 that has to be spent by the end of April 2012, and because La Pointe will not use these funds, could Bayfield County use the funds. Samantha and Rory said that would have to be approved by Lisa Daniels, who is Samantha Smart's executive director. There would also have to be an agreement with the Dept of Agriculture.

If Windustry and the Dept of Agriculture agree that the money can be used by Bayfield County the expenditure of the funds would have to be managed by the Alternative Energy Committee, (AEC) so that the paperwork trail is unbroken between us and Windustry's grant with RBEG. Any expenditure from Bayfield County would be paid for by the Town of La Pointe. The Town of La Pointe, in turn, would invoice Windustry. Money coming back from Windustry would go to the Town of La Pointe and from the Town of La Pointe to Bayfield County. If this is agreed upon, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town and the County of Bayfield would have to be written and signed by all parties and so written as to relieve the Town of La Pointe from any kind of financial issue, including liability insurance.

B. Henry said he had a further conversation with Mark Abeles-Allison, Bayfield County Administrator and with Kelly Westland, Tom Wojciechowski, Bob Owen and Rory Artig. B. Henry said that his position is that this project has to be a Bayfield County program. The Bayfield County board will state on paper that this is their project; they will establish their goals and present this project to the communities and people in their region as well as the Dept of Forestry and the DNR. B. Henry stated that he does not want anyone over there thinking that La Pointe is trying to come over there to sell a wind power program on the Island.

The AEC needs to agree that this is a policy that we support. If the AEC agrees B. Henry will go before the Town Board tomorrow night and advise the Town Board of what the AEC is recommending. The Town Board would have to agree to the policy and more importantly, Bayfield County, at their meeting the first week in December would have to agree and be willing to sign a MOU with the Town of La Pointe.

T. Banner said that in order for Bayfield County to establish clear goals and objectives there has to be a level of understanding that Bayfield County has to achieve before the AEC says yes or no. There has to be a commitment on Bayfield County's part to become educated, to set goals and objectives and to get approval. T. Banner does not feel comfortable voting at this time; good intentions, yes, but he feels that Bayfield has to show their commitment.

B. Henry said he is asking for an agreement of the AEC to go in this direction. Bayfield County has to establish their organization, their goals, and manage the project. If Bayfield County is unwilling to do this then the program will not exist. Bayfield County needs a credible plan; they need to establish the organization, charter, mission statement, goals, and accountabilities.

Motion by T. Banner that the proposal that the Windustry funds, for the next two years will be allocated from the Town of La Pointe to Bayfield County is contingent upon Bayfield County meeting the following criteria: That Bayfield County establish: 1. goals and objectives; 2. a mission statement; 3. a charter to include organization and 4. accountabilities and a reporting structure; 5. present the project to the affected Bayfield County governments and communities. Second, B. Henry. Discussion.

C. Frederickson asked if there should be a time limit. Agreement a time limit would be addressed under accountability and reporting. The AEC does not want Bayfield County reporting to the AEC. Bayfield County would have to be accountable because the Town has to submit an invoice to Windustry and we, the AEC will make the recommendation to the Town Board of La Pointe that the invoice is legitimate.

With the \$35,000 in grant funds Bayfield County could put up a 60 meter met tower as the 30 meter tower that was installed is not high enough to provide enough data for a financial investment. The money that remains from the installation of a 60 foot tower combined with the \$25,000 in grant funds that have to be spent by the end of April, 2012 might be used for a regional environmental assessment which could include the Tribes.

3 ayes to the motion on the floor. Motion carried.

B. Henry said he is willing to help, but not to lead the way.

3. Schedule next meeting.

B. Henry will present the AEC motion to the Town Board at their meeting tomorrow. B. Henry will also attend the meeting at 3pm meeting at the Bayfield County Courthouse to report what the AEC has recommended.

B. Henry said Kelly Westland is interested in being involved and would like a paid role in this project. B. Henry said he could see Kelly being involved in the day to day organization - scheduling meetings, doing the paperwork. Rory Artig thinks she could be paid from the consulting portion of the Windustry grant. B. Henry will talk to Kelly tomorrow; ask for her resume and how much she would charge. Kelly could also apply for grants for Bayfield County, but that money would have to come from Bayfield County.

The next AEC meeting will be held as necessary.

4. Adjourn.

Motion to adjourn by T. Banner, second, C. Frederickson. All in favor, 3 ayes, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:10 am.

Minutes taken from recorder and respectfully submitted by Kathy Erickson, Clerical Assistant

Minutes approved as presented April 15, 2013