

**Ad Hoc Community and Public Works Planning Committee (CAPP)  
Alternative Energy Committee  
October 3, 2008**

Meeting of the Alternative Energy Committee called to order by Chair Larry Bean at 10:05 am.

**Present:** Larry Bean, Chair; Burke Henry, Alan Fischlowitz, Vice Chair; Carl Frederickson (10:10am) and Mark Eggleston (10:15 am)

**1. Review and approval of the following minutes:**

**A. September 22, 2008**

Motion by A. Fischlowitz to approve the minutes of the Alternative Energy Committee as submitted. Second, L. Bean. All in favor (AIF) Motion carried. (MC).

**2. Review of recent correspondence.**

L. Bean sent a letter to Wisconsin Focus on Energy in regards to their request for three additional items: the location of the tower on a map; verification of the contractor which will include the data in his final report; and some evidence that we realize the economic of an initiative like this. This information has been received and approved. Bill Schutten from Focus on Energy also sent a packet of information in regards to submitting invoices and reports which is in your folders. Barb Nelson, Administrative Assistant, also has this packet. A sample invoice is included.

Carl Frederickson is now present.

This is a reimbursable arrangement. Following their guidelines, we submit the invoices on a quarterly basis along with a detailed progress report. L. Bean said the date of the award was October 2<sup>nd</sup> so the invoices and reports would be due Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>, April 2<sup>nd</sup> and July 2<sup>nd</sup>. He will add these dates to the calendar.

Mark Eggleston is now present.

L. Bean said the grant agreement needs to be signed and sent on but first must go before the Town Board at the October 14, 2008 town board meeting. Barb Nelson, Administrative Assistant, suggested that we ask the town board for blanket approval for grant agreements. I think this is a good idea. The feasibility grant agreement form is not included in the agreement because of a copying error.

Motion by A. Fischlowitz to pursue blanket approval for grant agreements with the town board at the October 14, 2008 town board meeting. Second, B. Henry. All in favor, 5 ayes, motion carries.

L. Bean approval is needed from the Town Board to enter into an agreement with Seventh Generation as well an agreement to retain Bob Owen, consulting engineer, meteorologist, in regard to data analysis and SODAR. SODAR (SONic Detection And Ranging) is a system that measures the scattering of sound waves by atmospheric turbulence. The SODAR data could also correlate with the tower site at Mt. Ashwabay. Bob Owen is encouraging us and Bayfield County to add SODAR to the met tower. He also suggested that we may be paying too much for our met tower and if we looked at another bid there could be money left for the SODAR installation.

Discussion of costs of the met tower. L. Bean said he talked to David Blecker, executive director of Seventh Generation and mentioned Bob Owen's remarks. D. Blecker assured L. Bean that their price was competitive and removed \$500 from the installation fee of

\$4500.00 so the installation fee will now be \$4,000. The wiring harness on the tower could be used which would save us \$750 and they plan to use the existing anchors, which saves \$300. The bid of \$13,610 would now be reduced by \$1551 which brings the amount to \$12,059. L. Bean has prepared a letter to David Blecker in regards to these costs.

The bid from Lake Michigan Wind and Sun is \$26,924 for a new system and includes Bob Owen's work and decommissioning the tower. The cost for Seventh Generation is in the price range of \$21,183 and \$22,734 (if the above \$1500 in deductions do not happen) and includes decommissioning of the tower and Bob Owen's work. B. Henry asked if L. Bean had a spreadsheet showing Seventh and Lake Michigan Wind and solar costs. L. Bean said:

Seventh Generation bid is	\$12,059	Lake Michigan Wind and Solar	\$26,924
Decommissioning tower	3,500	Decommissioning included	.
Tower lease Bad River	2,000	No lease	
Data analysis & report Bob Owen	2,712	Data analysis included	
	912		
Total: \$21,183			

L. Bean said his letter to David Blecker documents the reductions. In the third paragraph the letter needs to say "please prepare a written agreement that can be executed with the Town of La Pointe. We will prepare and return a check to you initiated work on the project." This letter should not be interpreted as a contract as the contract has to be done by the town board at the 10/14/08 meeting. Included in the letter should be - send us an invoice for the equipment package.

Also included in the letter should be the following: "If the agreement and invoice are approved by the Town Board we will prepare and return a check to you initiating the work on this project." Barb said public notice is required if the town contracts for amounts above \$5,000. However, she talked to the Wisconsin Towns Association and was told that because this is a temporary installation and because this is to provide a service the contract will not require public notice.

L. Bean said there will be two installations of SODAR in Bayfield County at Mt. Ashwabay. Bob Owen, is strongly encouraging us to install SODAR. Cost would be \$2000 for the equipment; \$1000 for the report and a \$3,000 mobilization cost which would be shared by the other two installations leaving us a cost of \$1,000 for mobilization. Total cost for SODAR would be \$4,000. Agreement that this is a valuable addition but the cost is surprising. Cost of SODAR and the met tower totals \$25,183 (\$26,234 if the reductions from Seventh Generation are not allowed). In terms of the quality of the work SODAR would give us wind shear and turbulence data. Six weeks are needed to get the data. B. Henry will contact Bob Owen in regards to SODAR and how it works and will bring a recommendation back to the committee. A decision is needed to justify, and how to fund the SODAR. This leads to agenda item:

**5. Funding status.**

There is a balance of \$2,000. The Apostle Island Area Community Fund (AIACF) grant is awarded by the end of the month and we will know about the \$2,000 grant from the Fund for the Environment at the end of December. There are also grant possibilities from the Office of Energy Independence (OEI) and a Wal-Mart Foundation grant of \$5,000.

Motion by B. Henry to have A. Fischlowitz send in a grant application to the Wal-Mart Foundation for \$5,000 as soon as possible. Second, L. Bean. All in favor, 5 ayes, motion carried.

L. Bean said we have a firm \$19,500 in funding and anticipate an additional \$5,000 by end of month. Expenses are \$21,183. \$3500 of that expense is not due for another 14 months and the data analysis cost would be due later. L. Bean suggests that because there is \$19,500 available (Focus on Energy grant, the full \$5,000 from the Minneapolis Foundation and OEI) we commit to the contract.

Motion by A. Fischlowitz that because of the schedule of required outlays and the prognosis for this funding, we commit to the contract. Second, L. Bean. Discussion. B. Henry said the motion is to proceed with the contract with Seven Generation and Bob Owen for \$21,183 and pay the \$3500 to decommission the tower later.

Question on how to confirm the Minneapolis Foundation funding of \$5,000. A response from the Island Association is needed in regards to the request for confirmation of a 501(c)(3) status so the Minneapolis Foundation and the Wal-Mart Foundation grants can go through the Island Association. A. Fischlowitz and B. Henry will contact the Island Association again. Agreement to wait to ask about the anonymous donor in regards to the Minneapolis Foundation grant.

Agreement that proceeding with the commitment is a workable risk.

All in favor to the motion on the floor to commit to the contract with Seven Generation. 5 ayes. Motion carried.

L. Bean recommends that just the Seventh Generation contract, in the amount of \$12,059 go before the town board. The tower lease of \$2,000 has already been approved by the Town Board and since the payment to Bob Owen for data analysis would be at a later date, the only contract to go before the town board would be the Seventh Generation contract.

A. Fischlowitz modifies the motion on the floor: to proceed with the contract with Seventh Generation in the amount of \$12,059 and to take the contract to the town board on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Second, L. Bean. All in favor, 5 ayes, motion carried.

The committee will now continue to:

## **2. Review of recent correspondence.**

L. Bean said that Ashland County has responded in regards to a permit. No permit is needed for the met tower but they do need a letter that certifies what we are doing and that the met tower is a 14 month project. This has been done.

A land use permit is needed from the DNR. M. Eggleston has received a land use agreement application electronically. A written request is needed and there is a \$500 fee but this might be waived. The information needed is not much different from what is required by Ashland County. The request has to state that this is a temporary structure for data collection and does not imply that there will be a permanent wind turbine in this area. There has to be marked to alert snowmobilers as to the area around the tower and the data needs to be shared with the State after collection. L. Bean will send a letter to Steve Miller, Director, Facilities and Lands at the DNR. The letter will state that we are requesting a land use agreement between the Town of La Pointe and WI DNR that identifies us and Seventh Generation as contacts. Mark will fax the letter also.

L. Bean has contacted Gary Dikkers of the Dept of Transportation in regards to the requirement for a Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation from the Federal

Aviation Administration (FAA) as a response has not yet been received. L. Bean has also asked Seventh Generation to inquire as they have a relationship with the Bureau of Aeronautics (BOA).

B. Henry will read information from Bob Owen in regards to SODAR before setting a meeting time. A. Fischlowitz will fill out the Town of La Pointe land use permit application after the land use agreement is received from the DNR. There will be no fee.

### **3. Review of updated contact list.**

L. Bean emailed the contact list to committee members. To be added are: Vern Kenas, Excel Energy; Rose Ganther, Red Cliff who serves on the Governor's Wind Committee, DNR contacts: Matt Frank, John Spangberg, Steve Miller and Greg Behling; John Crest, Walmart Foundation, Barbara Brown, County Journal. L. Bean will give A. Fischlowitz an updated list.

### **4. Status of Meteorological tower siting/erection**

L. Bean said Gary Dikkers gave him the coordinates of the two sites by Hagen House (not the one across the road by the lake or by the open area by the water pump). Only one determination is needed since the two sites are so close to one another so Seventh Generation can put the tower where they think it is best.

Question of who will collect the data every two weeks. Collection involves a card to be pulled and the information entered on the computer and the data sent to Bob Owen. B. Henry, M. Eggleston, and Keith Sowl, Town Forman have volunteered. Bob Owen thought about hiring someone to get the data from SODAR every four to six weeks. B. Henry will contact Bob Owen to see what is needed and how to collect the SODAR data.

### **6. AEC calendar for next 6 months.**

L. Bean has a draft calendar he has given a copy to Barb. A check has to be sent to Bad River for the tower lease. Land use agreements: Town and the DNR; a letter requesting a land use agreement from the DNR will go out today. That letter will be coupled with the land use permit information that A. Fischlowitz would need for the town land use application. Need the BOA-FAA determination for the tower at the Hagen House site and people who are impacted by the tower should be notified. Town Board approval of contract on October 14<sup>th</sup>; Seventh Generation notified of action dates; Lynn Hall at Bad River needs notification of the date to take the tower down. WI Focus on Energy will be done on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Bob Owen needs to be contacted in regards to SODAR. The invoice to Seventh Generation has to be paid so they can start. Will get the award notice from the Fund for the Environment, AIACF Funding decision, then set up tower and begin data printing. Need to set a date for a status presentation to the community at the Library. In November need verification that everything is working, a final report draft for 1<sup>st</sup> grant of \$4,000 Phase I. In Dec there will be SODAR. B. Henry suggested meeting every two weeks and then as needed.

### **7. Schedule Next Meeting.**

The next meeting will be held Friday, October 10, 2008 at 10:00am at Town Hall.

Tapes ends.

### **8. Adjourn.**

Meeting adjourns at approximately 11:30 am

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

Minutes approved as presented February 17, 2009