



McHenry County
Planning, Environment & Development - Public Meeting
MINUTES

June 4, 2024, 8:30 AM
County Board Conference Room
Administration Building, 667 Ware Rd., Woodstock, IL 60098

Members Present: Larry Smith, John Reinert, Carl Kamienski, Joseph Gottemoller, Carolyn Campbell, Jim Kearns

Members Absent: Louisett Ness

Full comments on all agenda items are included in the video recording of this meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at: 8:32 A.M.

Also present: Scott Hartman, Deputy County Administrator; Kerri Wisz, Chief Financial Officer; Adam Wallen, Director of Planning and Development; Renee Hanlon, Deputy Director of Planning and Development; Nicole Gattuso, Director of GIS; Ernest Varga, Design Engineer II.

2. MINUTES APPROVAL

Mover: Kamienski
Second: Campbell

Approve previous minutes of the May 7, 2023 meeting.

Aye (5): Smith, Reinert, Kamienski, Campbell, and Kearns

Absent (2): Gottemoller, and Ness

Recommended (5 to 0)

2.1 Planning, Environment & Development - Public Meeting - May 7, 2024 8:30 A.M.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. MEMBERS' COMMENTS

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

None.

6. ROUTINE CONSENT AGENDA

None.

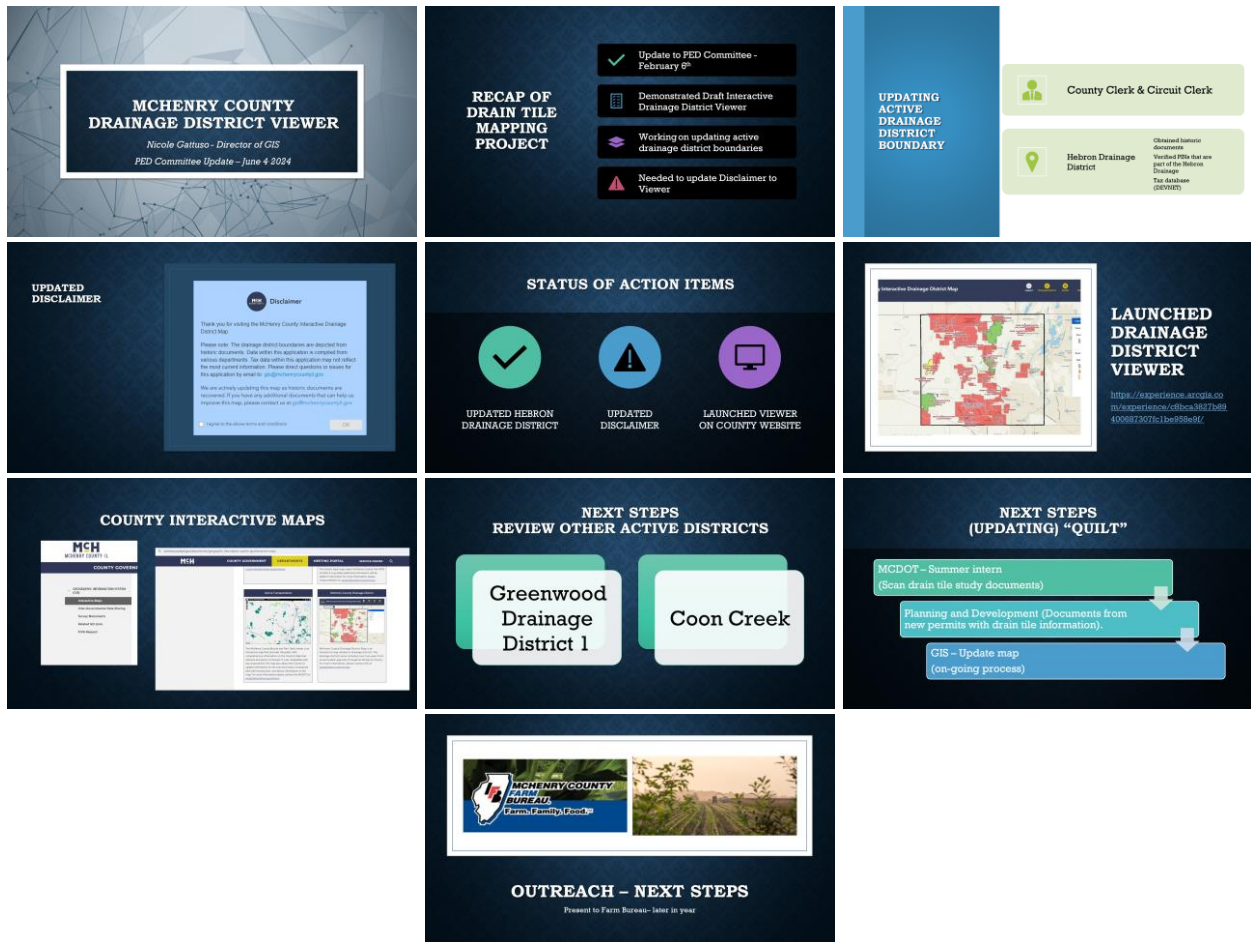
7. PRESENTATION

7.1 Drainage District Viewer

Mr. Gottemoller arrives at 8:35 A.M.

Nicole Gattuso, Director of GIS, joined the committee for the presentation.

Ms. Gattuso stated she was in attendance to provide an update on where the Drainage District Viewer is currently.



7.2 Committee Introduction to Budget Software for FY25 Budget Presentations

Kerri Wisz, Chief Financial Officer, and Peter Austin, County Administrator, joined the committee for the presentation.

Mr. Austin stated as soon as next month they will begin bringing budgets before the committees but they are going to do it differently than what was done in the past. He stated Ms. Wisz was going to provide an overview of the tool and how members can view them on their own.

Ms. Wisz stated before they got into the budget they wanted to talk to all of the committees so they could reach every Board Member. The direction was to move quickly through the budget presentations, which is sufficient but there could be some detriment to the new Board Members. She stated they would still like to be efficient and fast but in a different format, and the hope is for the format to be easier and provide answers to questions and the ability to locate information if needed. Once the software is up it will be found on the Finance page under the budget section there will be a link that says "2025 Draft Budget", which will be the easier way to view it but there will also be a link in the members' packets that are going to go out. She then went through the draft version of her anticipated software demonstrating how the members would navigate through it to locate information.

After going through the draft, Ms. Wisz mentioned that once she makes the software public for the Board Members to see it will be available for the public as well, but she did want to note that as they are going through the budget process the documents will constantly be changing.

After the presentation, Chair Smith moved forward on the agenda to item 9.1.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Scott Hartman, Deputy County Administrator, joined the committee for an update on Spongy Moths.

- Ms. Hartman stated that the County is engaged in a program and is committed to monitoring the spongy moth population within the County.
- He wanted to mention that the two hotspots that they were focused on last year were south of Bull Valley and Marengo, but he confirmed that the one in Marengo is not as bad this year.
- He stated he has not heard from Mr. Vanderspool or the neighboring properties about what his condition is like, but he will continue reaching out to him to gather that information.
- They have one verified hotspot which is located on East Crystal Lake Road, east of Route 31, and one property in particular has several oak trees and the defoliation is reoccurring. What is interesting is that they did not pop up on the data from last year and are now crawling all over the property. He asked them to work with their neighbors to see what the state is on the surrounding properties and once he gets that information he will bring it back to the committee.
- There was one area that was sprayed by neighbors, all 300 acres along Flemming Road, and the area was determined to be a possible candidate for spraying if the County were to do so but the residents took it upon themselves after engaging Hendrickson Flying Service. He mentioned that they are going to monitor the area to see how effective the spraying was.
- He stated using the day issue of Thrive McHenry County that they are going to ask the citizen scientists of the County to help deploy spongy moth traps. The traps are not intended to get rid of them but act as a data collection device. In August they will go around collecting the traps, to open them, and count how many male moths were captured so they can gather that data and pinpoint those hotspots.

9. REPORTS

9.1 ZBA and Hearing Officer Reports

9.1.a Zoning Applications going before the County Board on June 18, 2024

Renee Hanlon, Deputy Director of Planning and Development, joined the committee to discuss the report.

Ms. Hanlon stated this month the committee has six on the agenda, three are solar farms and the other three are straightforward variations. She mentioned that all of the applications came with a recommendation for approval on the consent. She stated that they have one on the regular agenda because the Hearing Officer recommended denial for half of it and approval for the other half of it. As

well there was opposition from neighbors. The applicants live on a property that is 4.7 acres and for the last two years they have hosted a live event on YouTube that is based on the television show "Survivor", last year the neighbors complained which is when it came to the County's attention. They informed the applicant that if they intended to host the event again they would be required to obtain a Temporary Entertainment Event Permit, which they did. She noted with the changes that they made this year, specifically if a property is under 5 acres, that they would need a variation because they are 4.7 acres. The Hearing Officer acknowledged that they did meet the standards for that variation so he recommended approval for that variation. She stated their live events last for a week, but the County only allows for those types of events to last for three consecutive days, so they asked for a variation to host a seven-day event versus the allowed three-day event, and the Hearing Officer found that they did not meet the standards for that variation so he recommended denial for that. Ms. Hanlon noted that if the Board wanted to overturn the Hearing Officer's recommendation they would need 14 yes votes to do so, and she mentioned that the ordinance would be written in the affirmative for both.

After the report, Chair Smith moved back up on the agenda to item 8.

10. FUTURE TOPICS

None.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION (AS NECESSARY)

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mover: Gottemoller

Second: Kamienski

To adjourn the meeting at 9:23 A.M. -TCCazares

Aye (6): Smith, Reinert, Kamienski, Gottemoller, Campbell, and Kearns

Absent (1): Ness

Recommended (6 to 0)