

**MINUTES
METRO PEORIA AD-HOC COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 12, 2014
2:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT	Andrew Rand Mary Ardapple	Michael Phelan Ryan Spain
MEMBERS ABSENT	Timothy Riggerbach	W. Eric Turner
OTHERS PRESENT	Amy McClaren, County Engineer Carol Trumpe, County Board Cheryl Budzinski, League of Women Voters Chris Setti, Assistant City Manager John Hamann, County Rural ED Director Kate Green, Assistant to the City Manager Lori Curtis Luther, County Administrator	Maggie Martino, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission Mark Rothert, Assistant County Administrator Matt Wahl, County Planning and Zoning Director Mike Rogers, City Public Works Director Scott Reeise, City Engineer Scott Sorrel, Assistant County Administrator

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Rand at 2:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2014, meeting was made by Member Ardapple; seconded by Member Phelan. The motion was approved unanimously by viva voce vote.

DISCUSSION

Stormwater Management Update

Ms. Martino provided an overview of the stormwater management study. She said that 13 jurisdictions are involved in the study, which was funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Mr. Wahl noted that the study is focused on establishing an Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) for each jurisdiction to use to finance stormwater management and infrastructure. He said that the deliverable date for the study is four to six weeks. Once the report is received, he said that it would be discussed formally with the partner agencies. He noted that recommendations would then need to go through the respective governing bodies of each jurisdiction.

Mr. Rogers said that a regional strategy would need to be equitable. He said that once the deliverables were received, dialogue could then occur about implementation. He said that a review of other jurisdictions with stormwater utilities would be necessary.

Member Ardapple asked what the timeline would look like moving forward. Mr. Wahl said that each jurisdiction has different needs depending on its infrastructure. He said that each government would need to adopt its own stormwater utility and ordinance. Ms. Curtis Luther said that that regional effort would be best utilized in terms of simultaneous implementation and coordinated public education efforts. She said that communication about why the utility is needed, and how it will impact different organizations including tax exempt entities, will create a greater level of public acceptance. Mr. Rogers agreed and said that benchmarking the impacts of the fee in different communities will prevent concerns such as a negative impact on development in the area. He noted that other communities may also have experience with issues including how to deal with major employment centers by capping the fee per employer in those areas.

In response to Member Ardapple, Mr. Wahl said that the timeline to implement the mandate is more focused on best practices for the County, and that the needs of the City may be different. Mr. Rogers said that combined sewer overflow (CSO) is a major priority for the City, which is in the middle of negotiations with the EPA regarding the issue. Mr. Wahl commented that it needs to be reviewed if the region could even support a stormwater utility. He said that the disparity between different jurisdictions in terms of the ERU may be challenging. He said that if the minimal standards exist, that the discussion should move forward about creating a regional authority.

Ms. Curtis Luther said that she participates in regular meetings with the City Manager and staff from both the City and County. She said that stormwater management would be a topic for discussion at these meetings. She said that the topic should be ready for discussion in a County Committee within the next ninety days, but that the appropriate committee has not yet been determined.

Member Ardapple asked if a joint communication strategy would be appropriate. Member Spain agreed with the exception of the concerns regarding the CSO. He said that hundreds of millions of dollars will be spent on the CSO improvements, and it is not clear when that will take place. Ms. Curtis Luther said that the County's needs are not as urgent as the City's, and the timeline could be driven as defined by the City. Mr. Setti noted that the County could play a strong role in creating a unified force across the different municipalities in the County.

Vice Chairman Rand asked how much of the CSO issue is caused above the Peoria City/County border. Mr. Rogers said it is a significant amount. He said that the water is cleaner at the outflows than what it is upstream. Vice Chairman Rand asked if an organized commission to discuss the regional stormwater utility would be useful. Mr. Wahl said that it has been discussed, but movement on the creation of such commission has been on hold until the results from the study is reviewed. Ms. Curtis Luther said that a final report back to the Committee should occur in the next couple of months, and

then a discussion can be held about the creation of a regional commission. She said that political leadership in the creation of that commission would be necessary. Vice Chairman Rand requested that the City Manager and County Administrator review the requirements to form such a commission.

City-County Road Transfer Agreement

Ms. McClaren reviewed the results of a survey sent out to the American Public Works Association (APWA) and the Illinois Association of County Engineers (IACE) regarding maintenance and jurisdictional transfers of County roads within City limits. She said that the general response was a lack of formal agreements in place for maintenance. She noted that the City and County use the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) guidelines for jurisdictional transfers. She also said that any funds that the County uses on these roads must adhere to IDOT standards since IDOT is the source of funding for infrastructure improvements for the County.

Vice Chairman Rand asked if any progress was made on how to move forward with jurisdictional transfers. Member Spain said that he would review the findings of the survey to see how other communities approach the issue. He noted that upon quick review, one clear method was not apparent. Member Spain requested different ideas on modifying the 1960s agreement, as well as an educational piece on how the County budgets for infrastructure improvements. Ms. McClaren said that the City and County would review the results of the survey and bring forth recommendations for modifications to the current agreement. Vice Chairman Rand asked that any modifications be acceptable to both the City and County.

Seeds2Success

Member Ardapple informed the Committee about the first Greater Peoria Regional Food Summit to be held on Saturday, February 22nd. She said that both the City and County play a major role in developing a local food economy. She noted that the County had engaged the University of Illinois Peoria extension in creating a business plan for the development of the local food economy. Member Ardapple continued to say that the Summit was the progression of that plan. She noted that Minneapolis is a model of a strong local food economy, and that speakers from Minneapolis would be at the Summit. She said that the intent of the Summit is to develop action statements. She said that the County lags behind in developing the local food economy, and that the acreage for this purpose is low. Member Ardapple commented that the Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires fresh food standards in institutional systems, including schools and hospitals. She said that cooperation between the City's Sustainability Commission and the County's Economic Development Department could work toward addressing poverty and food deserts throughout the community.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Stormwater Management Update, Following Receipt of Final Report from TCRPC

City-County Road Transfer Agreement Revisions, March 2014

County's Economic Development Strategy, March 2014

Election Commission Presentation, April 2014

Joint Legislative Agenda Update, Monthly through May 2014

MISCELLANEOUS

Member Ardapple inquired about the current status of the joint requests made by the City and County for the legislative agenda. She asked if this item should be discussed regularly by the Committee to encourage progress. Member Spain agreed that it should remain on the agenda through the end of the legislative session in May.

Mr. Setti noted that Representative Leitch will carry the non-ad valorem taxing request made by the City in relation to garbage collection fees. He said that Representative Moffitt would carry the joint request by the City and County regarding abandoned property. He said that the language was being drafted and should be prepared by the next Committee meeting. He continued to say that there was a lack of interest from local leaders to carry the speeding camera legislation, but that similar legislation has been sponsored by a Representative from East St. Louis. He said that the City would support that legislation.

Vice Chairman Rand requested that Mr. Rothert present the County's recently adopted economic development strategy. He noted that the targets and objectives of the County's strategy would be of interest to the City as well.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairman Rand at 3:32 PM.