



COUNTY OF ERIE

Erie County Planning Commission

Erie County Courthouse
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Gerry Dahl
Chairman

Jan Cornwell
Vice-Chairman

**ERIE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

June 9, 2011

A meeting of the Erie County Planning Commission was held at 6:30 PM on Thursday, June 9, 2011 in the Admiral Room at the Raymond M. Blasco Memorial Library, 160 East Front Street, Erie PA.

Those in attendance were:

ECPC members:	Representing:
Gerry Dahl	Corry City (Chair, Exec. Board)
Jan Cornwell	County of Erie (Vice Chair, Exec. Board)
Carol Loll	County Council (Exec. Board)
Charles Casey	Erie City (Exec. Board)
Paul Pangratz	Girard Twp (Exec. Board)
Joe Legnasky	Lake City Boro (Exec. Board)
Patricia Pfadt	Venango Twp (Exec. Board)
Ed Williams	Erie City
Jim Cardman	Fairview Twp
Kenneth Neuburger	McKean Twp
Flory Kondzielski	Waterford Twp
Planning Department Staff:	
Jake Welsh	
Guests:	

Executive Board members present – 7 of 9; quorum attained

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Gerry Dahl called the meeting to order and the pledge of allegiance was given.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

APPROVAL OF May 12, 2011 MINUTES

A motion was made by Joe Legnasky and seconded by Jan Cornwell to approve the minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

ECDP Monthly Activity Report

Gerry Dahl indicated that the Erie County Department of Planning's Monthly Activity Report was attached to the meeting agenda, and asked if anyone had any questions or comments to add. Jake Welsh briefly reviewed several areas covered in the report, and made note of related upcoming meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

Erie County Stormwater Management Plan

Jake Welsh provided a brief update on the Stormwater Management Plan activities. He reminded members that the two regional implementation workshops geared to builders and developers are set for June 17th and June 24th, in Edinboro and Titusville. The Builder's Association of NW PA helped announce the workshops. Planning Commission members also discussed ongoing efforts to prepare the municipal ordinances to implement the plan.

Erie County Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Jake Welsh provided an update on the status of the Long Range Transportation Plan and reviewed a draft outline of the plan document. There was additional discussion on how the proposed inland port project would be addressed in the plan. Jake commented that the proposed land uses / development in the area would be analyzed and modeled, and resulting demands on the existing transportation network would then be identified and general recommendations made in the plan. More detailed study of the area will be occurring over the next several months through a separate master-planning project being conducted by the ECEDC, and more refined recommendations would be made at that time.

Erie County Hazard Mitigation Plan – 5 Year Update

Jake Welsh noted that the Final Draft is under review by ECDP and ECEMA, and available for public comment until June 16th at www.ErieHMP.com. Several areas have been commented on by our office and revisions will be made. Plan submission to PEMA and FEMA for their review will occur after all revisions are made.

Erie County Comprehensive Plan Update

Jake Welsh asked if anyone else is interested in participating in the steering committee to provide guidance to ECDP throughout the planning process. It was recommended that the committee include at least one member of County Council, if possible. Jim Cardman, Joe Legnasky, and Gerry Dahl had already volunteered for the committee. It was noted again that this should not be a significant time commitment for steering committee members, and that there will probably be quarterly meetings held just prior to regular meetings of the ECPC. Carol Loll and Flory Kondzielski volunteered to serve on the committee and were thanked for their commitment.

OTHER BUSINESS

Meeting Cancellation

A motion was made by Jan Cornwell and seconded by Charles Casey to cancel the July 14, 2011 ECPC meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Jake noted that a cancellation notice would be sent, along with the June minutes and activity report.

Local Bridge Inspections

Jake indicated that the County has been working with PennDOT for several months to address concerns with the engineering firm hired to conduct the inspections in 2010, and noted that the firm was recently suspended by PennDOT due to performance issues. PennDOT will retain a firm through an open contract with the state to conduct the remaining inspections in the cycle, so they are performed and submitted in a timely manner to the municipalities. The next round of inspections will still occur in the fall of this year, as anticipated.

County Liquid Fuels

There was brief discussion of the county liquid fuels program and committee. Jake and Gerry noted that regular quarterly meetings have been started, and information sharing is improved. This will allow for better communication regarding possible emergency requests and municipal report filing for distribution of funds.

Marcellus Shale

There was brief discussion over the status and possible development of Marcellus Shale gas wells in Erie County, with North East Township's recent experience being mentioned. Jake noted that there are ordinances currently being developed and adopted in many areas of the state due to the existing or anticipated activity. These municipalities already experiencing development and administering regulations are making their ordinances available for others to use as templates.

ADJOURNMENT

Gerry Dahl invited members to come to Corry the following week to enjoy the annual Corry Fest celebration, which will have events and attractions the entire week.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.