



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**

November 10, 2011

A meeting of the Erie County Planning Commission was held at **6:30 PM** on **Thursday, November 10, 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	Erie County (Vice-Chair, 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)
Ken Neuburger	McKean Twp
Flory Kondzielski	Waterford Twp
Pete Nye	Wesleyville Boro
Planning Department Staff:	
Jake Welsh	
Guests:	

Executive Board members present – 6 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 OCTOBER 13, 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. Jake Welsh then discussed several items from the report:

Erie County Hazard Mitigation Plan – Jake stated that FEMA's review comments were received November 1 and that a conference call was held with FEMA, ECDP, ECEMA and the plan consultant on November 10 to discuss required revisions. Jake also noted that according to the consultant the comments received were fairly typical and should be addressed easily.

Erie County Stormwater Management Plan – Jake stated that ECDP received an e-mail from the National Stormwater Center on November 9 announcing their MS4 Workshop dates for 2012. These are one-hour online workshops and information is on their website at <http://www.npdes.com/>. Jake noted the e-mail would be forwarded to the County's MS4 municipalities for their review.

Coastal Zone Management Program – Jake noted there is a grantee workshop being held on November 15 for the nine recently awarded FFY2011 CZM projects. Jake also stated that twelve (12) applications were received for the 2012 funds, two of which were State applications for the Lake Erie area, and that a meeting will be held November 16 to review and rank the project applications.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program – Jake noted that the information packets for the 2012 applications being reviewed and ranked at the December ECPC meeting were sent out to all ECPC members on November 10.

Erie County Affordable Housing (Act 137) Fund – Jake noted that the 2012 application and program guidelines were available at the ECDP office, and that applications were mailed to affordable housing providers on November 7. The application deadline is January 12, 2012.

Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2012 Executive Board

Gerry Dahl asked for volunteers to serve on the nominating committee and asked if last years committee members were willing to serve again. Jan Cornwell and Joe Legnasky agreed and were appointed. The committee recommendations / nominations of executive board members and officers will be presented at the February 2012 ECPC meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Erie County Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Jake Welsh stated that ECDP received a draft of the plan sections which staff is currently reviewing for discussion at the November 16 Erie MPO meeting. The plan needs to be finalized and an air quality conformity analysis performed and approved prior to a public comment period being held and formal MPO adoption occurring.

OTHER BUSINESS

Road Salt – Members discussed the outlook for road salt pricing, which appear to be good for now. Impacts of the recent snowstorm hitting the eastern part of the state and New England were discussed as a possible concern on supplies and future pricing.

McKean Township Comprehensive Plan – Ken Neuburger indicated the township will be undertaking an update of their comprehensive plan with the assistance of the planning department staff. It was noted that the township is using a portion of their CDBG funding to pay for the update, and that the cost for the ECDP to prepare the plan will be considerably less than hiring consultant services.

2012 ECDP Budget / Staffing – Members asked how the ECDP budget fared during the County's ongoing budget deliberation process. Jake stated that the budget did not have any increased costs from 2011, and that thankfully staffing was not reduced.

FHWA Discretionary Grant Program Announcement – Jake mentioned that a recent e-mail received was forwarded to all municipalities regarding the availability of FHWA funds in several categories. The application period was extremely short (due to PennDOT on December 6), but encouraged all to review the information for possible project submittals.

2011 ECPC Member Terms – Jake noted that eleven ECPC member terms would be expiring at the end of the year, and that letters would be sent to the members and the municipalities they represent for re-appointment or new appointments. Jake was hopeful that the existing members would be willing to continue their service.

PFBC Lake Erie Advisory Committee – Jake noted that he will be serving on an advisory committee formed by the PA Fish & Boat Commission to get local input on the use of the money generated from the Lake Erie Stamp sales to area fisherman. This money is dedicated specifically to projects located in the Lake Erie watershed, including the purchase of easements from landowners for public access to fishing areas and construction of stream habitat improvements.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.