

TOWN OF MARSHFIELD
MARCH 18, 2010 WIND TURBINE STANDING COMMITTEE

Presiding officer, John Bord called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Members of the committee present were Jim Mueller, Larry Lamont, Cathy Seibel and John Bord. Other Town Officials present were Ken Kraus and Connie Pickart. Dennis Stenz was tardy. Absent were alternates Dick VanderVelde and John Gierach. Tanya Holler-Muench, Dale Borusky and Bob Servias represented We Energies. Members from the public included, Richard and Dolli-Jo Jordan, Liz Ebertz, Jim Vollmer, Diane/Kim Kraus, Bruce Dalka and Chuck Kiefenheim. Also present was FdL County Executive, Allen Buechel, Gloria Smedema of FdL Co. Public Health Department, and Art Ondrejka operations manager from Vestes American Wind.

Review of January 21, 2010 meeting

Regarding Bruce Dalka's situation-Dale Borusky stated that a letter has been sent to Bruce informing him that We Energies will hire COMSEARCH, an engineering consulting firm who has the expertise in areas of signal interference, to perform tests to evaluate wind turbine interference pertaining to his TV reception. Bruce has 7-10 days to respond. Tanya stated we have dealt with this problem for two years and it is time "to get to the bottom and move on". "If the problem is related to the turbine, we will fix it." Dennis Stenz, will represent the Town in the evaluation process. Questions pertaining to COMSEARCH's credentials were directed to their website. "They will give We Energies the answers they want. I don't trust them". Bruce has asked for an independent company. Bruce will respond to We Energies' offer in a "timely manner". We Energies replied, "If you don't want to accept our offer, we are done".

Regarding Sirius satellite radio-Jim Mueller stated he received Sirius radio and "turned out well". Larry Lamont still has problems with his and Joe Bauer's works. Bruce stated We Energies promised him a Sirius radio. Bob Servias stated that if he did, he was wrong to do so at that time. Only three has been approved thus far. Protocol and eligibility issues need to be verified.

Concerned Citizens Form

Chuck Kiefenheim-Chuck is concerned about "noise, TV reception, environmental concerns and cell phone roaming". He reported that "Ransom's (TV) is unresponsive to his calls, do not return calls". Chuck is concerned that if We Energies fixes his present concerns and he "signs off", will We Energies be responsive to any future concerns. Tanya responded, "We Energies will fix your problems for however long".

Kris Meixensperger- has continuing concerns about "shadow flicker on my house/property". Tanya reported that Kris refuses window treatments and wants the turbine shut down. "The Towers cannot be shut down."

Rickard and Dolli-Jo Jordan-The Jordans are concerned about "health issues for humans and animals, water contamination, fires because they attract lightning strikes". They are also concerned about shadow flickering, lowered property values, poor radio and TV reception, increased property taxes and increased electric bills. They do not want window treatments; property values can be directed to the assessors; We Energies will consult with them regarding radio; Cathy explained property taxes in the Town of Marshfield have gone down, largely due to the shared revenue the Town has received

because of the turbines. Rickard asked why the towers were put up in any residential area. Tanya replied because of the “low density” and availability of wind. The Public Service Commission (PSC) has set the standards. We Energies is required by Wisconsin law to create green energy. John Bord stated, “Probably the best thing in the long run, is to put all your issues together and go to your legislatures. They are the ones who forced power companies to go to ‘green power’.

Jim Vollmer-We energies has dealt with Jim’s concerns. Tanya stated, “We have addressed your issues and made recommendations. You have notified WPS, “mitigation is in the State’s hand”. Jim asked if the Town can help. The Town does not have the power to do anything, unless the conditions of the Amended Joint Development Agreement are not followed.

A five minute break followed. Bruce Dalka left and the Jordans left about half way through the presentation by Art Ondrejka.

Power Point by Dale Borusky and Art Ondrejka

Art Ondrejka introduced himself as operations manager for Vestes American Wind, manufacturer of the generator for the turbines. There was a concern of grease on the outside of the turbines. This is due to a seal problem and it is fixed. The turbines will be cleaned. The DNR has been notified and they are satisfied that there is no contamination from the grease.

Art described the general construction and maintenance of the turbines. The turbines are completely computer driven. Maintenance is performed on each turbine every six months minimum. “They run well. They run safe.” A “phenomenal” crew of 13, all local residents, is a top-rated team, no accidents and they keep the turbines running 99% of the time.

John introduced Allen Buechel, FdL Co. executive. Allen commented that a County funded ‘sound study’ was not feasible. There are approximately 200 turbines in FdL County. Health issues might be coordinated with the Public Health Department. Gloria Smedema, FdL Co Public health office, nodded in agreement.

The next meeting will be May 20, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Cathy Seibel moved to adjourn and Jim Mueller seconded. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Connie Pickart, Town Clerk