



Environment and Natural Resources Committee

DRAFT Minutes

February 4, 2009 – 9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Jack Darin – Sierra Club, Joe Schuessler – Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, Patty Werner - Lake County SMC, Karla Kramer – US Fish and Wildlife Service, Wally Van Buren – Illinois Association of Wastewater Agencies, Lenore Beyer-Clow – Openlands, John Rogner (alternate) – Chicago Wilderness, Martha Dooley – Village of Schaumburg, Ken Anderson – Kane County, Marty Jaffe – University of Illinois at Chicago, Pete Harmet – IDOT, Kate Agasie – Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, Jim Van der Kloot – USEPA Region 5

Staff Present: Bob Dean, Megan Elberts, Jesse Elam, Kristin Heery, Shana Alford

Others Present: Paul Heltne – Center for Humans and Nature, Janice Hill – Kane County, Jason Miller – US Fish and Wildlife Service, Lynn Peemoeller – consulting food systems planner

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Jack Darin called the meeting to order at 9:40 am.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Jesse announced that the last half of the meeting would be held as a web seminar.

3.0 Approval of Minutes from January 7, 2009

The minutes were approved with the correction that one member had not been present.

4.0 Coordinating Committees Update

Lenore reported that the Programming Committee had directed staff to use the Urban Land Institute's recommendations for revising the draft Developments of Regional Importance (DRI) process, as most stakeholders want specific thresholds. She noted that ENR should try to bring the proposed thresholds down to a more protective level. The three thresholds the ULI recommended were 5 million gallons per day effluent discharge, 500 acres of new imperviousness, or 50,000 trips per day. In the ULI recommendations, a project would have to meet two or more thresholds to be considered a DRI. A member then commented that 1/10th of the ULI thresholds would be more appropriate. Since the difficulty is in measuring impacts, it was noted, it would be better to start with a low threshold (e.g., 1/10th of current) and adjust it based on monitoring and adaptive management. It was also recommended that since the DRI process is still advisory, CMAP should pursue memoranda of understanding with state

agencies stipulating that CMAP DRI recommendations would be used to grant or deny permits.

Another member asked whether the DRI process would apply to processes/projects already governed by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); it was answered that if a NEPA-governed process were subject to a formal, multijurisdictional review process, it would be a Tier 1 DRI with no further action needed under the version 1 DRI process. An audience member announced that he felt water supply should be a DRI criterion. Finally, it was asked how the ULI became involved with the DRI process; it was answered that ULI convened a panel itself to develop potential criteria for CMAP to use in the DRI process.

5.0 Presentation on Food Policy Research

Lynn Peemoeller gave a presentation, referring to a PowerPoint posted at <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/environment/minutes.aspx>, to update the ENR committee on the work done for the food systems planning element of GO TO 2040 plan research. A member recommended that the land use element of food systems research should look at shallow aquifer protection, and that the research should also look into Great Lakes fisheries. Another suggested that many urban fringe agricultural issues are actually land use issues and that municipalities/councils of governments should be involved in the research.

6.0 Conservation Design Strategy Panel Meeting

Comments and responses from the strategy panel can be found [here](#).

7.0 Discussion Items/Follow Up for Future Meetings

Jesse announced that he would try to have a wastewater infrastructure "sample program" on the agenda for March if possible.

8.0 Other Business

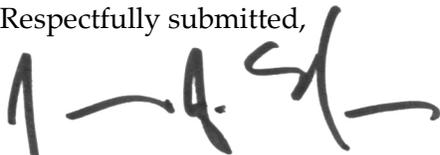
None.

9.0 Public Comment

None.

10.0 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,



Jesse Elam
CMAP staff liaison