

**ENERGY & RESOURCES AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 24, 2011**

**** NOT APPROVED ****

Members: Kevin LaForge, Fred Sinclair, Curt Crandall
Others Mitch Alger, Sherry Collins, Kier Dirlam, Dwight Fanton, John Foels, Karl Graves,
Present: Sherry Grugel, Mike Healy, Ted Hopkins, Tom Hull, John Margeson, Tom Miner,
Sandra Sheldon

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin LaForge at 11:05 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from November 22, 2010 were reviewed. On a motion by F. Sinclair, and seconded by K. LaForge the minutes were approved.

3. GENERAL UPDATES

- All updates are included in the following sections.

4. TOM HULL – DEPUTY DIRECTOR – A.C. DEPT. OF HEALTH:

- Tom Hull and Tom Miner attended a meeting in Binghamton on December 21st, 2010 regarding Hydrofracking and the status of New York's response. The following are some of the items covered by Tom Hull:
 - Expect an extended comment period for NYS on this topic.
 - The Association of Health Departments meets on a regular basis and has been having more meetings lately due to the Hydrofracking issue.
 - At the January 6, 2011 meeting they indicated that they are concerned that there won't be enough funding to cover needed testing; that there needs to be good oversight of the drilling work; oversight of the gas processing; concerns that NYSDEC/DOH will not have enough staff left due to cutbacks at the state level to do a good job; that the private drinking water wells are an issue that needs to be addressed.
 - At this point NYS is in a holding pattern in their review awaiting direction from the new governor.
 - The County needs to start testing and before that can happen we need to determine what testing parameters should be checked for a baseline level of water quality.
 - We can use the home rule to undertake these efforts but if NY comes up with other requirements we may need to revise our rules.
 - Some preliminary source work was done in 2004 under the EPA program for source water assessments. At that time all private systems [not single family] were analyzed at the 500' and 1,500' radius and the community systems were analyzed at the 1,500' and 1 mile radius for potential pollutions issues.
 - Tom Hull noted that at one time we were required to do inspections of WWTP's but weren't allowed to charge 100% of the hourly rate and only received 40 % payment. We want to make sure that this type of thing doesn't occur on this issue.

- Tom Hull indicated the need to address these issues at the County level rather than waiting for NYS. If things haven't been put into place then when things happen you are too late.
- Tom Miner – County Attorney:
 - Noted that we need to determine what number of test wells are needed and that we need to analyze what engineering is needed for looking at our roads and other environmental issues.
 - Indicated that whatever is put into local law needs to be able to be defended from a scientific and carefully considered point of view so that it is defensible if there are ever law suits in the future.
- Fred Sinclair - Legislator:
 - Noted that in the past DEC had the county pay for an inspector to be on-site for certain operations so it follows that the gas companies could be required to pay for 3rd party inspection and quality control.
 - The Soil & Water Conservation and Cornell Cooperative agencies can work on these projects also for the education aspects possibly utilizing the Finger Lakes monies.
 - Question to pursue: can we tax wellhead installations at a special levy based on production or some other qualitative method? Can we utilize special watershed protection districts for their taxing authority?
 - Noted that some sort of an emergency warning system for the Wellsville Intake needs to be instituted in case of an upstream event may need to be able to shut down the intakes.
- Sherry Collins – Concerned Citizen:
 - Asked if there has been any discussion about training for the 1st responders to emergencies on well sites? Fred Sinclair indicated that there is training available now in Pennsylvania and that our responders are allowed to take this training if they wish to. This issue needs to be referred to Jeff Luckey at EMS.
 - Sherry Collins asked how other counties are addressing all these concerns? Tom Miner noted that so far they are focusing their efforts on Town infrastructure issues rather than the health issues until NYS figures out what they are going to enforce.
- Sandra Sheldon – Concerned Citizen, noted that she has been calling around to various testing labs and that of the 80± items on trucker's MSDS list that the tests range from \$10 - \$300 per test for each item. So in order to thoroughly create a good baseline for each well the costs would be much more than the \$420 indicated in the Madison County flyer handed out by Tom Hull. There are also costs associated with recovery testing.

5. **SHERRY GRUGEL – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:**

- In preparation for the Bradford PA Trade Show Sherry met with the Buffalo Niagara Enterprise people about supporting our efforts in marketing our businesses across the border. The BNE is interested in assisting Allegany County on this project. They have put their graphic design staff at our disposal to work on the materials. They are also willing to help staff the booth during the trade show to be held Thursday, March 10, 2011, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm; Friday, March 11, 2011, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, Sports Center, Bradford, PA 16701

6. NEW BUSINESS

- Brent Kelly who works at the Culinary Arts Center at the Wellsville SUNY campus is working on putting together a seminar for information on the pros and cons of Hydrofracking. Details are expected in the near future.

7. ADJOURN:

On a motion by F. Sinclair, seconded by K. LaForge and is carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:48 a.m.

Notes as taken by K. Dirlam

**ENERGY & RESOURCES AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 28, 2011**

**** NOT APPROVED ****

Members: Kevin LaForge, Fred Sinclair, Glen Benson, Curt Crandall
Others Mitch Alger, Tom Barber, Kier Dirlam, Dwight Fanton, John Foels,
Present: Mike Healy, Jeff Luckey, John Margeson, Tom Miner, Sandra Sheldon, Scott Torrey

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin LaForge at 11:02 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from February 28, 2011 were reviewed. On a motion by F. Sinclair, and seconded by G. Benson the minutes were approved.

3. STEBEN-CHEMUNG MODEL

- Public Safety –
 - Jeff Luckey discussed the need for training
 - The transportation of materials in general for all industries, but special respect to the gas industry needs to be better understood. What materials are considered Hazardous and any concerns related to them need to be available to responders in the case of spills or other incidents.
- Infrastructure – Land Use Laws/Highway
 - Steuben/Chemung is looking at laws that could be adapted. Land Use – laws that add on to town permitting laws such as building permits. Road/Buildings/Building Codes are all applicable.
 - F. Sinclair state that he has researched local laws – ask that we comment with examples that have been tried and will be tried.
 - T. Miner commented on the review process and that it should include SEQR review & SPEDES permitting. He also stated that Towns would enact local laws. Have to have the “why” for these laws so homework is needed that establishes the rationale – interested in what Steuben and Chemung are doing.
 - M. Alger stated that “Road Use” and “land use” draft legislation from Steuben/Chemung Counties might be utilized as a starting point for Allegany County. The County Highway Superintendent can put in place certain data.
- Highways:
 - Two different ways of protecting highways:
 - Pre-evaluation of highways – this way there wouldn’t be a dispute with bondee’s. A quote was received from a company indicating that undertaking an analysis would cost \$5,000 – \$8,000 per Town.
 - Negotiate a “Road Use” Agreement with the companies prior to use by the gas industry. Perhaps the Highways Superintendents association may be helpful in moving forward and sponsoring of the initiative.
 - F. Sinclair requested that the steps be made clear for the SEQR process.
 - C. Crandall commented that the NYS Association of Towns could be an excellent resource in these efforts.

- K. LaForge suggested that we have a preliminary meeting within the next 45 days.
 - C. Crandall asked if there is a firm determination of Towns that have the Marcellus “Fairway”? According to the DEC website the only gas well in the Marcellus in Allegany County is in Andover. It is expected that the southern part of the county is where the efforts would be focused.
- Health/Environment
 - Water well testing – need to know the baseline of local water wells is critical. Testing should be in conformance with state and federal guidelines.
 - Housing Issues
 - Need to be taken into account for new workers in the area.
 - The effect on local lodging will also possibly be a concern for tourism.
4. **ALFRED STATE COLLEGE FORUM:**
- To be held at the Wellsville Campus Activities Center. Both Pro and Con speakers will be presenting. Kevin LaForge will be there to discuss the County’s role in this concern. This will be held April 16th, 2011 at 12:30pm. David Robinson from Buffalo will be the Moderator.
5. **ALLEGANY MARCELLUS.COM:**
- There is a new website out called: www.alleganymarcellus.com that is targeted to landowners. There is indication that 10,000 acres are under lease agreement.
6. **FARM BUREAU/CORNELL COOPERATIVE SEMINAR:**
- A seminar will be held at Genesee Valley Central School on April 26th. Lynn Bliven from Cornell Cooperative is the contact for Farm members.
7. **GOOD OF THE ORDER:**
- Sandra indicated that there is a great deal of apathy with the public and noted that recent events have not brought out large crowds: There were about 20 people at the first session at Howe Library; 40 people at the 2nd one.
 - T. Barber suggested that a forum be created to discuss / debate so that people could hear both sides as opposed to media hype and level the playing field. The event at Alfred State should be along this line.
 - K. LaForge noted that we are not energy independent and that we need to work to become independent from other countries while being concerned with the environmental issues. We need to be concerned with changing events in the Mid-East.
8. **ADJOURN:**
On a motion by F. Sinclair, seconded by G. Benson is carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Notes as taken by K. Dirlam/J. Foels

**ENERGY & RESOURCES AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 9, 2011**

**** APPROVED ****

Members: Kevin LaForge, Fred Sinclair, Glen Benson, Curt Crandall
Others Mitch Alger, Lynn Bliven, Sheri Dewey Collins, Marv Covent, Kier Dirlam,
Present: Dwight Fanton, John Foels, Karl Graves, Mike Healy, Jeff Luckey, John Margeson, Tom Miner, Sandra Sheldon, Douglas Turner

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin LaForge at 11:08 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from March 28, 2011 were reviewed. On a motion by G. Benson, and seconded by F. Sinclair the minutes were approved.

3. LANDOWNER'S INFORMATION SESSION

- A presentation was held on April 27th at 7PM. Unfortunately, it was a horrible weather night with tornado and flash flood warnings so attendance was very low. If there is interest shown they may re-run the event later in the year.
- The effort was to make landowners aware of how lease's can effect and impact on their properties. The future interest in gas may be different around Allegany County from counties to the east as our Marcellus Shale is not as robust as that around Broome and Tioga Counties. However, there are other layers of gas bearing shale that may be useful in the future. Many of the old leases are coming due and people need to get knowledge of modern concerns including what are reasonable monies to expect for a lease. The most effective method of getting a payout is through the royalties rather than signing bonuses as they can keep paying for many years as gas is extracted. The methods of paying the landowners for royalties and the distribution of monies were discussed.
- The DEC is scheduled to complete their review of rules this summer and that will help determine what additional items need to be considered at the local level for regulation.
- Coalitions of landowners are effective to cover the needs of the group in some areas. Coalitions are different from Cooperatives. A consultant should be involved so that you have good oversight through the coalition. Make sure you put all the details in writing. Be specific as to what will happen at the end/close of the lease if they are not active.
- The workshop also discussed the need for growth controls.
- Websites of interest to people from the South Central New York Agriculture Team flyer:
 - www.tiogagaslease.org
 - <http://Naturalgas.cce.cornell.edu>

4. ROAD USE AND REPAIR AGREEMENTS

- Review Steuben County Model –
 - Chairman K. LaForge noted that the Legislature is considering adopting something at the County level and this would be useable by local Towns and

Villages. With that in mind, the group went through the document submitted from Steuben County.

- Exhibit A – Terms & Conditions – is self explanatory – no comments
- Exhibit B – ID Class of roads – Question of if there are any areas that should be considered for exclusion? This has not been determined as of yet but would likely fall into Article II – Haul Routes.
- Article II – Haul Routes designated - The citizens in attendance noted their support for controlling which roads are used and which ones should not be used for these purposes.
- Article III – IX – no comments.
- Article X – Bonding – typically for other types of industry these rates cost the business .8% - 3%. A PE would likely have to be called in to review roads before and after to assure that they are graded on a scientifically and legally valid method.
- It is expected that each Town and Village will be adopting this law to cover their roads. The law cannot be specific to one industry and must cover all industries equally. This law must be defensible in order to be implemented properly.
- Question was raised if this type of law has been tried in the courts. Tom Miner felt that similar laws have been through the courts.

5. GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Sherry Collins – has there been any thought about revising the position of the county and issuing a revised Resolution from the one that was passed a number of years ago? The Committee indicated that they would look at the original resolution to see if it is in line with the present position of Neutrality on the part of the County. It was noted that perhaps we should note that we are concerned with this issue and that we have to be able to encourage this type of activity in a safe manner with regard to health concerns as well as getting jobs for our people.
- A letter from Gary Abraham was discussed. The issues will be referred to the Health Department. It was noted that the referral should include the Board of Health and request from them a result of a review of the issues. The Committee will work on the proper language for this referral for the next meeting. Discussed the transmission via water of radioactive materials at the Hyland Landfill. Presently the leachate from that facility is thought to be transported to the Wellsville Waste Water Treatment Plant.
- Next meeting is scheduled for May 23, 2011 at 11 AM.

6. ADJOURN:

On a motion by F. Sinclair, seconded by G. Benson is carried to adjourn the meeting at 12:02 a.m.

Notes as taken by K. Dirlam

**ENERGY & RESOURCES AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 23, 2011**

**** NOT APPROVED ****

Members: Kevin LaForge, Fred Sinclair, Glen Benson, Curt Crandall, Marv Covert, Mike Healy, Guy James
Others Mitch Alger, Tom Barber, Kier Dirlam, Dwight Fanton, John Foels,
Present: Karl Graves, Ted Hopkins, Jeff Luckey, John Margeson, Sandra Sheldon,

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin LaForge at 11:05 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from May 9, 2011 were reviewed. On a motion by F. Sinclair, and seconded G. Benson by the minutes were approved.

3. LAND USE AGREEMENTS [STEBEN COUNTY MODEL]

- The Ad-Hoc Committee reviewed the edited version of the Site Plan Review Law. This would be given to the Towns and Villages for them to utilize as a template that they can modify to fit their needs. It would be up to the local municipality to work through this with their own lawyer to draft a final version.
- Ted Hopkins asked if there is a way to modify a plan based on this law? There should be a simple mechanism in the law allowing minor modifications.
- Fred Sinclair asked if this has been given to the Highway Superintendents? Not this law, the highway agreement has been distributed. It was noted that a copy should go to all Highway Superintendents, Town Supervisors and Village Mayors when it is finished.
- The Site Plan Review allows for a pencil sketch to be initially brought to a board before a professional version is done to make sure that the projects are viable without incurring large upfront costs.
- Discussed the Application Requirements and that a Civil Engineer would be needed to actually review the applications by each Town. This would need to be addressed by each Town/Village well before they began receiving projects. The fees associated with a Town or Village having an Engineer review the Site Plans can be built into the law as a pass through to the applicant.
- It was noted that some language should be put in regarding the right of an applicant to appeal a decision and how that would be handled.
- Karl Graves asked if the Town could ask Allegany County to do this? Kevin LaForge indicated that it is not in the County's mission.
- The Exemptions list indicates thresholds that determine if a project needs to follow these rules or not.
- Marv Covert noted that Centerville had some experience with the Wind Project that had been proposed up there and they had to go through this process of review.
- Tom Barber asked if this is part of a future land use control methodology. Kevin LaForge indicated yes we want to offer the Towns and Villages a package that they can utilize in developing their own laws.

- Section V Decisions needs to be revised to have an appeals method and minor changes methods.

4. TOWN/VILLAGE OFFICIAL MEETING

- Mike Healey and Fred Sinclair both indicated that they were in favor of putting the Highway rules and the Site Plan Review out to the Supervisors and Mayors.
- Curt Crandall indicated that probably late July would be a better time to try than late June would due to all the graduation and end of school conflicts. The meeting could be schedule for July 27th or 28th perhaps at the Amity Rescue Squad building.
- Fred Sinclair asked if we would consider a Saturday morning but the committee felt that it would be better during the week in the summer time while a Saturday morning might work for a meeting in the winter.
- Mike Healey asked Mitch Alger to find a suitable speaker from Steuben County to discuss these laws.

5. GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Kier Dirlam noted that there was an article in the Alfred Sun stating that the Village of Alfred has passed a law against Hydrofracking and that they met with the Town of Alfred Board on this issue also.
- Fred Sinclair made a proposal to the Ad-Hoc Committee: "We are a country that is based on freedoms and liberty up to the point of them impacting our neighbors. That is how the State and Federal Environmental laws are conceived. The Oil & Gas Industry has been given exemptions that are putting our citizens in jeopardy. A synopsis by the Sierra Club was reviewed on CERCLA, RCRA, SDWA Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, NEPA, EPCRA [<http://newyork.sierraclub.org/SA/Vol40/ConservationAction.htm>] With this series of exemptions the private landowners have limited opportunity to fight. I propose that we should support Strict Regulation of the Oil & Gas industry to the same levels that every other industry has to exist within. The loopholes should be removed." Fred Sinclair made a motion to draft a resolution to reinstate the intensive regulation controls.
- Marv Covert stated that we need to consult with the landowners before we ask for more regulations and bring them together to get their opinions.
- Glenn Benson indicated that the DEC and EPA are all over the Oil & Gas industry and fine them regularly as part of the enforcement of State and Federal Laws so we don't need to increase that oversight. The regulations need to be reasonable and the Lobbyists are the ones who have created this issue.
- Fred Sinclair indicated that the Agricultural industry does not get these breaks and no other industry does. If an oil/gas tank releases VOC's this could affect the organic Farms ability to comply with their regulations, as they would be contaminated by the release.
- Ted Hopkins asked if the exemptions were revoked what would happen to all the existing wells in Allegany County and the jobs/profits that are associated with these operations.
- Mike Healey noted that he feels that we should be making a responsible decision and he would need to hear both sides of the issue further to do this. Mike indicated that doing something that would cause increases in unemployment is a major concern.
- John Margeson stated that this is an Ad-Hoc Committee so it cannot create a resolution it has to be done by the Committee of jurisdiction, which is the Ways and Means Committee. Ways and Means has to be the sponsor.

- Fred Sinclair was told that he could draft a carefully worded resolution for the Ad-Hoc Committee to look at during the next meeting which if approved would be forward for consideration by the Ways and Means Committee.
- Curt Crandall indicated that this resolution is beyond Allegany County and that while we can make a statement, it is of limited value as it is a Federal issue not a local one. We have to consider the effect on all of the industries in our county when we make statements like this.
- Next meeting is scheduled for June 27, 2011 at 11 AM.

6. ADJOURN:

On a motion by M. Healey, seconded by F. Sinclair is carried to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Notes as taken by K. Dirlam

**ENERGY & RESOURCES AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
June 27, 2011**

**** NOT APPROVED ****

Members: Kevin LaForge, Fred Sinclair, Glen Benson, Curt Crandall, Marv Covert, Mike Healy, Guy James
Others Present: Mitch Alger, Tom Barber, Sherry Collins, Dwight Fanton, John Foels, Karl Graves, Ted Hopkins, Jeff Luckey, John Margeson, Tom Miner

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin LaForge at 10:55 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from May 23, 2011 were reviewed. On a motion by G. Benson, and seconded by F. Sinclair, the minutes were approved.

3. LAND USE AGREEMENTS

- F. Sinclair and others discussed the next step in the process of these items. It was agreed that a letter is forthcoming to Town Supervisors and Town attorneys that an informal meeting will be held on July 29th at 1:00 at the gazebo in Island Park during the Legislator's Clam Bake.

4. FRED SINCLAIR LETTER

- F. Sinclair's letter, "Regulation of Marcellus Gas Extraction" was introduced into the record (included with the minutes).
- F. Sinclair also stated that he withdraws his proposed resolution from the prior month. K. LaForge once again suggested that the County continue to maintain a stance of neutrality – as this is a New York State matter.

5. EXPANDED FOCUS OF THE COMMITTEE

- J. Foels provided information regarding the Centerville Wind Project, which is not going forward. Also discussed was the topic of expanded attention being placed on other renewable energy technology including: solar, geothermal, digesters and the additional role of NYSERDA.
- M. Covert provided a very interesting perspective of revenue streams through energy projects for farmers. He stated that from the farmer's perspective, the financial opportunities have a large impact.
- It was also suggested by members of the committee that information be gathered concerning progress energy related (that are available at Alfred University, Alfred State and Houghton College).
- T. Barber also suggested that in information of a similar nature be gathered from BOCES and various high schools including Cuba-Rushford and Belfast.

6. ADJOURN:

On a motion by F. Sinclair, seconded by M. Healey was carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 p.m.

Notes as taken by J. Foels

**ENERGY & RESOURCES AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
July 11, 2011**

****APPROVED ****

Members: Kevin LaForge, Fred Sinclair, Glen Benson, Curt Crandall, Marv Covert, Mike Healy, Guy James
Others Present: Mitch Alger, Tom Barber, Lynn Bliven, Dwight Fanton, John Foels, Karl Graves, Ted Hopkins, Jeff Luckey, Tom Miner, Dave Pullen, Sandra Sheldon

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin LaForge at 11:00 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from June 27, 2011 were reviewed. On a motion by M. Healy, seconded by G. Benson, the minutes were approved.

3. NYSDEC DRAFT DRILLING REGULATIONS

- K. LaForge outlined some of the highlights of the draft regulations. M. Healy added that the NYSDEC Commissioner stated that drilling companies must release the chemicals used, but not their respective formulas.
- F. Sinclair stated that he has contacted the NYSDEC to have two hard copies of the draft sent to the county. He further suggested that one copy be available at the Legislative Clerk's Office, the other at an appropriate public site, perhaps the Wellsville Library.
- M. Healy asked to have a link installed on the County website.

4. LEASEHOLDER EDUCATION

- Lynn Bliven discussed scheduling a second workshop for the end of July or beginning of August. D. Fanton suggested the Town of Willing Town Hall as a potential site. L. Bliven is to provide potential dates and sites at the next committee meeting.

5. ROAD USE/REPAIR AND LAND USE TEMPLATES

- Letters have been sent to Town Supervisors and Attorneys stating that it is up to each Town to review the Templates and do what is the best interest of their specific Town. There will be an informal discussion at the beginning of the Legislative Clambake on July 29th. C. Crandall added that anyone wanting to attend the discussion does not need to purchase a ticket to the clambake.

6. HOUSING

- Discussion developed regarding the potential effect on current use and availability of housing in the County. F. Sinclair stated that the bed tax has an exemption for "long term use". He further stated that this could have a financial

impact over the long term. M. Healy requested clarity regarding “what constitutes – Long term use?”

- A Cornell study was cited as a resource. “Natural Gas Drilling in the Marcellus Shale – effects on the Tourism Industry” by Andrew Remback is available online at www.naturalgas.cce.edu . Also available at that site is Penn State research.
- F. Sinclair suggested that the County Planning Board comment on various aspects of these reports.

7. WORKFORCE PREPARATION

- C. Crandall asked that it be investigated as to ways in which we can prepare our workforce for employment in the gas industry. Alfred State College and BOCES were specifically mentioned. All renewable industries will also have positions opening in the coming years.

8. ADJOURN:

On a motion by M. Healy, seconded by G. Benson, was carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 p.m.

Notes as taken by J. Foels

**ENERGY & RESOURCES AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
September 26, 2011**

**** NOT APPROVED ****

Members: Kevin LaForge, Fred Sinclair, Glen Benson, Curt Crandall, Marv Covert, Mike Healy, Guy James
Others Mitch Alger, Tom Barber, Dwight Fanton, John Foels, John Margeson
Present: Karl Graves, Ted Hopkins, Jeff Luckey, Tom Miner, Dave Pullen, Sandra Sheldon, Steve Presutti, Tom Barber, Jill Barber, Brenda Riehle, Kier Dirlam

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin LaForge at 11:05 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from July 11, 2011 were reviewed. On a motion by M. Healy, seconded by F. Sinclair, the minutes were approved.

3. REAL ESTATE TAXES

- S. Presutti discussed the formula that is used to calculate taxes on oil & gas production in the county. Presently accounts for approximately \$500,000 for property taxes.
- T. Hopkins noted that NYSAC passes a resolution against changing this formula.

4. GUNNER REPORT

- A report has been produced looking at the estimates of the financial impacts for the next fifty years and this is in a 250-page report.
- Another report was completed by Ecology and Environment and is available through the NYSDEC.
- F. Sinclair discussed a report by Guthrie System on the Troy Community Hospital.

5. NYSDEC DRAFT DRILLING REGULATIONS

- The Draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement [SDGEIS] is available at the Belmont Library, Howe Library in Wellsville and in the Clerk of the Legislators office.
- F. Sinclair discussed a comment paper on the DSGEIS by Marvin Resnikoff. On a motion by F. Sinclair and 2nd by M. Healy, the comment paper was referred to the County Board of Health.
- Comments on the DSGEIS are due in December to NYSDEC.

6. LEASEHOLDER EDUCATION

- Lynn Bliven held a couple of training sessions during the summer in Amity and Willing and had good turnout.
- Jill Barber has a group doing outreach also and they have had sessions in the Cuba area with good turnout with training by the Farm Bureau.

7. ROAD USE REPAIR AGREEMENT

- After discussion it was agreed by general consensus that the County should move on the draft agreement for its own road system and have this on the books at the County level as well as what was sent out to Towns and Villages.

8. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- M. Healy indicated that a letter to the Towns regarding the issues noted in the various studies should be drafted and sent out. J. Luckey indicated that he would discuss with the Emergency Managers at the Hospitals these concerns when they meet.
- M. Covert told the 15 Legislators that they need to work on bringing the workforce of Allegany County people up to the level of training required to be able to take advantage of the opportunities that will come with drilling in this area.

9. ADJOURN:

On a motion by M. Healy, seconded by F. Sinclair, was carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

Notes as taken by J. Foels & K. Dirlam

**ENERGY & RESOURCES AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
November 28, 2011**

**** NOT APPROVED ****

Members: Kevin LaForge, Fred Sinclair, Glen Benson, Curt Crandall, Marv Covert, Mike Healy, Guy James
Others Mitch Alger, Jill Barber, Doug Burdick, John Foels, Ted Hopkins, Jeff
Present: Luckey, John Margeson, Tom Miner, Dave Pullen, Bainbridge

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin LaForge at 11:10 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from September 26, 2011 were reviewed. On a motion by M. Healy, seconded by G. Benson, the minutes were approved.

3. TOM HULL, DEPUTY PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

- There are public concerns to well water so baseline testing should be done. Recommendations are being reviewed by the Board of Health.

4. PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE BILL 1950 AND SENATE BILL 1100

- Discussion regarding take away of all local controls of drilling. In many ways "mirroring PA".

5. OLD BUSINESS

- Discussed the Environmental Impact Study – chapter 11 of study. Comments are due in January..

6. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Jill Barber discussed targeting the DEC's geology maps not just Marcellus shale and the impacts on waterways. Discussed something called three+three.
- Jill Barber discussed the economic development opportunities, gas opportunities, shallow oil sands and permitting based on depth.
- It was noted that rents have doubled in eastern Steuben County. The county needs to look at what impacts on local housing may occur.

7. ADJOURN:

On a motion by M. Healy, seconded by F. Sinclair, was carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

Notes as taken by J. Foels

**ENERGY & RESOURCES AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
December 27, 2011**

**** NOT APPROVED ****

Members: Kevin LaForge, Fred Sinclair, Glen Benson, Curt Crandall, Marv Covert, Mike Healy, Guy James
Others Present: Dwight Fanton, Mitch Alger, John Foels, John Margeson, Tom Miner, Jeff Luckey, Reita Sobeck-Lynch

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin LaForge at 11:05 a.m.

2. ENERGY & RESOURCES AD-HOC CHAIRMAN TOPICS

- Discussed progress for 2011.
- Discussed the Gunner Report.

3. DEC PLAN

- Comment period has been extended to January 11th.
- Town of Alfred has done a 1 year moratorium.

4. LEASEHOLDER EDUCATION

- Perhaps another round of education needs to occur next year.
- Need to work on a County version of the Road Use Repair agreement. Gas drillers must file a "road use plan" with the County. This is similar to windmill plans.

5. HOUSING LANDOWNER GROUP

- The question of whether an assessment of housing stock has been completed recently was asked. No. HUD Plan has some information but needs updating.

6. JOB DEVELOPMENT

- Reita Sobeck Lynch – people have been placed through their agency in jobs in Pennsylvania. Laborers and truck drivers are most common need with welders also in demand.

7. NYSDERA GRANT

- Awarded a grant for sustainability approaching \$1 million for five counties. Southern Tier West is lead and they plan to utilize Ecology and the Environment as the contractor.

8. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Town of Ward sent a letter to the committee about public hearings that they held recently.

9. ADJOURN:

On a motion by F. Sinclair, seconded by M. Healy, was carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Notes as taken by J. Foels