

Wind Energy Citizen Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 6, 2007

Call Meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

Members Present: Alice Brenengen, Gary Evenson, Danny Foote, Dave Vind, Ron Winn, Sage Kramer, Todd Quarner, Dan Wallery, John Vehrenkamp, Nancy Horton, Cristeen Custer, Ken Critzman, Kevin Lien and Andrea Artz – Trempealeau County Zoning/Planning Department.

Others Present: Kaye Henderson Ron Reimer, and Delores Vind.

Certification of Open Meeting Law Requirements: Foote announced that the open meeting law requirements have been complied with.

Adoption of Agenda: A motion was made by Horton and seconded by Vind to adopt the agenda, all in favor; motion carried.

Adoption of Minutes: Critzman stated he was at the previous month and would like to be added to *members present*. Also a change to the shadow flicker section change *effected properties* to *affected properties*. A motion was made by Vind to adopt the amended minutes and seconded by Kramer, all in favor; motion carried.

Definition of Farmstead: Lien read through definitions of a farmstead he found. Critzman made a motion to use the farmstead definition *A farmstead property is all buildings and structures on a farm that are used primarily for agricultural purposes such as housing animals, or storing supplies, production, or machinery* also adding buildings within 500 feet of each other. Discussion took place. Critzman rescinded the motion. A motion was made by Critzman to except the farmstead definition *A farmstead property is all buildings and structures on a farm that are used primarily for agricultural purposes such as housing animals, or storing supplies, production, or machinery*, seconded by Brenengen, all in favor; motion carried. Foot made a motion to add *place of employment* in the farmstead definition to have the definition read as *A farmstead is a place of employment and includes all buildings and structures on a farm that are used primarily for agricultural purposes such as housing animals, or storing supplies, production, or machinery*, seconded by Horton, all in favor; motion carried.

Personal Wind Turbines: Evenson has a concern with the ground clearance of 40 feet for the personal wind turbine. Evenson mentioned that there are 30 foot towers which produce less than 1 kilowatt. Critzman mentioned if the tower is below a certain height or generating capacity there would be no permit. Wallery asked if there should be a minimum lot size for personal wind turbines. Winn stated that the law states a person does not need a permit to have a personal wind turbine and the county has no jurisdiction over it. Lien stated the county can have a permitting process and the county can regulate health and safety. Quarne asked what would be the suggested height. Should the committee take the manufacturer's recommendations for height clearance? Critzman mentioned to leave the 40 feet clearance but if the turbine is less then 50 feet reduce the clearance to 10 feet. Quarne suggested having it tie in with the rotor size of so many feet in diameter. Cristeen mentioned having a smaller size wind turbine exempt from the permitting process. Wallery asked if the personal turbines still have noise issues will they have to follow the ordinance for the noise. Lien stated noise issues still pertain to personal wind turbines. Critzman suggested having personal wind turbines limited to rotor size and kilowatts produced. Discussion

took place on 17(a) about changing residence to *neighboring residence*. Quarne made a motion to have 17(a) read *The wind turbine shall be set back from a neighboring residence or property line at a minimum of 1.2 times the Total Height of the wind turbine and 2 times the Total Height from public buildings*, seconded by Horton, all in favor; motion carried. Ice throw was briefly mentioned. The ice throw is regulated for both the commercial and personal turbines. Critzman would like to add in the definition a personal wind turbine is 19 kilowatts or less or a diameter of 8 feet or less and those would not require a permit but will be subjected to all regulations such as setbacks and noise. The discussion will start here at the next meeting and the committee will not repeat the same discussion that already took place.

Review Information Gathered by Committee: Quarne received a copy of the large wind ordinance from Manitowoc County through Paul Zimmerman, head lobbyist of Farm Bureau. The committee briefly went through the ordinance. Wallery liked the way Manitowoc County used *non-participating parties* in their ordinance.

General Setbacks: Foote read through section 15 (a-d) which pertains to commercial and personal wind turbines. Foote asked if there are any hazardous materials being hauled on the railroads in Trempealeau County. Lien did not know. Quarne asked if Greg Leonard could attend a meeting and show setbacks as he did for feedlots in the county. Critzman doesn't think there is a need for the showing of setbacks. It is not a question of fitting turbines in the county it should be based on health and safety. It was mentioned that in Germany the setback is 1.6 kilometers (.992 miles or 5,280 feet).

Assign Additional Tasks: The tasks for the next meeting will be to come up with a size for the personal wind turbines, setbacks, and fees. Representatives from the Fish and Wildlife will present at the beginning of the next meeting.

Set Next Meeting Date: September 27, 2007 is the next meeting date at 6:00p.m.

Adjourn: Motion was made by Vind and seconded by Horton to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.