

**STEBEN COUNTY NATURAL GAS TASK FORCE
STEERING COMMITTEE**

Friday, March 25, 2011

11:00 a.m.

*Legislative Committee Room
Steuben County Office Building*

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Mark R. Alger, Chair Joseph J. Hauryski Kathryn Muller
John Tunney Amy Dlugos Dave Erwin

ABSENT: Karl Anderson, Esq.

OTHERS: Dan Hamilton Jeff Parker Peggy Coleman
Ed Young Robert Popejoy

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Alger called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 28, 2011, MEETING MADE BY MR. HAURYSKI. SECONDED BY MR. ERWIN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 6-0.

III. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. **Housing Subcommittee Update** – Ms. Muller stated their committee has started work on their action plan. We will be developing a site plan review as well as putting together a resource binder. We will establish the criteria for the site plan review at our next meeting and bring it to the Planning Department to have it entered into the GIS system. That will help us to identify those areas that would be good for man-camps. We expect that plan to be done in about one more meeting.

Mr. Hauryski asked are you comfortable with all of the issues that you have been looking at and talking about? Ms. Muller replied the only thing that is uncomfortable is not having concrete solutions. The resource binder that we will be putting together is a great idea for everyone in the County.

Mr. Alger commented there are only a certain number of things we can do. We are not going to build housing. We can recognize the impacts and figure out what the department alternatives are when someone comes in homeless. We will have to look at where we are going to put them when the hotels are full and the low-income housing is no longer available.

Mrs. Dlugos stated Meghan Jacquet was at the meeting and she was in Wyoming when they had the gas boom out there. She has been very helpful. Ms. Jacquet had mentioned that all housing will be stressed and we will see more commuting and migration. There may be some people who will leave. Mrs. Dlugos stated there will be stress on all housing levels. Mr. Alger commented the rents in the Corning area are already going up. We are already seeing that impact.

Mrs. Dlugos stated that Ms. Jacquet will also help them with their site plan review. Mr. Alger stated the purpose of a site plan review law at the local government level is that it gives them concrete things to look at, such as water and sewer. Those are things that could be reused for another purpose.

2. **Public Safety Subcommittee Update** – Mr. Tunney stated conceptually he has thought of this area as involving the police, courts and emergency response world. He feels good about two of those areas in the sense that we have a reasonable handle on the likely impact of the industry presence on police and the courts. Essentially, he stated that

his sense is there will be an impact, but generally speaking, it will be of the more lower-level criminal activity/police activity. There will be more traffic issues. We would expect to see some increase in activity in the courts. He has no impression that it will distort things with regard to manpower or budgets. The infrastructure in those two areas seems to be adequate.

Mr. Tunney stated the issue that he is struggling with is making sure that our local emergency responders know what it is that they are going to be doing in various scenarios. He was hoping that by today they would know more about a training that is being proposed by Talisman in Big Flats. Talisman has offered to conduct training for emergency responders in the county to permit us to develop a protocol for various situations and responses. At the meeting the timeframe that was proposed was April or May. Mr. Tunney stated that Mr. Sprague was not at today's meeting, so he does not know the status of that. Prior to the May reporting date, he hopes that piece will be complete and that we will be able to provide information that will deal with those three components.

Mr. Alger stated those are critical things. The impact for EMS is different than what it will be for police and the courts. The police may be busier. The bigger issue is working in coordination with the industry to make sure the fire and EMS know what is expected when they respond to a call.

Mr. Tunney stated the industry folks we talked to seem eager to help us do that. It is in their interest to train individuals the way they want them to be trained. Mr. Alger stated it will help the volunteers know what the expectation is when they go to a well site. It also is an education piece for the hierarchy in the departments.

Mrs. Dlugos stated there is a safety and training consortium that meets four times a year. That is something we could have on a regular basis via webinar. Mr. Alger stated that the way the fire service is organized, they have regional meetings for the chiefs. It would seem that, logically at least, at those regional meetings they could coordinate them with the industry for training purposes. Mrs. Dlugos stated that on the webinar they include a response matrix, glossary terms and other items. She assumes the industry helped with that process. Mrs. Dlugos stated she will give that information to Mr. Sprague.

Mr. Hauryski commented that the windmills have a one-acre per windmill devoted to a helicopter landing site. That may be something to consider with the well pads. Mrs. Dlugos commented that Pennsylvania has incorporated that as well.

Ms. Coleman commented hospital personnel may also need to be trained. There may be specialized things that the hospitals may need to be made aware of. Mrs. Dlugos stated in Pennsylvania they did talk about training with regard to crush injuries.

Mr. Alger commented some hospitals are not equipped to deal with those types of situations generally, and once they stabilize the patient, they transfer them out. Their role may be in training for those injuries with regard to what they should expect. They may need to re-familiarize themselves with those types of injuries and what to do to stabilize the patient and move them on. The initial presentation of an issue is what the local hospitals would prepare for.

Mr. Tunney stated there is still work to be done on the emergency response level. Mr. Alger stated it would be nice for the meeting with the towns and villages in May, to have an outline of what to expect from emergency response.

Mr. Hauryski stated that he would like to include for discussion, going forward, presentation materials from Schlumberge. We need to get a good picture together and pull everything together and not just deal with Talisman. Mr. Alger stated the main focus has been on fracking, but don't forget there will be pipelines all over the place.

Mr. Young commented that in the meeting in Bradford, one of the problems the hospitals identified was with transient workers. They would come in, but would not make their co-pay. This may be something we would want to address with the hospitals to make sure they enforce getting their co-payments. Mr. Alger stated that because of the nature of the business and with transients, it makes them hard to find. That is a good point and we should make the hospitals and others aware of that.

3. **Roads and Infrastructure Subcommittee Update** – Mr. Hamilton informed the committee that Mr. Spagnoletti is working on a road use agreement. We have a tentative one, but we are still working on changes. He stated one of his questions is if all of the subcontractors will be covered by the agreement? We have drilling and fracking road use agreements, but what about the companies that are putting in the pipelines? Mr. Young replied they would be considered subcontractors. You could be very specific in the road use agreement to say all subcontractors at all times. Mrs. Dlugos stated they are working on a site plan law. Mr. Anderson wanted to have a site plan for the drill sites as well. Mr. Alger suggested working with Ms. Jacquet to make a checklist of issues for the towns. As part of the site plan review, they could use the checklist to go through items. Mrs. Dlugos stated one of the things Ms. Jacquet mentioned was diesel trucks. Because the trucks had to keep running in order to keep the diesel from freezing, the air quality could become bad. We may want to require in the site plan review, electrical outlets for the trucks.

Mr. Alger stated the other thing related to that is a parking site for industrial supply trucks. That would be a consideration if they could request electrical outlets for the trucks. Mr. Hamilton asked does the site plan include staging areas? Mrs. Dlugos replied yes. The industrial storage yard and how that is defined should cover that. Mr. Young commented it may not be difficult to have the DEC include in the application for the permit the site plan. Mr. Alger stated another issue will be providing training to Planning Boards.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Meeting with Towns/Villages** – The committee agreed to hold the meeting with the Towns and Villages on Thursday, May 26, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Alger stated we will send out a notice and require an RSVP so we will know how many people to expect. We may hold the meeting at the Civil Defense Center, or someplace larger. Mr. Hauryski stated that he will encourage the Legislators to promote this with their districts to encourage attendance. Mr. Alger explained the targeted audience for this meeting is Town Supervisors and Town Highway Superintendents.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Business/Workforce Development Issues** – Mr. Hauryski stated that he was at an Industrial Development Agency (IDA) meeting yesterday and they were discussing that Chemung County has a separate subcommittee that deals specifically with business/workforce development issues. We don't need another subcommittee, however, he would rather make this a new topic that would be part of the Steering Committee agenda as we move forward. Mr. Alger commented both Jamie Johnson, the new IDA Director, and Dan Porter from Workforce Development have been on the Chemung County subcommittee and we can tap them as a resource.

Mrs. Dlugos commented that Chemung County had a Workforce Development Committee and had people from the gas industry come in and look at what skills are needed. Mr. Young commented we are not seeing the level of participation of people being employed that they had anticipated. The gas companies are putting on their own workforce/job fair group to get people to training. We should go to the gas companies and ask them to do a job fair activity near here.

VI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday, April 22, 2011, at 11:00 a.m.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. HAURYSKI. SECONDED BY MS. MULLER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature