



Mr. Hauryski stated that at the meetings he has been to they also talked about the social impact that the drilling has. In Bradford County, Pennsylvania the rents have gone through the roof and they have had to move some of their DSS recipients out of the county.

Mr. Donnelly asked can we do a zip code report on where we pay rent for Social Services? Mr. Alger replied yes, we have a list of recipients by zip code. Practically, depending on well development and the progression, we could potentially be looking at the majority of the county being impacted. He would expect that development would start in the southeast part of the county and move northward.

Mr. Erwin stated that Brockfield Township, Pennsylvania which is about one mile south of Troupsburg and has a population of approximately 471 residents. Everything with regard to gas drilling has happened very quickly. From our standpoint in the Town of Erwin, when the mining was going on we put regulations into place up front and that is the key. If everyone can get things in place before the drilling actually begins, you'll be okay and you can offset traffic patterns and the rebuilding of the roads. Some of the gas companies are working with the towns and have tried to rebuild roads. Mr. Hauryski commented that Chesapeake has stated that they would rebuild roads.

Mr. Donnelly asked are the road use agreements based on oversize loads and overweight vehicles? The issue here is the volume of truck traffic on the roads. Mr. Alger replied the windmills had both oversize loads and large volumes of traffic. The road use agreement is a voluntary agreement. Mrs. Dlugos commented that they have to do an Environmental Impact Statement and that requires them to cooperate with towns if they require a road use agreement. Mr. Donnelly stated the towns will need to have road use agreements. Mr. Alger stated the towns that don't do something will end up on the short end of the stick. They will need to do something so that when the drilling starts they will have documented the conditions of the roads and will then know what to expect from the gas companies. Mr. Hauryski commented that he knows the towns of Caton, Lindley and Troupsburg are looking at the road use agreements. Mrs. Dlugos stated the towns of Cohocton and Prattsburgh have them in place because of the windmills. Mr. Donnelly asked does the county have a road use agreement? Mr. Alger replied yes. With regard to the road use agreements for the towns, the county does not need to endorse an engineer. The county does need to push the use and implementation of the road use agreements.

Mr. Alger stated that with the potential of having RV parks, etc. coming in, the towns that do not want zoning may want to go with a site plan review law that would require permits and then the towns would be able to control what comes in. Mrs. Dlugos commented the site plan reviews can be fairly generic. The towns can specify uses that would be subject to review and could say that everything with the exception of a single family home would be reviewed. By doing that, they would not be impacting local people who want to build a new house. Mr. Alger stated that in some ways, the towns would be better off having zoning, but for those who don't want zoning, the site plan review law would be an alternative.

Mr. Donnelly asked if we were to draft up a site plan review law, what is the likelihood of the county having to provide support to the towns? Mr. Alger replied most of the towns would need support. The zoning laws would take longer to put into place. The site plan review law should be able to be done in a couple of months and they wouldn't need a comprehensive plan. Mr. Donnelly stated we would want to make sure that this would not affect single family residences or agricultural lands. If we get the word out that it wouldn't impact the local people, then it should be all right.

Mr. Erwin commented that when they were going through the mining process in Erwin, they thought they had everything covered and it is amazing how you find out how limited you are. There are things you can control and if you can design a basic layout, then you can spell right out what cannot be done. This could become a volatile issue and any road use agreements or site plan review laws should be in place before you begin. Mr. Donnelly asked is there anything other than the road use agreements and site plan reviews that we need to look at? Mr. Erwin replied that he thinks what the county is doing is good and you are anticipating what may be happening. He stated that the Town of Erwin has some things in place and he would be happy to bring in what he has for the committee to review. Mr. Alger stated that may be helpful.

Mr. Donnelly stated that there is a window of time, however, it is considerably shorter given the deal that was cut with the New York City and Syracuse watersheds. Mrs. Dlugos stated those two watersheds also have an EPA waiver that states they are not to filter their water. Mr. Alger commented that will make drilling near those areas much more difficult.

Mrs. Dlugos commented that she thinks there will be considerable controversy regarding the landfill study about the feasibility of taking in the drill cuttings and that is already drawing a lot of fire. Mr. Spagnoletti has met with the Citizens for Healthy Communities and has listened to their concerns.

Mr. Hauryski stated that when he went on the tour of the gas wells in Pennsylvania, they were saying that one village with their own water system was contacted by the gas company and they are paying to use the village water and the village is making money. Mrs. Dlugos commented that a lot of municipalities with water systems will be approached about purchasing water. Mr. Hauryski stated that each well uses 4 – 5 million gallons of water and Chesapeake Gas is reusing three-quarters of that instead of getting new water. They are putting in water pipelines next to the gas pipelines and that cuts down on the road damage.

Mr. Donnelly stated we need to look at this objectively as our credibility is at stake. Does the road use agreement specify when the roads have to be repaired? The gas drilling will be a prolonged issue. Mr. Alger replied that the road use agreement anticipates a beginning and an end. The concern he has is the middle. Living through the construction portion and then being able to maintain the roads enough so that the people can use them. That is an issue that we need to take a look at. Mr. Erwin stated it behooves the drilling companies to keep up the roads. Mr. Hauryski stated they will need gravel and stone and the people in that business will see a boom. Prices for those resources will go through the roof. Mr. Donnelly stated the main issue is maintaining compliance with the land use and road use agreements.

Mr. Erwin asked does every town have a Code Enforcement Officer? Mrs. Dlugos replied yes. Mr. Erwin stated the Code Enforcement Officer and the Highway Superintendent in each town can monitor compliance with the land use and road use agreements. We should get the towns together once everything is laid out. He stated that Ken Isaman has invited all the Town Supervisors for a couple of meetings and maybe that would a way to do that. Mr. Donnelly asked should we send a letter or have a meeting? Mr. Alger replied before we do that, we need to put in place a site plan review law and then have a meeting and share concerns we have identified and the potential assistance. Then we could have the meeting with the Towns when you are ready to give them that information. We can get some of that put together and have a meeting and get input. Mr. Hauryski stated that to help them, we should invite the towns in and be proactive and hear from them. Mr. Donnelly stated that a meeting, when the information for a site review law and road use agreements has been put together, would be held at the Civil Defense Center.

### **III. SUB-COMMITTEES**

Mr. Donnelly stated that we have three identified sub-committees which are the Public Safety, Roads and Infrastructure and Socio-Economic. Mrs. Dlugos informed the committee that they have had ten individuals express an interest in serving on a committee. Mr. Donnelly stated that there should be an odd number of people on a sub-committee, preferably no more than 7 per committee. Mrs. Dlugos stated that the President of the Highway Superintendents Association has expressed an interest. She stated that someone had recommended that we also have a Medical sub-committee. Mr. Alger stated that would come under Public Safety. Mrs. Dlugos stated that she would recommend asking the Farm Bureau or the Land Owners Coalition who they would want to represent them. In addition having a gas industry representative, someone from the gas drilling companies, would be key. She asked the gas industry rep would be appropriate for both the Infrastructure and Public Safety committees, so would they be assigned to a specific committee? Mr. Alger replied he would think so. With the applications, we are asking them if there is a specific committee they would like to be assigned to and then we will assign them. It may be that in your example, that individual would be an ex-officio of all, but not a member per se of all of those committees. Mr. Hauryski stated that it is crucial that the gas industry representative be on the Public Safety committee. Every well site gets a specific address and there will need to be a lot of communication. Mr. Alger stated that the people submitting applications are not advisory members. They would be community at large members and would be assigned to a specific committee. Mr. Hauryski stated that either Ken Knowles or his assistant Mary would be willing to be on the advisory committee. Mrs. Dlugos will contact Ken Knowles and will also contact Bradford County, Pennsylvania to get contact information for the gas industry representative, Mark Smith.

Mr. Hauryski commented that there has been some interest in having a public health/environment committee. Mrs. Dlugos commented there has also been mention of a housing committee. Mr. Donnelly stated that he would like to talk with the Commissioner of Social Services or someone else to get some insight into that. Mr. Alger

stated we may want to talk to the Commissioner of Social Services. There are a lot of housing groups. Mr. Heffner commented there is Tri-County Housing, Arbor Development (Ginny Bates), Proaction and another community program similar to Arbor Development. You also could look at an Economic Development representative from Three Rivers, Corning Enterprises and Workforce Development (Dan Porter).

1. **Applications** – Mr. Donnelly stated we will send out applications to those people that have expressed an interest to serve on the task force. He commented that the application is something he drafted and then it was reviewed by the Law Department.

*Secretary's Note: The committee approved the application as presented and this application will be sent to all interested individuals no later than Monday, June 21, 2010.*

2. **Appointment Letters** – Mr. Donnelly stated that he is drafting an appointment letter and will ask the County Attorney for his input. We need to let these individuals know that they are not agents of the county and that these sub-committees are advisory in nature. It is important that they know that we are not making them agents of the county. The key person on each committee will be the Chairperson and the Steering Committee will pick those individuals. Once we get all the applications in we will meet and determine the Chairs for each of the sub-committees.

#### **IV. STAFFING ISSUES**

Mr. Donnelly informed the committee that due to the retirements of the Planning Director and the Clerk of the Legislature, staffing will be an issue. The sub-committees will need to find someone to take minutes. Mrs. Kane stated that she is comfortable having Mrs. Chapman take the minutes of the Steering Committee. Mr. Alger stated the sub-committees could just record their meetings. Mrs. Dlugos asked how detailed should the minutes be? Mr. Donnelly replied they do not need to be verbatim. Mrs. Kane stated that really all that is needed is attendance and a summary of discussion. With regard to Mr. Alger's suggestion to tape the sub-committee, those would need to be transcribed and typed and she doesn't believe this office will have the time to do that. Mr. Alger commented we could look to staff to take those minutes. The Public Safety Committee could be staffed by either EMO or the Sheriff; Infrastructure Committee could be staffed by Public Works and Housing Committee could be staffed by Social Services. We would need to make it clear that we are looking for a summary of discussion; that is his recommendation.

*Secretary's Note: Mrs. Kane will prepare a draft memo for Mr. Donnelly to send to the departments regarding support staff for the Natural Gas Task Force Sub-Committees.*

#### **V. MISSION STATEMENT**

Mrs. Dlugos distributed copies of the proposed mission statement, as well as those from Tioga, Yates, Chemung and Schuyler counties in New York and Lycoming County in Pennsylvania. The committee agreed upon the following mission statement:

The purpose of the Steuben County Natural Gas Task Force is to address natural gas development related impacts on County government operations and make best use of opportunities and to assist local governments or other agencies with impacts or opportunities when feasible and appropriate.

#### **VI. COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Hauryski asked how will the public information process work with the Task Force, Steering Committee, etc.? Mr. Donnelly replied we should communicate by email. Any press release should come from the Steering Committee. Mr. Alger stated the sub-committees will report to the Steering Committee which will report to the AIP Committee. With open meetings, discussions could potentially make the press. The sub-committees will make their recommendations to the Steering Committee and the Steering Committee will take those to the AIP Committee for further action. Mr. Donnelly stated that he would like to have a flow chart.

Mrs. Dlugos commented that maybe we could have a webpage or a link to the county website as well as an email list. We could have a meeting list that anyone could sign up for and then a splash list in addition to the press. Mr.

Alger stated that makes sense. Mrs. Dlugos stated there would be two email lists; one for the Task Force and one for the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman  
Senior Stenographer  
Steuben County Legislature