

**MEETING OF THE ELK RIVER  
ENERGY CITY COMMISSION  
HELD AT ELK RIVER CITY HALL  
ELK RIVER, MN  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2007**

Members Present: Brian Burandt, Jeff Gongoll, Dennis Chuba, Rachel Leonard, Todd Berreman, Bryan Adams, Greg Padden, Vance Zehringer, Maureen Griffiths for Deb Walters, Ed Stoutenburg IV

Members Absent: Steve Rohlf, Stephanie Klinzing, Susie Overholser, Sharon Kampa, Arne Engstrom

Staff Present: Rebecca Haug, Nicki Blake-Bradley

Meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Chair Vance Zehringer

**1. Consider May 16, 2007 ECC Agenda**

The agenda was changed to place the YMCA update as item #3 and the Green Roof discussion was removed. Commissioner Gongoll requested an item under 6(a).

**2. Consider March 21 and April 18, 2007 ECC Minutes**

Minutes were approved as presented.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ADAMS AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CHUBA TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR.. MOTION CARRIED.

**3. YMCA Update**

Concerns were raised by Commissioners as to why the YMCA building will not be working toward LEED certification. It was discussed that the YMCA does not want to pay for the Certification.

Commissioner Leonard commented that the Legacy Grant from the County to the City of Elk River may be limited due to the YMCA not going for LEED certification.

Commissioner Berreman commented that Center Point Energy has a program for off-setting the costs of working toward LEED certification.

Bill Maertz, Park and Recreation Director and the engineers would like a conference call with Chair Zehringer and Rebecca. Commissioner Stoutenburg would like to attend the call as well. The call was set for Thursday morning.

**4. Energy Expo Recap – vote on whether to continue in 2008**

A memo from Rebecca Haug was discussed which covered the main points of the Energy Expo. There were 700 vs. 300 people in attendance. Everyone agreed that despite several glitches, the event went rather smoothly (especially regarding it was the first event). Rebecca requested a motion of whether to continue annually and commented that if one will be held in 2008, staff and subcommittee members need to start planning now.

Commissioner Stoutenburg commented he'd like to see rotating facilities. Discussion followed on the potential location (RRT was offered by Commissioner Stoutenburg for 2008).

Discussion regarding the school district's role in the 2008 followed. Commissioners were in agreement that the school district should be included if possible.

A question of the potential for combining the Energy Expo with Business Expo was discussed. General feelings of the commissioners were that the Energy Expo should be a "stand alone" project.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER GONGOLL AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER STOUTENBURG TO PLAN FOR A 2008 EVENT WITHIN THE SAME GENERAL TIME FRAME (WITH THE DATE AND PROGRAM LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED). ALL IN FAVOR.. MOTION CARRIED.

April 6<sup>th</sup> was a date that was suggested, which happens to be the first Sunday in April, 2008.

Chair Zehringer requested a motion regarding setting up a meeting with the superintendent of schools to discuss the district's involvement.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LEONARD AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER PADDEN TO SET UP A MEETING WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT TO DISCUSS FUTURE EVENTS AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S INVOLVEMENT. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

5. **Discussion of having meetings at different demonstration sites**

A question of whether it would be advantageous to have meetings at the different demonstration sites was reviewed and discussed. New members loved the idea. Rebecca stated that the meeting could convene at the City Hall and then members could carpool to the various places.

The agenda will have the location of the meeting listed in bold print at the top of the page. June's meeting will be held at the Elk River Landfill, Methane to Energy Plant on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Chair Zehringer requested that Commissioner Padden set a date for the GRE meeting/tour. Commissioner Padden agreed and updated the Energy City Commission that the Haubenschild Farm experienced a fire and is not operational right now.

Commissioner Burandt stated that the Andover Landfill may be another optional demonstration site due to sterling engines that were installed approximately six weeks ago. Chair Zehringer stated that he has a video on sterling engines if anyone is interested in viewing it. Commissioner Burandt will look into setting up a meeting there, along with a tour.

6. **Discussion about possible speakers**

Rebecca requested ideas from the commissioners regarding potential speakers. One idea discussed was partnerships with other organizations.

Commissioner Gongoll suggested a person that has a wave baffle system for generating electricity, who is in the area and working on applying the technology to rivers. Commissioner Stoutenburg suggested Ellen Telander from RAM. Commissioner Burandt suggested Tom Newman at the State (working with sterling engines).

6(a). **Commissioner Gongoll's FYI**

Commissioner Gongoll stated that he feels that since the Energy Expo, Energy City has not been getting the recognition that it needs and deserves. He suggested a marketing program. He informed the commission that the new Chamber of Commerce sign will be 10' x 24' and will say "Welcome to Elk River" with the Energy City logo on it. He has to go to MNDOT and the City for the sign approval first.

Discussion of the status of Energy City Designation followed. Rebecca will call the legislators and determine the status, then send an e-mail message to the commission.

7. **Schedule Next ECC Meeting and Identify Agenda Items**

The next ECC meeting will be held June 20<sup>th</sup> at Elk River Landfill, Methane to Gas Plant and Environmental Learning Center.

8. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Nicki Blake-Bradley  
Environmental Technician