



MINUTES
ROCK COUNTY PDR/PACE AD HOC COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2010, 8:05 A.M.
CRAIG CENTER
ROCK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
JANESVILLE WI

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Sweeney called the meeting of the PDR/PACE Ad Hoc Committee to order at 8:05 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Chair Alan Sweeney, Don Jones, Julie Backenkeller, Julie Christenson, Ronald Combs, Neil Deupree, Eric Levitt, Ron Comb, Scott Farrington, Mark Gunn, Raymond Henschler, Fred Hookham, John Lader, Doug Marklein, Archie Morton, Dave Rebut, Robert Fizzell, Ramona Flanigan, and Neil Walter

Committee Members Absent: Charley Rusch and Bill Barlass.

Staff Present: Tom Sweeney, LCD; Randy Thompson – UWEX, Steve Schraufnagel, Carrie Houston and Wade Thompson, Planning and Development.

Other's Present: Phil Blazkowski, Sharon Hargarten, Howard Robinson – City of Milton, and Duane Cherek – City of Janesville.

2. **Adoption of Agenda:** Chair Sweeney entertained a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. John Lader motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Neil Deupree. **Motion Carried to approve agenda as modified.**
3. **Adoption of Minutes:** Chair Sweeney entertained a motion to adopt the minutes from the October 21, 2010 meeting. Robert Fizzell motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Doug Rebut. **Motion Carried.**
4. **Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements:** None.
5. **Action Item: PACE Eligibility Criteria as it applies to city buffers (0.75 miles for large cities and 0.5 miles for small cities):** Maps displaying the proposed modified Eligibility Criteria were distributed to the Committee. Eric Levitt motioned to approve the action item. Neil Deupree seconded.

Mark Gunn asked for clarification of parcels to be discussed. Wade Thompson clarified the parcels under discussion. Mark asked about the eligibility of parcels west of State Highway 11. Wade stated that these parcels were either eligible or ineligible, per the complete list of Program Eligibility Criteria.

Eric Levitt suggested the motion be withdrawn. Neil Deupree withdrew his motion. John Lader seconded.

Eric Levitt read the motion as follows: Program Eligibility Criteria # 6 be modified to include the following: If said parcels are located in a primary target acquisition area, per *Map 4.3 Rock County PACE Program Target Acquisition Areas and Other High Priority Agriculture Parcels*, and if land parcels meeting all other eligibility criteria but not this criteria are located in the Town of Rock west of State Highway 11 and County D (Afton Road) as identified in an intergovernmental agreement between the Town of Rock and the City of Janesville are eligible to apply for inclusion in this program per said agreement. This motion is contingent

upon Action Item #6 being approved by the Town of Rock and the City of Janesville, pursuant to an intergovernmental agreement that is scheduled for final approval by the Janesville City Council agenda on November 22nd, 2010.

Neil Deupree seconded the motion. Eric explained the motion. Chair Sweeney asked if everyone understood the motion. Archie Morton asked for the motion to be re-read. Tom Sweeney re-read the motion. Mark Gunn asked for clarification on which parcels are eligible for the Program. Wade Thompson explained that only those parcels meeting all other Eligibility Criteria, and the modified criteria as contained in Eric's motion, would be eligible for the Program. Committee discussion on the motion ensued.

Chair Sweeney asked if the Committee had any other questions, and for a motion and a second. Motioned by Eric Levitt, seconded by Neil Depree. Motion carried.

6. **Action Item: PACE Eligibility Criteria as it applies to existing Interstate highway interchanges.**

Archie Morton moved to approve the action item. Eric Levitt seconded. Archie stated that this motion is contingent upon the previous motion being approved by the Town of Rock and the City of Janesville, pursuant to an intergovernmental agreement that is scheduled for final approval by the Janesville City Council agenda on November 22nd, 2010.

Archie stated the motion as follows: An additional Program Eligibility Criteria be developed stating any lands, any tax parcel existing on 1/1/2010, adjacent to an existing U.S. interstate highway interchange become ineligible for the Rock County PACE Program.

Eric Levitt seconded the motion and clarified the contingency was based on the November 22nd Janesville City Council meeting, so if something were to take place at that meeting, the motion would not apply. Chair Sweeney also stated Action Item #5 was contingent on Action Item #6, and asked for Committee discussion

Archie explained the rationale for the motion and that he thought it was a good compromise. Chair Sweeney asked for any questions, and entertained a motion to modify the PACE Program Eligibility Map as it applies to existing U.S. interstate highway interchanges.
Motion carried.

7. **Action Item: Approve Application and Review Forms:** Wade Thompson passed out handouts clarifying the Program Eligibility Criteria as modified by the previous two action items/motions. Wade asked for any comments or questions on the modified Eligibility Criteria.

Chair Sweeney asked for an action item for approval of the Program application and review forms. Motioned by John Lader, seconded by Bob Fizzell. Motion carried.

Wade passed out the Program application and review forms, and stated that the Committee had seen drafts of these documents over the past few months. Chair Sweeney asked if there were any questions on the forms.

Ron Combs asked that the section referring to mortgages on the application form be clarified. Wade stated he would make this clarification. Doug Marklein asked if the County would seek application information from parties other than the applicant. Doug stated that permission should be given by the applicant if certain application information is sought. Doug stated he thought the County's Corporation Counsel should also review the forms. Wade agreed.

Chair Sweeney asked the Committee for a motion and a second to approve the application form and review forms, with these minor edits and clarifications. Motioned by John Lader, seconded by Bob Fizzell. Motion carried.

8. **Action Item: Approve the Rock County PACE Program Manual:** Carrie Houston presented edits to the Rock County PACE Program Manual.

Eric Levitt stated he thought the ability of the Program to be modified without County Board approval should be discussed. Mark Gunn agreed. Tom Sweeney stated the rationale for the proposed Program evaluation and modification process, to streamline and create efficiencies in the process.

Committee discussion ensued on the Program evaluation and modification process. Wade Thompson stated that perhaps there could be a distinction between minor and major modifications, and stated that major modifications could be subject to County Board approval. Ron Combs agreed with Wade. Eric stated he wanted the Committee to be aware that the Program could be modified in less than five years time.

Julie Christensen asked if municipalities would be notified of modifications to the Program. Eric stated he thought municipalities should be notified. Chair Sweeney stated that page 29 of the Manual should be modified to ensure that municipalities are notified of all modifications to the Program, and that major modifications be subject to County Board approval.

Chair Sweeney asked for an amendment to the motion. Ron Combs amended his motion to read that towns, cities, villages would be notified if any Program modifications are made, and that changes to eligibility criteria, priority, and review process require County Board approval. Julie Christensen seconded.

Neil Deupree stated that the Program ordinance would also need to be changed to reflect the motion. Chair Sweeney asked for a motion and a second to approve the Rock County PACE Program Manual with the modifications to page 29, per Committee discussion.

Chair Sweeney asked if the Committee had any other questions, and for a motion and a second to approve the Rock County PACE Program Manual with the modifications. Ron Combs motioned to approve the manual with the amendments, seconded by Julie Christenson. Motion carried.

9. **Questions and Discussion:** Chair Sweeney asked if there were any other questions or discussion.

Doug Marklein asked how the Program's LESA system would adapt to changes in the landscape. Wade stated that the system was crafted in a manner so as to not be drastically affected by these changes. Wade also stated the system would be updated a minimum of every five years to account for these changes.

Doug also asked about the public hearing process and what would happen if there was opposition to the Program. Tom stated that the County Board could send the Program back to the Ad Hoc Committee. Wade stated that the Open House is an opportunity for any opposition to be known before it goes to the County Board for a public hearing.

Discussion ensued about the dates of the Open House and the County Board public hearings. Tom Sweeney explained that the Open House is November 30, and the public hearings could potentially be December 16, 2010 and January 13, 2011.

Ron Combs asked if a copy of the Manual could be supplied to the County Board prior to the public hearing. Wade Thompson stated he would supply the County Board with a copy prior to the public hearing.

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10. **Future Meeting Date – November 30, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. – Open House, Courthouse Conference Center (Room 250). Next Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.**

Chair Sweeney confirmed that the Open House would be from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on November 30. Chair Sweeney also confirmed the next Ad Hoc Committee meeting for 5:00 p.m., on December 8, 2010.

11. **Adjournment:** Don Jones motioned to adjourn the PDR/PACE Ad Hoc Committee at 9:25 a.m., seconded by Neil Deupree. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Sweeney
County Conservationist

Minutes are not official until adopted by the PDR/PACE Ad Hoc Committee.

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