

**MONTCALM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
M I N U T E S**

Monday, December 17, 2007, 7:00 p.m.

Third Floor Conference Room  
County Administration Building

Members Present:               Bruce Noll  
  John Johansen  
  S. Michael Scott  
  Don Smucker  
  Lonnie Smith  
  Franz Mogdis

Members Absent:               Pete Haines  
  Phil Lund

Participating Members Present:       Chris Hyzer, County Administrator/Controller  
  Don Lehman, MSUE

Others Present:                Lisa Lund, Recording Secretary  
  Peter Preston

**Call to Order**

Chairman Franz Mogdis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Franz Mogdis led the group in the Pledge.

**Roll Call**

Lisa Lund took roll call and announced a quorum present.

*All handouts noted are on file with the Recording Secretary.*

**Public Comments**

Chairman Franz Mogdis opened the floor for Public Comment.

Peter Preston introduced himself and stated that he is now going into business for himself as an independent consultant. He distributed information on the services he provides (HANDOUT A).

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Motioned by Bruce Noll to accept the October 15, 2007 meeting minutes (HANDOUT B).  
Seconded by John Johansen. Motion carried.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

John Johansen requesting adding the West Michigan Strategic Alliance under New Business.  
Bruce Noll requested adding the Comden Towle Model Forest Management Plan under New Business.

Motioned by John Johansen to accept agenda as amended. Seconded by Lonnie Smith. Motion carried.

### **Reports**

#### Land Use Educator Report

Don Smucker provided his written report dated December, 2007 (HANDOUT C) as well as a Land Policy Institute press release regarding the wind industry for member information (HANDOUT D).

#### Recording Secretary

No report.

#### Carbon Credits

Bruce Noll shared an article by the National Farmers Union (HANDOUT D) that provides a basic overview of the Carbon Credit Program issue.

### **Old Business**

#### General Plan Priorities Status

Franz Mogdis will update this information in a draft form for January Planning Commission meeting in order to discuss and make recommendation to the Montcalm County Board of Commissioners' Economic Development and Facilities Committee.

#### Draft Road Ordinance

The latest draft of the proposed road ordinance (Ordinance No. 2006-01) was reviewed by the membership. Chris Hyzer reformatted the ordinance which was then presented to the Planning Commission for review and comment. He noted suggestions and will make said changes, bringing it back to the authoring subcommittee. The subcommittee will meet to resolve issues raised prior to the January meeting.

## **New Business**

### Bloomer Township Meeting Minutes- November 20, 2007

Members reviewed this as information relative to the Sanborn's P.A. 116 application (HANDOUT E).

### P.A. 116- Harry and Jeanette Sanborn, Hubbardston

P.A. 116 application was submitted for action from Harry and Jeanette Sanborn of Hubbardston (HANDOUT F).

Motioned by Bruce Noll to approve the application and note that it was reviewed without negative comment. Seconded by S. Michael Scott. Motion carried. Lisa Lund will follow up with correspondence to Bloomer Township and the Sanborns.

### P.A. 116- Edmund and Barbara Hagerman, Crystal Township

P.A. 116 application was submitted for action Edmund and Barbara Hagerman of Crystal Township (HANDOUT G).

Motioned by Bruce Noll to approve the application and note that it was reviewed without negative comment. Seconded by Don Smucker. Motion carried. Lisa Lund will follow up with correspondence to Kris Millard and the Hagermans.

### Belvidere Township Master Plan (draft)

Motioned by Johansen to request Don Smucker to review the document and note comments for the Planning Commission consideration. Seconded by S. Michael Scott. Motion carried. Don Smucker will draft comments for Planning Commission members to review at the January meeting.

### Recreation Plan Review and Comment

Members were asked to review the plan and comment. Chris Hyzer and Franz Mogdis noted suggested changes and will forward these to the plan's author- Dave Bee of West Michigan Regional Planning Commission. Members should forward any additional comments to Franz Mogdis as soon as possible. Planning Commission comments and recommended changes will be presented to the Board of Commissioners and cc:d to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

### West Michigan Strategic Alliance

John Johansen reported that January 16, 2008 is the next full board meeting of the West Michigan Strategic Alliance, at which time they are expected to make a decision about Montcalm County's membership application.

### Management Plan for Comden Towle Forest

Bruce Noll highlighted sections of a draft of the long-range management plan for this forest that was commissioned by the Montcalm County Conservation District. He presented it for information. Chris Hyzer said he would email an electronic version of the plan to members.

### Meeting Dates

The January and February 2008 Planning Commission meeting dates were moved to the fourth Mondays, with dates of January 28 and February 25.

### **Public Comment**

Don Lehman brought information on two conferences. The annual Land Use Summit entitled “Building Prosperity: Growing Michigan” and will be held on February 11, 2008. The second conference is on the topic of balancing animal agriculture and communities and will be held on February 29, 2008.

Chris Hyzer reported that Planning Commission membership reappointments were made this afternoon at the Board of Commissioners’ meeting.

Franz Mogdis adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lisa Lund, Recording Secretary