

**HILLSDALE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Minutes**

The **Hillsdale County Planning Commission** convened in the Intermediate School District Conference Room, 310 W. Bacon Street, Hillsdale, Michigan, on Monday, July 20, 2009.

**Members present:** Ned Bever, Fred Fowler, Deb Sikorski, Brad Densmore, Ken Lautzenheiser, Charlene Page, Julie Kanouse, Sarah Fronczak

**Members absent:** None

**Others present:** Crystal Fox, Norma J Wiley, Wendy Moore, Tasha Myers, W.B. Bishop, Jasneet Sharma, Nicolas Wheeler

**Call to Order:** Ned Bever called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** *F. Fowler moved to approve the Minutes of June 15, 2009. B. Densmore supported. Motion unanimously carried.*

**Approval of Agenda:** *The agenda was amended to add item G "E-mail Agendas & Minutes".. K. Lautzenheiser moved to adopt the amended agenda. F. Fowler supported. Motion unanimously carried.*

**Public Comment:** *None*

**Agenda Items:**

**PA-116 – Wright Township Partial Termination – Rayba -** *Motion by J. Kanouse to approve the partial termination of land supported by S. Fronczak. Motion unanimously carried (B. Densmore commented that even though it is removing property from the program it is a good community service they will offer)*

**PA-116 – Camden Township Enrollment – Delagrangre -** *A PA-116 on the applicant's property was found to be consistent with the County's Master Plan. F. Fowler moved to recommend approval. J. Kanouse supported. Motion unanimously approved.*

**PA-116 – Ransom Township Enrollment – Town, Trust -** *A PA-116 on the applicant's property was found to be consistent with the County's Master Plan. K. Lautzenheiser moved to recommend approval. D. Sikorski supported. Motion unanimously approved.*

*Chairperson Bever gave a brief explanation of the PA 116 program and the Planning Commissions role when it comes to the application process.*

**Educational Representative –** *Three applicants for the vacated position of Educational Representative were present. J. Sharma discussed how the selection process would be under the new ordinance and how it conflicts with the County Commissioners policy. K. Lautzenheiser proposed to change "from" to "by" in section 102(F)(5)(a) of the draft ordinance. Discussion on the need to go to a Superintendants Association meeting to ask for recommendations on the association's involvement in the process of selecting a representative. K. Lautzenheiser proposed someone go to the Superintendants Association meeting and talk about the process and what is expected of them from the Planning Commission. The next meeting of the Superintendants Association meeting is August 5, 2009 at 9:30 am.*

**Review of the Picture Hillsdale County Survey report** – *J. Sharma met with Chuck McKeown about the lack of participation from the survey. He directed her to the website [www.surveysystem.com](http://www.surveysystem.com) that covers how to deal with data when there is a small sampling. Creative Research Systems calculates the responses and takes in to consideration a 95% (+/- 4.5%) confidence level for each answer in a survey. J. Sharma will utilize this tool and include it in the Survey Methodology section of the report. B. Densmore suggested condensing the report in to a 2-3 page summary to handout. D. Sikorski asked about there being a requirement for a summary at the end of the Picture Hillsdale project. S. Fronczak asked why we would present the results if we are not going to engage the public at the same time. J. Sharma passed around a summary booklet she received from Chuck McKeown from another county they did. It was consensus to have J. Sharma put the survey results on the website she will also present at a future Michigan Townships Association meeting; announce it on her radio program as well as a press release. K. Lautzenheiser mentioned that the Natural Resources Conservation Services booth at fair would be a good place for handouts and a synopsis. K. Lautzenheiser suggested that the survey results should be bound and presented to City, Townships and Villages before any press release.*

*K. Lautzenheiser moved to make available to all municipalities a copy of the survey results and to distribute. F. Fowler supported. C. Page and B. Densmore volunteered to review prior to distribution. Motion unanimously carried.*

**Draft Ordinance Review** – *C. Page pointed to section 102(F)(4)(a) references The Hillsdale County Regional Roundtable and that this group does not meet regularly any more and that the “or” should be changed to “and”. K. Lautzenheiser will check on the availability of an appointment for the next County Board of Commissioners meeting (July 28, 2009) to report to them on the status of the draft ordinance with said changes.*

**E-mail Agendas & Minutes** – *J. Kanouse proposed that packets for all future meetings be sent via electronic mail as opposed to a hard copy sent through the United State Postal Service. It was consensus to have all packets sent electronically with the exception of F. Fowler and K. Lautzenheiser who will continue to receive hard copies.*

**Communications:** *N. Bever will be present for the steering committee meeting to the Citizen Planner program instead of J. Kanouse or D. Sikorski.*

**Public Comment:** *W.B. Bishop asked for clarification on the Planning Commission Ordinance and whether it would be subject to a public hearing. He was informed that it would be subject to a public hearing. N. Wiley commented on the ordinance and that it is state mandated and to clarify that the picture Hillsdale survey is a tool to help update the county master plan.*

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Julie Kanouse, Secretary

Recorded by: Nicolas Wheeler, Equalization Director, County of Hillsdale