

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 17, 2012**

**Committee Members**

David Baker  
Ralph Angelo  
Dodie Huber – N/A  
Charles Evangelista  
John Sheppard  
Kristine Singer

N/A = Necessarily Absent

**County Staff**

John Garvey, County Administrator  
Darlys McDonough, Deputy County Administrator  
Andrea Schoeneman, Assistant County Attorney  
Linda Frasca, Sr. Administrative Assistant – Planning  
Nellie Puma, DPW

**Guests**

Carla Jordan, Casella Waste Management; Katie Bennett-Roll, Resident; Chris Costello, Resident; Richard Hoyt, Resident; Julie Sherwood, MPN; David Shaw, FLT

**Call to Order:** Chairman Baker called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** *Motion made by Supervisor Singer to approve the August 15, 2012, seconded by Supervisor Sheppard with a revision to the wording on Page 2, Paragraph 2. Motion unanimously carried.*

**Old Business**

**Solid Waste Activities Update:**

1a.) ***Solid Waste Plan*** – Darlys McDonough reported that we are in the same limbo as we continue to wait for DEC to submit comments to the plan. County Administration will be making some phone calls to the DEC to see if they are ready yet to provide any comments. Additional updates will be provided as soon as the DEC responds.

1b.) **360 Expansion Permit/FEIS Update:** Chair Baker opened the floor for comments on the FEIS report provided for EQC members review. Supervisor Sheppard requested the floor and stated he had several thoughts/concerns regarding several issues but most contentious is the “timeline push”, and zoning issue. Supervisor Sheppard feels that pushing the acceptance of the FEIS may cause problems down the road and feels the County should review the report more in depth before accepting it as is. As for the zoning issues, Supervisor Sheppard feels that several areas need to be addressed and resolved before accepting the FEIS (i.e. the transfer of the 40 acres, the comprehensive plan – where’s the lease, compensation to the Town, and the positive Statement of Findings, etc.). Mr. Sheppard referred to the public interest nine (9) step test and stated that we should not accept what was reported at face value – and that no test results were provided for the Board of Supervisors or County Administration review. Supervisor Sheppard stated that at this time the Town of Seneca is totally against accepting the FEIS as presented.

Supervisor Evangelista quickly reviewed what Supervisor Sheppard shared for clarification; Supervisor Sheppard clarified what had been said for everyone present.

Supervisor Evangelista stated that the vast majority of comments that were received from all over the County, including from City of Geneva residents, presented to Casella, and were responded to by them, covered areas that would be adversely affected with the landfill expansion in terms of tourism, wineries, etc. He feels that his area will be adversely affected than other areas without any sort of compensation; and even if there was compensation associated with it, the truck traffic, the smells would outweigh the end result. Supervisor Evangelista stated that at present his position on the matter is that the landfill operation is not being run as effectively as it had in the past – the smell alone and the increased truck traffic now is much worse than it was a year ago; he further stated that Casella’s response to City of Geneva residents concerns will not adequately take care of the problems/issues. Supervisor Evangelista stated that with these concerns not yet addressed he would be opposed to going forward with the landfill expansion project by accepting the FEIS at this time.

**Executive Session:** Chair Baker requested a motion to enter in to executive session.

***Motion to enter in to Executive Session to further discuss litigation matters made by Supervisor Singer, seconded by Supervisor Angelo. Motion unanimously carried. The 10/17/12 EQC entered in to Executive Session at 4:26 p.m.***

***Chair Baker excused all outside attendees including Supervisor Sheppard from the meeting at this times.***

***Motion to exit Executive Session made by Supervisor Evangelista, seconded by Supervisor Singer. Motion unanimously carried. The 8/15/12 EQC exited Executive Session at 4:36 p.m.***

Darlys McDonough presented and quickly reviewed a draft resolution to accept the FEIS report as presented for EQC member review.

***Chair Baker took a roll call to accept the FEIS report as presented with the Vote: 3 Ayes (Singer, Angelo, and Baker) – 2 Opposed (Sheppard and Evangelista)***

**Soil Borrow Issues** – As discussed above.

**Landfill Operations Update:** Carla Jordan stated the new website is up and running and shared that new alerts regarding landfill operations/events are done by 2:00 p.m. on a daily basis. Ms. Jordan shared that there are now twelve (12) active wells installed and up and running. Katie Bennett-Roll (area resident) stated that she was unable to locate the landfill website – Ms. Jordan will resend the press release with the link address to her.

**Additional Information:**

County resident, Richard Hoyt, shared his concern that his comment regarding the landfill expansion was not included in the FEIS. He is very concerned with the noxious orders and residents health due to it – stated today's normal conditions is not normal and feels there will be days when the noxious omissions will cause potential health hazards.

**Retention of Legal Counsel for Hydrofracking:** Andrea Schoeneman, Assistant County Attorney, questioned whether or not the Town of Victor would be participating in the matter – at present they are waffling back and forth due to the cost (6,500.00 to be divided between all participating municipalities). At this time, three or four municipalities are definitely going to go forward with the retaining of legal counsel in regards to the hydrofracking matter. Ms. Schoeneman stated no resolution is needed as the agreement will be between the participating towns and county attorney's office.

**Adjournment:** Being no further business for discussion, **motion to adjourn the 10/17/12 EQC meeting made by Supervisor Singer, seconded by Supervisor Sheppard. Motion carried. The 10/17/12 EQC meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Linda R. Frasca*

Sr. Clerk  
Planning Department