

*Date of Meeting: Tuesday, April 1, 2008*

### ***Brownfield Minutes***

#### **Members**

Jerry Wolf, Jim Clark, Dwight McIntyre, Denny Weiss, Jane Tennant, Gabriel, Flora, Liz Steinhurst, Lance (Mills Twp Supervisor), Alan Bruder (First Bank), Sue Delahanty, and Jim Linton.

#### **Brownfield Attendees**

Sue Delahanty, Jerry Wolf, Dwight McIntyre, Alan Bruder, Lance, Liz Steinhurst, and Denny Weiss. Guest Jay Spaulding, West Branch Township Supervisor.

Jerry Wolf calls meeting to order at 10:00am.

Dwight approves Brownfield minutes, Jerry supports, and everyone agrees.

Jerry, EPA allows deep well injection anywhere. In absence of an ordinance regulating the conditions the thing goes under, the EPA allows it to under but the burden or proof is on the county regarding the health. Jerry will provide in the future to the Brownfield attendees information provided by East Central Michigan Planning & Development Region. If we get a grant we will have the funds to bring in geological experts. Jerry to presume an argument, it goes by county and in this area we are in power to protect and preserve the environment and quality of life of the county.

Lance questions the EPA doesn't care about Ogemaw County, that if we don't do it by ourselves, they are going to take advantage of us? Jerry states yes, they had done that in Romulus. The EPA will allow it and will monitor it.

Denny questions that if you want to do something, the EPA will put you through the loops and make it almost impossible to do it, but if the EPA wants it done, they will make it happen? And Jerry states, yes.

Sue can't imagine between EPA and DEQ in the state that they would allow the pollution activities to go on. Liz states that they will monitor the activity but by time the material is put down, it is too late.

Dwight questions, who enforces the Ogemaw County ordinance? Lance states that in Mills Township, there is an ordinance enforcement officer. The county would have an ordinance enforcement officer and then you would have to take them to court and the judge would have to verify that it is enforceable.

Liz would rather have an ordinance and issue a variance then not have an ordinance at all.

If we do this and get support, we will find other regions that agree and join in.

Lance, What if every county in the United States says not in our back yard, then what do we do with it and that is where you are going to lose because it has to go somewhere. Liz, then it comes down to dollars and someone is going to want to be compensated for taking care of it. We give way too many variances in this county but at least you will have the opportunity.

Dwight, we don't have an EPA office in the County, so if the EPA or DEQ will enforce their standards not our ordinance. The building and zoning office won't but it is okay to put one out there incase we have it.

Sue, I would suggest to work through Flo, if it is an issue with us, maybe it is an issue for other counties and work with counties to enforce it.

Lance, they are going to take the water out of the Great Lakes and we are not going to be able to stop them. The majority of the population of the U.S.A is moving to the Southwest and they will take the water. It is not our water.

Jerry motions to adjourn Brownfield at 10:30 am, Dwight seconds, all agree.