

WINDBER AREA AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF MARCH 14, 2007

Draft

Chairman Oldham called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M. and DiBattista led the Board in reciting the "The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag". Present for the meeting were Board Members Caldwell, DiBattista, Drzal, Kormanik, Oldham, and Polasko. Also present were Dennis Mash, Manager; Tina Harclerode, Assistant to the Manager; Jim Cascio, Solicitor; Brad Stinebiser, Engineer; and Dave Yahner, Engineer. Visitors present were Dan DiPaola of Somerset Daily American, Joseph Cominsky of "Save the Mountain" Group, John Paulovich, Tim Vought of Gamesa Energy, Jack Buchan, Randy Richey and Randy Griffith of the Tribune Democrat. Board Member Olson was absent.

~~Jack Buchan~~ discussed the proposed windmills in Ogle and Shade Townships. He owns property in Ogle and Napier Township. He is opposed to the windmill installation due to the location which is at the headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay. There are numerous property owners that have filed litigation against Gamesa to contest their building permit. ~~Buchan discussed the application filed with the Somerset Soil Conservation District for ground disturbance during windmill construction.~~ Buchan will be hiring a geologist for review of the proposed windmill construction.

~~Randy Richey~~ of Napier Township, Bedford County discussed the proposed windmill construction. Richey discussed the water source for Ethel Run which originates in Ogle Township in the Authority's recharge area. Richey discussed the concrete pads that will be poured for each windmill and possible contamination of the water supply. ~~He said that Gamesa offered to buy his Trout Farm because they will damage Ethel Run.~~ Richey discussed the fishing rodeo that is held on his property yearly.

Tim Vought of Gamesa Energy discussed the proposed windmill farm construction in Ogle and Shade Townships. Vought stated the NPDES permit application and erosion and sediment control plan has been filed with the Somerset Conservation District for the proposed construction. Vought stated the foundation for each windmill is 8 feet deep and 50 feet wide. The plans for a concrete batch plant have not been finalized.

The Board discussed the Authority's response to Gamesa on the proposed windmill farm construction. ~~Buchan stated caissons are being installed and Oldham addressed the concern of caissons being installed for the foundation of each windmill. Caissons are installed by drilling into the bedrock and installing anchors for the foundation. Vought stated there are no caissons being installed. Drzal made a motion to disapprove the windmills in the watershed. Motion seconded by Oldham. On a roll call vote, all members voted yes except Caldwell voted no.~~

Chairman Oldham stated the minutes of the meetings of February 21st are approved as read.

The Board reviewed the list of bills for payment. Polasko made a motion to approve the bills for payment as presented. Motion seconded by Caldwell. All board members present voted yes.

Mash updated the Board on the geotechnical study on the property for the construction of a new shop building. Mash stated the geotechnical study found that there may be problems with the foundation. The foundation plans and other alternatives will be reviewed by the Construction Committee and the Board will be updated at the next Authority meeting.

Yahner discussed the Ingleside Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) Replacement construction project. The liquid stream of the SBR plant was initially placed on-line on February 5th and the solids stream (sludge processing) facilities will be completed by mid-April with exception of digester #2. The