



Minutes - January 7, 2025

Call to Order: Supervisor Cullen called the hybrid Environmental Management Systems Committee meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. in the Courthouse Conference Center (CCC), 2nd floor, Courthouse.

Committee Members Present: Supervisor Sutterlin; Supervisor Cullen; Supervisor Gorman; Citizen Representative Jim Farrell.

Committee Members Absent: Citizen Representative Susan Johnson

Staff Members Present: Randy Terronez, Acting County Administrator; Brent Sutherland, Facilities Management Director; Duane Jorgenson, Public Works Director

Others Present:

Approve Agenda: Supervisor Cullen moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Gorman. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Randy introduced Andrea Wolf to the committee to take meeting minutes.

Approval of Minutes:

December 3, 2024: Supervisor Sutterlin moved to approve the December 3, 2024, minutes, second by Citizen representative Jim Farrell. ADOPTED.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action:

Highlights of Lo/No Emission Vehicles Research Report - Duane Jorgenson, DPW Director:

Duane Jorgenson provided a recap of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and its role in Rock County. Duane discussed the report's focus on electric alternative fuel sources, noting its heavy emphasis on electric vehicles and the challenges faced by medium and heavy-duty fleets. The report also touched on biodiesel, CNG, ethanol, hydrogen fuel cells, and other options to reduce emissions.

Duane noted the challenges and strategies involved in transitioning to electric vehicles for their fleet. Emphasizing the need for a robust plan, infrastructure, and training for mechanics. He also mentioned the importance of considering maintenance challenges, such as the need for different fire ratings and personal protective equipment (PPE). Duane stated that electric vehicle maintenance is different from traditional engine maintenance, and that some tasks may need to be outsourced. Duane also noted that the cost of charging equipment was not included in the total cost of ownership model, which could be a significant factor to consider. The consensus was that while electric vehicles are feasible, the technology is still in its infancy and requires careful consideration before implementation.

DPW Environmental Projects Update - Duane Jorgenson, DPW Director : Duane discussed updating the reclamation plan for a former mining site of Kuiper Pit. Kuiper Pit has not been actively mined since 2001, but the County does have a current lease with AMTEC to use a portion for testing explosives. Duane also discussed the potential listing of the monarch butterfly as a threatened species with the possibility of joining the Monarch CCAA to mitigate potential impacts. Duane talked about the ongoing research on the effects of herbicide use on soil health. The committee agreed to monitor these developments and consider potential strategies to minimize environmental impacts.

Goals & Objectives Update: Supervisor Cullen requested if Supervisor Gorman had anything to add to email it to the committee members.

Director/Staff Reports: None.

Next meeting date and time: Tuesday, February 4th at 10:00 AM. Supervisor Gorman noted he would be out of town for the February 4th meeting.

Adjournment: Supervisor Sutterlin moved adjournment at 11:12 AM, second by Citizen representative Jim Farrell. ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Wolf
Administrative Professional III

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.