

Indiana Land Resources Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 28th 2011
12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Indiana Farm Bureau

Present: Nancy Cline, Bruce Everhart, Eric Kelly, Joe Kelsay, Mary McConnell, Fred Walker, Bob Burke, David Compton

Absent: Gene Schmidt, Jon Craig

The meeting began with a motion by Eric Kelly to approve the January 2011 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Bruce Everhart and passed unanimously.

The council then received an update from Amy Cornell regarding county assistance provided on behalf of the ILRC since the last meeting. She also thanked the council members for agreeing to continue to serve on ILRC. On December 1st, Amy Cornell served on the panel on behalf of the ILRC for the *Cost of Community Services, Land Use and Your County* presentation at the Indiana Association of County Commissioners conference (IACC). Amy congratulated Gene Schmidt as the President of the National Association of Conservation Districts. Amy Cornell then provided a legislative update.

The next item of business was an update on HEA 1311 by John Molitor. Statute and case law seemed to be at odds, but case law was largely put into the statutes. HEA 1311 establishes a judicial review processes and eliminates writ of certiorari, a similar procedure for planning commissions and BZA. The bill also makes changes regarding alternate members of plan commissions, residency plat review, and the procedure for publishing ordinances.

Bob Thompson then related a Smart Growth success story from Porter County. Porter County's existing land use was both rural/agricultural and urban, divided for drainage to Lake Michigan. There was scattered growth and an effort to strip out residential development along county roads. The character scenario was to focus development next to cities and towns, while encouraging an avenue on municipal type services versus well and septic. The county developed a land use plan that highlighted areas where they wanted to encourage growth and the type of land use they wanted to encourage in each area. An attempt was made to use the environmental space that existed and work around it.

After a break, the council received an update on the *Indiana Main Street* program by Shae Kmicikewycz from OCRA.

Leah Buyer then led a discussion on Rural Smart Growth. Agriculture is part of smart growth through the farming community and agricultural lands are revenue generating. Rural smart growth development takes place both inside and outside cities, and may need to be a regional initiative.

A roundtable discussion on E-publication smart growth incentives for rural communities and model zoning ordinances for agritourism operations then took place.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy K. Cornell
Executive Director