

Indiana Land Resources Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 3rd, 2010
12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
The Nature Conservancy

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

The meeting began with a motion by Bruce Everhart to approve the April 2010 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mary McConnell and passed unanimously.

The next item of business was a discussion to review and provide feedback on *A Cost of Community Services Study for Indiana Counties and School Corporations*, by Dr. Larry DeBoer. The council did not have concerns about the methodology used to calculate the ratios. The discussion focused on the need to emphasize how the data should be used with regard to land use planning. For example, the council discussed how the data needs to be considered along with other factors in the comprehensive planning process, and it should not be used to evaluate specific development proposals. They discussed how it is also important to emphasize that the study focuses exclusively on payment of taxes and receipt of government services. The ratios will not reflect the economic multiplier effect for each type of land use.

The council decided that stating it is a study funded by the Indiana Soybean Alliance with ILRC serving in an advisory capacity best reflects their role. Eric Kelly made a motion that the ILRC request the above-stated points be incorporated into the report, such as in the executive summary or a one page statement by the ILRC attached to the report. The motion was seconded by Fred Walker and passed unanimously. The council discussed the value of the data to the comprehensive planning process, and decided they should continue to discuss what additional research should be done to build upon this report.

The council then received an update from Sarah Simpson regarding county and municipal planning assistance provided on behalf of the ILRC since the last meeting. Jamie Palmer provided a brief overview for the council about land use issues that may be addressed in the next legislative session. John Molitor provided an overview of HB1245, which is a bill that was introduced last session to make several changes to the *Indiana Planning and Zoning Law*.

The last item was a presentation by Jeff Lauer, ISDA Intern, titled *Leading Indiana toward Smarter Growth*. The council decided they will continue to discuss what approaches have worked in other states, such as focusing on a few specific goals, priority funding, and projecting the costs to a state if smart growth practices are not implemented.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Ash Simpson
Executive Director