



# HENDERSON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

## Environmental Advisory Committee

Thursday, January 7, 2010

The Environmental Advisory Committee met on Thursday, January 7, 2010 at 3:30 pm at the King Street Meeting Room at 100 N. King St.

Committee members present: Dr. Richard DeSimone, Mr. Richard Freudenberger, Mr. Anthony Brancato, Ms. Marijane Pell, Mr. Jim Fickes, Dr. Tom Davis, and Mr. David Lowles

Staff present: Ms. Alexis Baker, Mrs. Autumn Radcliff, Mr. Matthew Cable, Mr. Anthony Starr, and Mr. Shaun Moore

Guest: Larry Rogers

### **CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

Committee member Dr. Richard DeSimone called the meeting to order in Mr. Ron Ehlinger's absence.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*The motion was made to approve the minutes pending the change that "Federal regulations dictate that even if it is a small area, the entire county is considered nonattainment." be remove. Revised minutes will be posted in the EAC section of the Solid Waste website.*

### **DISCUSSION**

Mrs. Radcliff, Senior Planner, with the Henderson County Planning Department discussed the Etowah and Horse Shoe Communities Plan resolution passed on September 16, 2009 by the Board of Commissioners to have recommendations communicated to the proper departments or government agencies.

Mr. Cable, Planner, reviewed the Edneyville Community Plan. He spoke to the Committee about the recommendations and presented them with an executive summary. The Planning Board, at its December 2009 meeting, recommended approval of the Draft Edneyville Community Plan to the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Cable talked more in depth about the environmental recommendations presented in the plan. Several recommendations in the plan

address water quality protection and land quality. Mr. Cable also briefly spoke on housing, community facilities and public services, transportation, and economic development recommendations.

Next, Mr. Cable spoke on the Draft Henderson County Delegated Stormwater Management Program Regulations. Rather than the Division of Water Quality administering stormwater regulations, Henderson County would be responsible. The stormwater regulations would be based on the State standards. Within these new County regulations, modification to the Watershed High Density Options would include increase limits to build upon areas, no minimum lot sizes, and the requirements for engineered stormwater controls, which would improve or maintain water quality. Stormwater management permits would be required in areas not within a designated water supply watershed area for development and redevelopment that disturbs one acre or more, or less than one acre if it is part of a larger common plan of development. A permit is also required for any activity not exempt from permit requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. In order to have these regulations effective, the Board of Commissioners must set and hold a public hearing. The text amendment must be approved by the Division of Water Quality, and the Board of Commissioners and municipalities must approve a resolution authorizing Henderson County administration of these new standards.

Finally, Mr. Moore, Watershed Coordinator with the Henderson County Soil and Water District, spoke on the Agricultural Preservation Plan for Henderson County. The purpose of the Agricultural Preservation Plan *is to present a set of recommendations to assist government leaders in preserving agriculture in Henderson County by promoting agricultural economic development and farmland protection. To accomplish this purpose, an assessment of the agricultural industry in Henderson County was made and its challenges and opportunities identified. The assessment was made by compiling information from statistical reports, by holding a series of public input meetings and through individual interviews.* This plan was developed by the Board of Commissioners and the Agricultural Advisory Board. Several recommendations were developed from this plan to encourage, preserve, and enhance agriculture in Henderson County.

Staff informed the committee that three grant applications were submitted in 2009 for energy management.

Dr. DeSimone recommended that the committee review the Proposed Stormwater Regulations for discussion at next month's meeting.

The next meeting will be February 4, 2010 at 3:30 pm.

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes submitted by Ms. Alexis Baker

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