The Addison County Regional Planning Commission’s Executive Board held its regular meeting at the Regional Planning Commission’s office in Middlebury with Chair, Jeremy Grip, presiding.

ROLL CALL
Ferrisburgh  Diane Benware
Leicester     Steve Revell
Lincoln       Ted Davis
Middlebury    Jeremy Grip
Ripton        Nick Causton

STAFF: Adam Lougee, Director

Jeremy Grip opened the meeting at 6:40.

MINUTES

February 28, 2018 Minutes: Ted Davis moved to adopt the February 28, 2018 minutes. Nick Causton seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Adam distributed the Treasurer’s report. It showed that in the current fiscal year through March, revenues lead expenses, but not by a large enough margin given the pre-paid revenue ACRPC enjoys. That is bad news. Adam noted that several of our new programs will need to be billed at the end of the project, impacting our cash flow. He also noted we still have some very limited other billing to do. Adam concluded he believes he can bring in a balanced year, but it is going to be very difficult and he will really need to focus on revenue. Steve Revell moved to adopt the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Diane Benware seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote with all in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Act 250/248, Adam reported no activity since the last meeting. However, Adam noted that this morning, he attended the argument at the Supreme Court concerning LK Holdings and the Town of Whiting. ACRPC represented the town in the suit, which involves the question of the legitimacy of a 500-kW solar farm and whether they filed a complete application before or after the net metering rules changed. We contended they failed to complete their application until after the rule change, and therefore the project was no longer eligible to be built under the new rules. ACRPC and Whiting prevailed at the PUC, the applicant appealed to the Supreme Court.
Energy: Jeremy noted that a draft of the Energy Plan is available on ACRPC’s Website. Adam will send out a draft to all parties shortly for a hearing in June.

Local Government: The Committee has a hearing in Leicester tonight and in Whiting later in the month.

Natural Resources: The Committee met just before the full commission and discussed forest fragmentation.

Transportation: The TAC completed its discussion of Regional; priorities and discussed local road safety.

OLD BUSINESS

Lease of Property: Adam noted that our lease of the current building ends June 30, 2018. Adam has asked the Landlord to renew the lease. Bill agreed to extend the current lease for another year to June, 2019.

Emergency Planner Position: Adam noted he is interviewing candidates and hopes to make a decision within a couple of weeks.

Funding Water Quality: Adam handed out a VAPDA policy position regarding water quality. It is substantially paired down from the previous draft that Adam distributed last month. It focuses mostly on the need for a project development pipeline to get good priority projects ready to build. It does not take a position with regard to how money gets raised or how it is administered.

Annual Meeting Program and Location: Adam announced the meeting will be at Tourterelle. Ted Davis noted he has secured Jim Blair, a photographer for National Geographic Society as a speaker.

Nominating Committee: The Committee nominated a slate at the April Full Commission meeting and will re-announce the slate at the Annual Meeting.

Energy Plan: As noted above, the Energy Committee looks to have hearings in June and July, followed immediately by a vote in July.

Other: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Draft Budget and Workplan: Adam noted that the budget and workplan he is proposing is substantially the same as he presented at the full commission meeting. The Executive Board will get one more look at it at its May meeting before the June vote.
Vote on Bertha Hanson Award: The Board considered nominations and chose a winner which it will announce at the Annual Meeting.

Other: None.

ADJOURNMENT

Ted Davis moved to adjourn. Steve Revell seconded the motion. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Adam Lougee