

LERAY PLANNING BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
May 13, 2010
6:00 pm in the LeRay Conference Room 1

Open Special Meeting

Board members in attendance: Chairman – Jerry Hobbs, Alan Cameron, Larry Covell, Clarke Oatman, and Community Development Coordinator- Jessica Jenack.

Old Business:

Review the Draft Small WECS Law

The Board members reviewed an attorney/client' communication from their counsel on the Ag Exemptions recommended by Matt Brower with NYS Ag and Markets. The Board members then went over the proposed changes to the law based on previous comments from NYSDEC, Jay Matteson, the Jefferson County Planning Board and NYS Ag and Markets. The proposed changes included:

- adding a definition for ambient sound
- adding a new Section (L.) titled “Exemptions for recognized Farm Operations seeking Placement of Small Wind Energy Systems within County adopted, State certified Agricultural Districts”.
- Decreasing the setback amount from the habitat areas and state wetlands from 2,500 feet and 1,000 feet respectively to 1,000 feet and 500 feet.
- Expanding the setback requirement to include “other recognized habitats such as any nearby NYS Wildlife Management Areas, any locally recognized priority habitat areas such as those set aside for bats and any areas considered “sensitive”. This may include but not be limited to areas such as Bird Conservation Areas or areas covered under mitigation for species such as grassland birds; and State identified wetlands to be shown on the Site Plan” and requiring that they be shown on the Site Plan.

The consensus of the Board members present was that even though they were not in agreement with the exemptions to agricultural operations in certified agricultural districts, there probably would not be that many wind projects proposed due to their cost. The changes were agreed upon as presented.

Review the Draft Law for Site Plan Modifications

The Board also discussed the Draft Law for Site Plan Modifications. Site Plan modifications are an on-going issue the Board is dealing with and the proposed law would enable the Board to waive certain unnecessary requirements. The Board members did not recommend any changes to the draft law.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 6:52 pm was made by Mr. Covell and seconded by Mr. Cameron. The vote went as follows: Mr. Oatman- Yes, Mr. Covell- Yes, Mr. Cameron-Yes, and Chairman Hobbs- Yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.