



MONROE COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
&  
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Monroe County Commissioners

812 349-2550  
Courthouse, Room 315  
Bloomington, IN 47404

Dave Parsons, Chair  
Terry Usrey, Vice Chair  
Jerrold Ulrey, Secretary

5:30-7:00 pm  
Nat U. Hill Meeting Room  
Monroe County  
Courthouse

*"The Monroe County Environmental Quality & Sustainability Commission will provide education, advice, and encouragement to residents, local businesses, organizations, and county government to adopt practices and develop policies that preserve and strengthen Monroe County's economy, ecology, social justice and health initiatives."*

February 11, 2015

- I. Call to Order – **The meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by the Chair, Dave Parsons.**
- II. Roll Call -- Introduction of new members – **In attendance, Bob Austin, Dave Parsons, Clark Sorensen (new member), Terry Robbins, Jerry Ulrey, Kristin Brethova (new member), Julie Thomas, Jacqui Bauer, Annelise Huber, and Ally Muir (new member). A quorum is present. All attending introduced themselves and new commission members were welcomed by the Chair.**
- III. Public Comment (5 minute limit) – **Diane Jung, member of the Bloomington Environmental Commission (BEC) appeared. The BEC recently set a priority to establish collaboration with organizations like EQuaS. She is also the founder of Lawns for Life (LFL), a program to educate residents about environmental issues associated with lawn care and how to avoid or mitigate them. She would like EQuaS to collaborate with LFL to spread its program from Bloomington into Monroe County. She indicated that Todd Stevenson, the Monroe County Drainage Engineer, has expressed an interest in collaborating. After discussion, the Chair suggested to Ms. Jung that it would be helpful if she (1) provide EQuaS epidemiological information regarding lawn treatments (for example, what chemicals are harmful and what are the alternatives) and (2) provide details on how she envisions the County may collaborate with LFL (what departments, what efforts, what implications, etc.). Chair Parsons offered to solicit an EQuaS member to work with Ms. Jung. Ms. Jung agreed to share educational information via email, to work with the designated member, and to return to attend a future EQuaS meeting with a specific collaboration proposal.**
- IV. Community Presentation – Presentation on the County's Agreement with Honeywell by Commissioner Julie Thomas and James Zellman from Honeywell – **James Zellman presented a PowerPoint describing the upcoming significant energy efficiency efforts in County buildings focused on reducing electric, gas, and water consumption and costs. The County would be expected to save \$157,974 per year in energy cost savings alone, in addition to maintenance savings, sewer credits (for evaporated water not reaching sewer lines), and applicable utility credits. These annual savings are guaranteed by Honeywell (as adjusted for actual variations in agreed-to baseline conditions, including temperature normalization). The contract is for 10 years, with the Measurement and Verification of savings for 3 years. Efforts related to the contract started in December and are expected to be completed in 8 months.**
- V. Election of Officers – **Chair Dave Parsons indicated that officer elections are required in the February meeting each year. He offered to stand for re-election as EQuaS Chair, Bob Austin**

agreed to stand for election as Vice-Chair, and Kristin Brethova agreed to stand for election as Secretary. The Chair asked for other nominations - there were none. Clark Sorensen made a motion to submit the proposed slate of candidates for a vote. The motion was seconded. A roll call vote was held. All voting members voted in favor of the candidates – the motion carried.

VI. Approval of Minutes from January 14, 2015 meeting - **the Minutes were approved as proposed.**

VII. Old Business

- a. Monroe County Energy Challenge – **Bob Austin – due to a misinterpreted GUEP guideline, the Education Committee will need to approach more schools to solicit their participation in the competition. The Pavagen system at Bloomington South will be installed very soon – led by Amanda Figolah, an Education Committee member. The Joyce Foundation grant will help fund an initial teacher training project that will assist in developing teachers to champion MCECs efforts in the schools. Jacqui Bauer – She is working on grants from Duke and the Indiana Office of Energy Development. Various MCEC Committees are meeting this week and all are welcome to attend.**
- b. Annual Report – **Annelise Huber – Preliminary analysis shows 92,000 Kwh were saved in 2014. However, because the 2014 gas usage (non-temperature normalized) increased due to the cold January and February, the preliminary all-energy sources total is not a savings. The team working on the Report will pursue temperature normalization of all electric and gas usages for all years (2011-2014) and present that adjusted usage analysis for consideration for inclusion in the Annual Report. The goal is to complete the Annual Report by the end of February.**

VIII. New Business – **None.**

IX. Reports from Working Groups

- a. Thomson Property – **No updates.**
- b. Energy – **No updates.**

X. Reports from Represented Organizations

- a. City of Bloomington – **No report.**
- b. Indiana University - **New EQuaS member, Kristin Brethova, mentioned the IU Sustainability Newsletter is available for all to subscribe to, to keep up with IU Sustainability Office projects. Also, she is working to recruit 12 interns for the summer intern class, and believes that the interns would be delighted to share their projects with EQuaS at future EQuaS meetings.**
- c. Monroe County Soil and Water – **New EQuaS member, Ally Muir, is outreach coordinator for MCSW, and is currently working on organizing their March Annual meeting and also working to secure funds for their cover crop share programs.**
- d. Monroe County Government – **Ryan Cobine is the new County Council (non-voting) appointee to EQuaS, replacing Geoff McKim, but was not in attendance due to illness. Julie Thomas mentioned that the 78W solar panels have been installed on the Justice Building and they are awaiting Duke for the hookup. Also, Annelise will be coordinating the development of green teams in the County departments to focus on energy efficiency including ensuring awareness of the MCEC project and creating manuals for the longer term.**

XI. Adjournment – **The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.**

Next Meeting Date: 5:30pm, Wednesday March 11, 2015, Nat U. Hill Room, Monroe County Courthouse