

**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
**THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1990 -- 9:00 A.M.**  
**COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM**

Present: Commissioners Kerentoff, Flippo, Easton and Platt

Also Present: Commissioner Gould, Vivian Brighton, Germaine Binns, Carol Tuckerman, Dennis Pelham, Robert Snow, Lorna Engle, Karlene Goetz, John Jones, Mike Clement, Fred Keeslar, Pam Andrix, Don Mitchell, Lou Ann Bluntschly and Bill Bacon

I. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Motion by Platt, supported by Easton to nominate Commissioner Kerentoff as Chairman of the Environment Committee. Motion by Flippo to nominate Commissioner Easton as Chairman (motion withdrawn).

Motion by Easton, supported by Platt to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Kerentoff as Chairman of the Environment Committee. Motion carried.

Motion by Flippo, supported by Easton to nominate Commissioner Platt as Vice Chairman for the Environment Committee and that the nominations be closed and a unanimous ballot cast for Commissioner Platt as Vice Chairman. Motion carried.

II. Review Status of Proposed Low Level Radioactive Waste Site in Riga Township

Mr. Keeslar reported that he had attended two meetings of the Public Advisory Committee which is to provide information and technical assistance to the Low Level Radioactive Waste Authority. The advisory committee had also visited the nuclear waste disposal site in Barnwell, SC.

Mr. Keeslar stated that he was quite concerned with the process being used to select a site for the low level radioactive waste facility. The procedures to narrow the candidate areas to three specific sites have not been followed according to original plans since St. Clair and Ontonagon have been eliminated due to wetlands. A large amount of technical data and information have also been provided to the Authority, but it apparently has not been taken into consideration as yet. At this time, the Authority has not expanded its search to any other candidate areas beyond Riga.

Mr. Keeslar explained that the soil type in Riga Township was primarily the hoytville type which consists of Lake Erie bottom land and is usually quite wet. This type of soil can support very limited construction which would pose problems for an above ground structure. The township also hosts a significant number of migrant workers each summer for farming.

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The sub surface soil in Riga has been known to produce methane and hydrogen gasses as well as radon gas. There is a question on how effectively radiation could be monitored when there is interference from existing radon gas.

Riga Township has the first County drains that were constructed in Michigan. Due to the unsuitable soil conditions, the area is not a desirable site for any type of waste landfill.

**III. Discuss Proposal Low Level Radioactive Waste Site with Riga Township Representatives**

Ms. Pam Andrix, Secretary for the Riga Township Support Authority, presented a notebook to each of the committee members discussing the preliminary selection of Riga Township as a site for the disposal of low level radioactive waste. She reviewed the contents of the notebook which included a discussion of the history, waste, criteria, actions and finances of the Riga Township Support Authority.

Karlene Goetz, Riga Township Clerk, reviewed the finances of the Support Authority and briefly discussed the upcoming millage election in Riga Township.

**IV. Update on Status of Draft Solid Waste Plan**

Mr. Bacon explained that the draft of the Solid Waste Plan had been submitted to the Department of Natural Resources on March 1, 1990. He stated that he has no information on a time table that the DNR will follow in reviewing and approving the five year update to the Solid Waste Plan.

**V. Review Recycling Education Efforts**

Vivian Brighton reviewed the status of the Recycling Education grant. The Department of Natural Resources has indicated they would like more emphasis on education and less on demonstration projects. Ms. Brighton stated that the office paper recycling project has diverted approximately 14 tons of solid waste per month from the landfill. A recycling center has been established in the City of Tecumseh and one is scheduled to open very shortly in the Village of Clinton. Other recycling drop sites are also planned in Madison Township and the City of Adrian.

Ms. Brighton stated that Lenawee County, through the efforts of Kim Cramer in the Printing Department, had been able to purchase recycled computer paper that will be used in all County offices. Lenawee County is the first county in the

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state, to her knowledge, that is using all recycled computer paper.

Ms. Brighton stated that she had received a number of inquiries regarding the recycling of plastics. Grant funding is available through the Plastics Recycling Development fund as part of the Solid Waste Alternatives Program. The application deadline is June 8, 1990.

Mr. Bacon explained that the County's application through the Cooperative Extension Service for a composting grant from the state had been denied. Any grants that are submitted after July 31, 1990 must have an approved five year update to the Solid Waste Plan in effect in order to qualify.

**VI. Other Business**

Mr. Mitchell gave a brief report on the River Raisin Watershed Council. They have an annual meeting scheduled in April. The Council now has a good deal of information regarding the Watershed and currently has 44 units of government that are members. The Council is helping to sponsor a farm pesticide pickup day on March 31, 1990 similar to the one held last year. This is funded through a grant for the Wolf Creek Watershed Project.

Mr. Keeslar discussed the problems that the Health Department, Community Mental Health and other health agencies are having with disposing of medical waste. There are more stringent rules and regulations regarding disposal of medical and infectious waste. Mr. Keeslar was requested to look at various alternatives for disposing of this material in a safe, environmentally sound manner.

Motion by Flippo, supported by Platt to establish a regular meeting time for the Environment Committee as the second Thursday of each month at 9:00 A.M. Motion carried. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 12, 1990 at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioner's Committee Room.

There was considerable discussion concerning ways the County could assist Riga Township in its efforts to eliminate the area as a possible nuclear waste disposal site.

Motion by Platt, supported by Easton to recommend that the County Board of Commissioners send letters to Governor Blanchard, State Senator Norman Shinkle and State Representative Timothy Walberg expressing its strong support for Riga Township's efforts to eliminate the area in Lenawee

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County as a disposal site for low level nuclear waste and that letters also be drafted to Congressman Carl Pursell and Congressman John Dingell relaying the dissatisfaction of the County Board with the federal legislation which established regional compacts that has led to the proliferation of low level nuclear waste sites being planned in the country. Motion carried.

Motion by Platt, supported by Flippo to schedule a meeting on Saturday, April 28, 1990 at the Lenawee Vo-Tec for County Commissioners and concerned citizens to explore the possibility of setting up an environmental trust fund. Motion carried.

The proposed resolution presented by the Riga Township Support Authority regarding possible County participation in financing the fight against a low level radioactive waste facility in Riga Township was scheduled for discussion on the agenda for the next Environment Committee meeting.

**VII. Adjournment**

Motion by Easton, supported by Platt to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 A.M.

WRB/tjm

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THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1990 -- 9:00 A.M.  
COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Commissioners Kerentoff, Platt, Flippo, Easton and Dusseau

Also Present: Bruce Van Wieren, Joy Marvin, Mike Clement, Charles Studnicka, Pam Andrix, Karlene Goetz, Commissioner Betz, Commissioner Gould, Robert Knoblauch, Don Mitchell, Larry Wibbeler, Dennis Pelham, Sue Weeber and Bill Bacon

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Platt, supported by Flippo to approve the minutes of the March 8, 1990 meeting. Motion carried.

II. Discuss Plans for April 28th Meeting at Vo-Tech Regarding Environmental Trust Fund

Commissioner Kerentoff reviewed the contents of a letter sent to various community leaders inviting them to attend a meeting at Lenawee Vo-Tech on Saturday, April 28th between 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 Noon to discuss the possibility of establishing a privately funded environmental trust fund within Lenawee County. There was discussion regarding the format and structure of the meeting.

Commissioner Platt stated that the committee should review the intent of establishing an environmental trust fund and open up the discussion to parties interested in participating and establishing such a fund.

Commissioner Easton explained that environmental groups should be contacted to receive their input and ideas regarding environmental needs in Lenawee County, funding requirements and how the funds would be utilized.

Commissioner Flippo stated that establishing such a fund would be a long term project but did not eliminate the need for an answer to Riga Township regarding its request for County financial assistance in fighting the low level radioactive waste facility.

Pam Andrix stated that the Riga Township group is willing to help establish and administer an environmental fund. The committee felt that a presentation by the Riga Township group concerning their thoughts on how an environmental fund could be set up and how it should function would be appropriate at the meeting.

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Bruce Van Wieren, DNR Conservation Officer for Lenawee County, explained that he has been experiencing many environmental problems on a day to day basis. The environmental concerns and problems in the County have begun to overshadow the traditional work of the conservation officer enforcing game and hunting laws. The committee agreed that a presentation from Mr. Van Wieren regarding environmental problems within the County would be beneficial at the April 28th meeting.

The committee requested that Fred Eaton from The Daily Telegram be contacted for a presentation regarding how an environmental committee could be established to raise funds to protect the environment.

Commissioner Platt requested that Jim Van Doren be sent an invitation letter to the meeting.

**III. Information Regarding Laidlaw Waste Systems Request for Discharge Permit**

Mr. Mitchell stated that he had received information from the DNR regarding the request of Laidlaw Waste Systems to discharge up to 100,000,000 gallons of run off water from their old landfill per day into the Raisin River. He inquired whether the County should be requesting that a public hearing be held on such a request. Mr. Mitchell stated that notification to the DNR requesting such a hearing is due by Monday, April 16, 1990.

Motion by Platt, supported by Easton requesting that Drain Commissioner Mitchell file a request for a public hearing with the DNR by April 16, 1990 concerning the request of Laidlaw Waste Systems for a discharge permit for treated run off water into the Raisin River. Motion carried.

**IV. Discussion on Environmental Trust Fund Meeting (Cont.)**

The committee reviewed additional individuals who may be interested in attending the Environmental Meeting on April 28th. Suggestions included individuals involved with Lakes Associations, the Audoban Society and the LCCCE, Jerry Pound, President. Mr. Bacon explained that meeting notices could be sent to any individuals the committee wanted, however, correct addresses needed to be furnished. The committee agreed that any additional names with addresses be submitted to the Administrator's Office for inclusion on the meeting invitation list.

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**V. Other Business**

Robert Knoblauch updated the committee on activities related to the proposed low level nuclear waste facility in Riga Township. Reports have been completed on establishing the flood plain boundaries and compiling the geology of the Riga Township area. Mr. Knoblauch explained that a decision by the Low Level Radioactive Waste Authority on whether to include Riga Township as a site is now scheduled for May 15, 1990 with a more likely date being June 1, 1990.

Karlene Goetz reported on the Riga Township finances. She stated that total expenditures to date in the efforts to stop the low level radioactive waste facility are \$88,700. This amount is divided into \$61,000 for attorney's fees, \$5,000 for a technical study, \$5,200 for related expenses and \$17,000 for advertising and public relations. She explained that \$23,063 has been raised locally through fund raisers to date. These locally raised funds have defrayed costs from the township treasury.

The township's new fiscal year began April 1 and approximately \$90,000 in reserves are budgeted through the township until January 1991 when additional millage amounts will be forthcoming. Ms. Goetz explained that their monthly expenditures totalled \$17,000 in March, 1990. Mr. Knoblauch explained that they will have sufficient funds to pay their expenses until June 1st. If the site is not eliminated at that time, he foresees financial difficulties.

Mr. Knoblauch requested that the committee schedule a meeting with the township board before June 1st to review its resolution presented to the County Commission last month. A meeting with the Township Board could also review the overall financial status of efforts to fight the low level radioactive waste facility.

Information on various meetings scheduled to fight the low level radioactive waste facility was distributed.

Mr. Bacon explained that the DNR had scheduled a meeting on Monday, April 30, 1990 at 7:00 P.M. at the Human Services Building with those municipalities taking no action or voting no on the proposed County solid waste plan. Each municipality has been requested to designate a representative to speak at this meeting.

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VI. Adjournment

Motion by Platt, supported by Easton to adjourn the meeting  
at 10:50 A.M. Motion carried.

WRB/tjm



**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1990 -- 10:00 A.M.**  
**LENAWEE VO-TEC, 2345 N. ADRIAN HWY., ADRIAN, MI 49221**

*Present: Commissioners Kerentoff, Flippo, Platt and Easton*

*Also Present: See attached list*

*I. Discuss Environmental Trust Fund*

*Commissioner Kerentoff called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M. He explained the intent of establishing the County Environment Committee responding to the increased awareness and importance of environmental matters. Commissioner Kerentoff reviewed the objectives of the meeting noting that creating an environmental trust fund would assist in dealing with future environmental issues that may come up within the County.*

*The following individuals offered comments regarding their ideas for creating an environmental trust fund:*

*Fred Eaton - Mr. Eaton described a unified fund raising effort for the arts in the community where he used to live. This proved to be a successful source of support for various arts activities. The organization was focused on fund raising, grant making and disbursement of money. He stated that such a foundation could be created for environmental protection within Lenawee County. It would not have to be dedicated to efforts to oppose projects but could promote parks, nature preserves, Earth Day and other activities that would raise environmental consciousness. He stated that the funds should be raised privately, however, a small millage levy may be required by the townships to receive initial funding. A fund raising campaign similar to United Way could set annual goals.*

*Commissioner Richard Platt - Commissioner Platt explained that such a foundation should be non-partisan and non-political operating with an independent board. The foundation should have 501c(3) status as a non-profit, tax exempt organization.*

*Pam Andrix - Ms. Andrix explained that the County may have to assist in the initial start up financing, possibly through a millage levy. She explained that the perception must be eliminated that County citizens are uninterested and uninformed. Persons who serve on such an Environmental Trust Fund Board should have some degree of expertise in environmental matters.*

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*Fred Keeslar - Mr. Keeslar explained that the County will continue to receive developmental pressures as the Toledo and Detroit metropolitan areas expand outward. His job as health officer has been to prevent and alleviate environmental problems such as chemical contamination and ground water pollution. He explained that the liability questions for such a foundation should be investigated. A foundation would not be protected by governmental immunity and would also have to deal with political pressures and questions. There is a need to establish guidelines on goals and what issues are to be addressed.*

*Kathy Malnar - Ms. Malnar explained that in her position with the Adrian Public Schools she is familiar with an educational foundation. She said such a foundation for environmental protection should be made up of community individuals not governmental administrators or elected officials. She stated that funding opportunities are available for various types of grants. The board for such a foundation should be made of "doers" who would be visible in the community.*

*Ginny Bodmer - Ms. Bodmer explained that environmental education is very important. A foundation board could assist in creating a learning network working with the schools to increase public awareness of environmental issues.*

*Bruce Van Wieren - Mr. Van Wieren explained that a recent study has indicated that the State of Michigan is losing ground in air and water quality. Most of his time as a conservation officer for the DNR is spent in environmental enforcement rather than in fish and game. He stressed that more effort needs to be directed toward environmental protection. He stated that it is important to have involvement from local community groups to deal with environmental issues at a grass roots level. There are currently only two conservation officers working in Lenawee County to enforce environmental laws.*

*Fred Eaton - Mr. Eaton pointed out various pitfalls that an environmental foundation would have to recognize. Identification with certain issues could alienate various groups such as industries and farmers. It could also pit city versus rural interests.*

*Diane Dover - Ms. Dover raised the question of what the purpose of such an environmental group would be - raising money or targeting issues.*

*Cari McTaggart - Ms. McTaggart stated that an environmental foundation is a*

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*viable idea but should not be related to County or City government. Trust must be placed in the individuals who are asked to make decisions on such a board. Efforts should be put forth to obtain expertise on the board.*

*Kathy Malnar - Ms. Malnar explained that is important that an environmental foundation board not be adversarial or serve as an advocacy group.*

*Commissioner Mearl Betz - Commissioner Betz discussed some issues related to agricultural runoff and its effect on rivers and streams. He explained that there is a good deal of environmental contamination resulting from water runoff originating in villages and cities. He explained he would like to see a \$100,000 contribution to an environmental trust fund as a loan from the County. This would assist in establishing such a fund.*

*Sanda Andrews - Ms. Andrews explained that she is unclear on the objectives of an environmental foundation. It is not clear whether it would be dedicated to fund raising or directed toward raising environmental consciousness.*

*Ann Hughes - Ms. Hughes explained that experts would approach the foundation board to obtain funding for various projects. It would be the foundation board's responsibility to determine which groups to fund. She stated that it would be important to include people who are involved now with various environmental issues in the County.*

*Carol Tuckerman - Ms. Tuckerman said that immediate problems facing the County should be addressed by an environmental foundation.*

*Lorna Engle - Ms. Engle reviewed the activities of the Walmpers Lake Association Board in various environmental issues. They are currently working on a recycling project for the lake area.*

*Sue Weeber - Ms. Weber explained that an environmental foundation should not be restricted to just fund raising but should also approach the County Board regarding environmental issues and recommendations.*

*Lois Mason - Ms. Mason explained that a foundation should be established by creating bylaws under the guidance of the County Environment Committee. Such a foundation could work with the Environment Committee for a few months.*

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*Commissioner Hugh Flippo - Commissioner Flippo explained that any environmental foundation group would be political regardless of who is appointed to such a board. Most environmental issues are political in nature.*

*Ann Hughes - Ms. Hughes explained that it would take at least 6 to 9 months to form such a foundation. The first step would be to explore the possibility of establishing such a foundation. Individuals to name to an environmental trust fund board would come at a later time. Volunteers are needed to work with the experts to investigate the various procedures to establish a foundation.*

*Commissioner Harold Easton - Commissioner Easton recommended that the Environment Committee accept 5 to 7 volunteers to assist in setting up the criteria for a permanent committee for an environmental foundation.*

*Don Mitchell - Mr. Mitchell explained that creating an additional organization does not necessarily solve current environmental problems. He also stated that throwing money at controversial issues does not solve problems either. He felt that foundations or other funding organizations will be reluctant to contribute to groups that are fighting controversial issues. He explained that the County has a long standing umbrella environmental group known as ECOL that is already established as a legal entity. Lenawee Tomorrow is also available as an organization.*

*Charles Studnicka - Mr. Studnicka stated that the County Commissioners need constructive criticism to become more involved with waste issues and environmental protection.*

*Russ Roback - Mr. Roback stated that he was representing the UAW CAP Council. He explained that it takes some time to get foundations organized. He felt that the group exploring establishing such a foundation should make plans on how funds would be raised. The foundation board could meet quarterly or at other intervals for a report to the community.*

*The following individuals volunteered to initiate the planning for the creation of an environmental trust fund:*

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*Pam Andrix  
Bob Snow  
Lorna R. Engel  
Carol Tuckerman  
Diane Dover  
Sanda L. Andrews  
Mary Anne Leffingwell  
Russ Roback  
Kathy Malnar  
Ann Hughes  
Lois Mason  
Cari McTaggart  
Susan Weeber  
Gordon Philbrook  
Marjorie Castle*

*The volunteers were requested to designate approximately five individuals to continue efforts at forming an environmental trust fund.*

*Mr. Mitchell stated that he had requested that the DNR conduct a public hearing on the Laidlaw request to discharge water from their landfill into the Raisin River. He explained that the DNR does not want to hold a hearing but a meeting. Mr. Mitchell suggested that the DNR meet with the Environment Committee at their next meeting, May 10th. The committee agreed with the suggestion and placed this item on the agenda for its next meeting.*

**II. Adjournment**

*There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 A.M.*

WRB/tjm

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THURSDAY, MAY 10, 1990 -- 9:00 A.M.  
COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM**

*Present: Commissioners Kerentoff, Platt, Flippo and Easton*

*Also Present: Gordy Wuethrich, Vivian Brighton, Pam Andrix, Carol Tuckerman, Sue Weeber, Mike Clement, Chuck Vollers, Rebecca Saylor, Nate Fairchild, Don Mitchell, Cari McTaggart and Bill Bacon*

*I. Approval of Minutes*

*Motion by Flippo, supported by Easton to approve the minutes of the April 12 and April 30, 1990 meetings. Motion carried.*

*II. Review Future of County Recycling Education Efforts*

*Gordy Wuethrich distributed a recycling education coordinator continuation proposal. He outlined various options available for the continuation of recycling education within the County on a part-time basis and reviewed various objectives and methodologies to be used.*

*The budget for the proposal was estimated at \$29,894 to \$31,197 for a full-time budgeted position with part-time increments given for 75%, 50% and 25%.*

*Vivian Brighton reviewed the progress of the recycling education efforts through the Clean Michigan Fund grant. An office paper recycling program has been started with good participation among industries and offices. Since 65% to 75% of the waste originates from business and industry, this has proven to be a very worthwhile project. Many of the businesses are continuing to pay for the hauling of the recycled paper even though grant funding has terminated. Recycling drop-off centers have been set up in Tecumseh, Clinton and Adrian.*

*Ms. Brighton addressed further needs for recycling including composting, motor oil, batteries and plastics.*

*Mr. Wuethrich explained that they will be conducting a cost/benefit analysis of the economic impact of recycling. He also explained that the proposal for continuation of recycling education is being submitted to the City of Adrian. Commissioner Easton inquired whether other municipalities were being approached. Mr. Wuethrich responded that no presentations to other municipalities had been given, at this time, but could be in the future.*

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*Motion by Platt, supported by Easton to refer consideration of the continuation of recycling education efforts to the Ways and Means Committee with a recommendation that the County participate in funding 25% of the position. Motion carried.*

**III. Other Business**

*Nathan Fairchild reviewed various steps that must be put into place before a non-profit foundation can be established. Permission must be sought from the Attorney General to solicit funds. A tax exempt 501c(3) status must be obtained from the Internal Revenue service to allow for contributions to be tax deductible. Any group interested in organizing such an environmental trust fund would have to set up corporation bylaws.*

*Mr. Fairchild recommended that attempts be made to find a lawyer and accountant who are interested in environmental affairs to serve on such a board.*

*Motion by Flippo, supported by Easton to conduct a meeting with the volunteers to establish an Environmental Trust Fund on Thursday, May 24, 1990 at 10:00 A.M. in the Courthouse. Motion carried.*

*Mr. Mitchell explained that Laidlaw's request for a discharge permit of waste water into the Raisin River had been rescheduled for the June 14, 1990 meeting of the Environment Committee. He stated that the DNR will be conducting a conference and not a formal public hearing. There was general discussion regarding the Laidlaw landfill and laws which govern it.*

*Motion by Flippo, supported by Easton to request that Drain Commissioner Mitchell notify the following downriver communities of Deerfield, Blissfield, Petersburg, Dundee and the City of Monroe, if necessary, regarding the request of Laidlaw Waste Systems to discharge landfill waste water into the Raisin River. Motion carried.*

**IV. Adjournment**

*Motion by Flippo, supported by Platt to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 A.M. Motion carried.*

WRB/tjm

**MINUTES  
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THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1990 -- 10:00 A.M.  
COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM**

*Present: Commissioners Kerentoff, Easton, Platt, Flippo and Dusseau*

*Also Present: Lorna Engle, Carol Tuckerman, Lois Mason, Ann Hughes, Pam Andrix, Gordon Philbrook, Germaine Binns, Charles Studnicka, Sue Weeber, Mike Clement - WLEN, Cari McTaggart, Commissioner Betz, Jeff Gibbons - WABJ and Bill Bacon*

*I. Approval of Minutes*

*Motion by Easton, supported by Platt to approve the minutes of the May 10, 1990 meeting. Motion carried.*

*II. Discussion with Volunteers to Establish Environmental Trust Fund*

*Commissioner Kerentoff reviewed information discussed at the last committee meeting regarding the establishment of an environmental trust fund. He cited the information provided by Prosecuting Attorney Nate Fairchild requiring that a non-profit foundation seek approval from the Attorney General to solicit funds and obtain a 501c(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service for tax deductibility of contributions.*

*Pam Andrix explained that the Riga Township Legal Defense Committee was under the jurisdiction of the township board and was considered a sub-unit of a governmental entity.*

*Commissioner Kerentoff pointed out the need for legal and accounting expertise in setting up an environmental foundation.*

*Ann Hughes stated that a small group needed to be established to work with an attorney on the legal structure, bylaws and procedures for a foundation.*

*Commissioner Flippo stated that three (3) officers needed to be appointed for the foundation - chairman, vice-chairman and secretary.*

*Cari McTaggart recommended that time limits be established for the length of term for the temporary board and officers.*



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*At this time the following volunteers interested in participating in establishing an environmental trust fund introduced themselves:*

*Gordon Philbrook, Pam Andrix, Ann Hughes, Germaine Binns, Sue Weeber, Charles Studnicka, Cari McTaggart, Lois Mason, Carol Tuckerman and Lorna Engle.*

*After discussion it was determined that a nominating committee be appointed to establish meeting dates for the group interested in exploring the possibility of establishing an environmental trust fund and to seek individuals interested in serving as temporary officers in such an organization. Pam Andrix, Lorna Engle and Sue Weeber were appointed to serve on the nominating committee. A tentative meeting of THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1990 at 7:30 P.M. in the Committee Room at the old Courthouse was set for the initial meeting of the Environmental Trust Fund Planning Committee.*

**III. Other Business**

*Mr. Bacon stated that the City of Adrian had contacted him regarding a time to meet with the committee concerning the Title III SARA Community Right to Know and Emergency Planning Act. The City of Adrian was scheduled for JUNE 14, 1990 at 9:00 A.M. to meet with the committee. The meeting regarding the Laidlaw permit on discharge of waste water into the River Raisin was scheduled at 10:00 A.M. on JUNE 14, 1990.*

*There was general discussion regarding the elimination of Riga Township as a site for the nuclear waste facility. It was pointed out that there are 78 other areas in the state including four (4) in Lenawee County that are on the list of potential siting areas.*

**IV. Adjournment**

*Motion by Platt, supported by Flippo to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 A.M.*

WRB/tjm

**MINUTES**  
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**THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1990 -- 9:00 A.M.**  
**COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM**

*Present: Commissioners Kerentoff, Platt, Flippo and Dusseau*

*Also Present: Al Smith, Fire Chief Mohr, Police Chief Emerson, Dane Nelson, John Jones, Mike Clement, Sheriff Germond, Captain Lucey, Germaine Binns, Lois Mason, Sue Weeber, Carol Tuckerman, Charles Studnicka, J. L. Quigley, Lorna Engle and Bill Bacon*

*I. Approval of Minutes*

*Motion by Platt, supported by Flippo to approve the minutes of May 24, 1990 meeting. Motion carried.*

*II. Discussion of Community Right to Know and Emergency Planning Act with City of Adrian*

*Al Smith explained concerns that the City of Adrian has with the lack of progress in developing an emergency plan for the County. Dane Nelson stated that the EPA recently conducted a random audit of Anderson Development for emergency response preparedness. The EPA expressed its concern about the lack of a County emergency plan. The City of Adrian felt it would be helpful if emergency plans and response methods are coordinated through an overall County plan.*

*Sheriff Germond stated that the existing County wide disaster plan deals with civil defense and natural disasters. They have added response measures for hazardous materials, too. The SARA Title III Emergency Plan addresses only fixed sites. He stated that there have been effective responses to chemical spills and fires using existing plans and personnel.*

*The committee reviewed previous discussions held by the County Commission regarding the Title III SARA Right to Know law. The County Commission has been requested to submit recommended names to the State Emergency Planning Commission for appointment to a local Emergency Planning Committee. To date there have been no funds allocated at the federal or state level to implement this law. Liability questions are also unresolved. Some of the record keeping duties and tasks involved with preparing an emergency plan were discussed.*

*Chief Mohr explained that the local fire departments within the County have the emergency information available from the various plants and chemical firms. Mr.*

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*Smith explained that the City is willing to work with the County in the development of area wide emergency plans.*

*Motion by Flippo, supported by Platt to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that names for appointment to a local Emergency Planning Committee be submitted to the State Emergency Planning Commission. Motion carried.*

**III. Other Business**

*It was noted that the planning group for the Environmental Trust Fund was meeting later that evening.*

*Commissioner Platt inquired about the status of the County solid waste plan. Mr. Bacon stated that it is his understanding that the County was next in line for a plan review by the DNR which should take place within the next few months.*

*The meeting was recessed at 9:50 A.M.*

*The meeting was reconvened at 10:15 A.M. Representatives from the Department of Natural Resources, Laidlaw Waste Systems, Drain Commissioner Don Mitchell, Health Officer Fred Keeslar, members of the media and general public were in attendance.*

**IV. Meeting with Department of Natural Resources and Laidlaw Regarding Laidlaw's Request for Discharge Permit into River Raisin**

*Don Mitchell reviewed the process by which the DNR reviews information submitted by Laidlaw Waste Systems for a water discharge permit into the River Raisin. He stated that he had requested that the DNR conduct a public hearing on this matter. At the DNR's option, a meeting with the Environment Committee has been substituted for the public hearing. Mr. Mitchell explained that he was concerned about the water quality of the River Raisin as Chairman of the River Raisin Watershed Council and was interested in knowing what other alternatives are available for the safe disposal of waste water from the Laidlaw landfill.*

*Bob Willis, Landfill Manager for Laidlaw Waste Systems, introduced the speakers covering the request for a discharge permit.*

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*Bill Shaw, from the Surface Water Division of the DNR, reviewed the procedures that are followed for the approval of NPDES permit.*

*John Hull and Margaret Gill from Hull and Associates, Inc., engineering consultants for Laidlaw Waste Systems, reviewed the technical and engineering data that had been used in developing the plans for Laidlaw's expansion of the landfill and discharge of waste water.*

*Rex Lowe, Consultant from Bowling Green State University, reviewed the procedures that are used in sampling and monitoring water from the River Raisin.*

*Fred Keeslar reviewed the County Health Department's involvement with monitoring landfills. They have not been involved in monitoring the landfill since the contract with the DNR was terminated a couple of years ago. Chuck Vollers from the Village of Blissfield asked questions concerning the request for a discharge permit. Representatives from the Village of Dundee and the Village of Deerfield also expressed their concern over the quality of the water discharge and its possible impact on their communities.*

*Several members of the public asked questions and expressed their concern regarding the request of Laidlaw to discharge waste water into the River Raisin.*

*Mr. Shaw explained that the next step for Laidlaw would be to appear before the Water Resources Commission which will act on the discharge permit request. The Water Resources Commission meets the 3rd Thursday of each month to review water quality concerns. It is a public meeting at which time public comment is solicited.*

*There were additional questions and comments from the general public.*

**V. Adjournment**

*Motion by Dusseau, supported by Flippo to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 P.M.*

WRB/tjm

**MINUTES  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1990 -- 9:00 AM  
COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM**

*Present: Commissioners Kerentoff, Platt, Flippo, Easton and Dusseau*

*Also Present: Lorna Engel, Bob Snow, David Blake, Russ Roback, Steve Newell, Mrs. Stanley Sherman and other residents of the Village of Onsted and Bill Bacon*

*I. Approval of Minutes*

*Motion by Flippo, supported by Platt to approve the minutes of the June 14, 1990 meeting. Motion carried.*

*II. Update on Solid Waste Plan*

*Mr. Bacon reported that Kyle Cruse had met with himself, Russ Spalding and representatives from the Region II Planning Commission a few weeks ago to review questions and concerns on the draft solid waste plan. Mr. Cruse questioned figures for the total volume of waste generated within Lenawee County on a daily basis. Mr. Cruse indicated that he will be recommending that the waste figures for Lenawee County be reduced to approximately 250 to 300 tons per day from figures used in the draft report. He also discussed other possible changes in the draft solid waste plan involving clarification of various sections.*

*Mr. Cruse indicated the need for the commissioners to give some thought to how a solid waste coordinating committee could be structured and appointed. There was general discussion concerning the duties, responsibilities and appropriate size of such a committee. The committee will review various recommendations for the appointment of a solid waste coordinating committee at a future meeting.*

*III. Report from Environmental Trust Fund Planning Committee*

*Mr. Bacon reported that Cari McTaggart had called the day before and had asked that discussion of the Environmental Trust Fund be rescheduled for next month (Thursday, September 13, 1990).*

*IV. Other Business*

*Several residents from the Onsted area were present to discuss their concern with the waste processing plant being proposed for the Village of Onsted. There was general review of the solid waste plan as it pertains to siting criteria for various waste facilities. The County Planning Commission had reviewed the ten*

**MINUTES  
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*(10) criteria to be followed for a waste processing site and had given its approval in February, 1990. The residents cited different reasons why such a processing facility would not be beneficial in the area being proposed.*

*Steve Newell, developer of the proposed processing plant, explained that he had withdrawn his proposal for a processing plant. He stated that he will be proceeding ahead with a source separated facility which does not require a special permit from the DNR. The source separated facility will not contain any solid waste. Recyclable material will be picked up and hauled to the site in separate trucks. Solid waste that cannot be recycled will be taken to the landfill.*

*There was general discussion regarding solid waste problems within the County, the merits of recycling and compatibility of a source separated facility in the Onsted area.*

**V. Adjournment**

*Motion by Flippo, supported by Platt to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 AM. Motion carried.*

**WRB/tjm**

**MINUTES  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1990 -- 9:00 A.M.  
COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM**

*Present: Commissioners Kerentoff, Platt, Flippo and Dusseau*

*Also Present: Carol Tuckerman, Lorna Engel, Sue Weeber, Cari McTaggart and Bill Bacon*

*I. Approval of Minutes*

*Motion by Platt, supported by Flippo to approve the minutes of the August 9, 1990 meeting. Motion carried.*

*II. Report from Environment Trust Fund Planning Committee*

*Cari McTaggart distributed a report from the Environmental Trust Fund Planning Committee regarding estimated start up costs. The estimated cost to start up a non-profit foundation is \$3,000 with \$500 for advertising, \$2,000 for attorney fees, \$200 for filing fees and \$300 for mailing costs. Ms. McTaggart outlined some of the work and activities of the trust fund planning committee.*

*She stated that the next step for the planning committee is to draw up incorporation papers and obtain tax exempt status. The committee has found that the services of an attorney are necessary to perform this work. Fifteen (15) attorneys were approached of which four (4) indicated some willingness to perform this work. Cost estimates are \$2,000.*

*The committee relayed the fiscal constraints of the County's budget and inquired about the possibility of obtaining donated legal services. Members of the committee indicated that they would explore the possibility of obtaining legal services at little or no cost and forward their information to Ms. McTaggart within two (2) weeks. Ms. McTaggart explained that a Trust Fund Planning Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 18, 1990 and that a special meeting could be called with relatively short notice. She explained that she would contact Commissioner Kerentoff regarding a possible alternative for funding of start up costs around the end of the month.*

*III. Other Business*

*Sue Weeber inquired about the status of the LEPC committee. Mr. Bacon stated that the names of volunteers had been solicited by the County Commission and forwarded to the State Emergency Planning Commission. As of yet no communication had been received back from the state.*

**MINUTES  
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SEPTEMBER 13, 1990**

IV. Adjournment

*Motion by Platt, supported by Flippo to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 A.M. Motion carried.*

WRB/tjm