

Bayfield Peninsula Energy Alternatives
Meeting Minutes October 30, 2017
Washburn Public Library

Next meeting date: November 6th, Washburn Town Hall, 6pm

Report/updates from Action Items:

- Communication with Xcel since last meeting – no news yet on additional route proposals
- Status of Underwater/solar proposal – Bob Adams sent Bob Owen's 40 questions to Beth Meyers
- Alternatives to Xcel's proposed route:
 - Existing route/Underground alternative- Roy, Jim, Mike, and Jay – no update
 - Ask Xcel why not the existing ROW – Jay - no update
 - Scenic Byway Hwy 13 - Roy asked Chris Bulboltz & Ellen Heine but didn't receive any info yet; will follow up; Roy looked into statues regarding scenic byways and didn't see anything problematic

Report to County Board November 14th meeting:

- What would the county like to see included in this report – Roy will check
- Draft report – Phil, Susan, Bob, and Roy will work on this;
 - draft will be ready for review at 11/6 meeting (note that if we wish to be on the 11/14 County agenda, we would need to prepare a preliminary report by 11/3 to be included in county Supervisors pkg)
 - timeline from website could be addendum
- Who will present report – to be determined

Contact other user groups – Jay - no report

Hope McLeod article – Bob stated she is willing to do a news article closer to 11/14 meeting

Susan Hall recent letter to editor – thanks!

Xcel's preferred option (when first proposed several years ago) was to use existing corridor at higher voltage (115kV?); Why is existing corridor not viable now at lower voltage(34.5kV)?

Decided the underwater/solar proposal has merit; still need to explore other alternative routes

Work group created to look into criteria used to determine a route and ways to assess/weigh each criterion. Lorraine, Jim Miller, Dennis and Kim will work on this. Can start with list of criteria that Ellen has shared. Susan will ask PSC contact for table/criteria that they use to rank routes.

Messaging ideas – Mike/Mary will discuss

- Get control of narrative
- have something for folks to get behind
- graphics

Mary will check with Center for Rural Communities (at Northland College) to see if they could conduct a local survey on energy issues

Continue to use Google Groups to communicate

Wendy Stein
Notetaker