

Science/Technology/Innovation (STI) Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 14, 2014

The Science/Technology/Innovation (STI) Committee meeting was held in the Madison-Jefferson County Extension office conference room at 7:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 14, 2014. Participants were Lee Good, Todd Breitenfeldt, Tom Harrington, Leonard Wortman and Marcy Lamb.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 am by Tom H. April meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

1. Lee G. discussed the changing telecommunications industry and the merging with the broadcast industry. He referenced that data centers are becoming more local in nature so data isn't transmitted over long distances. Fiber expansion is ongoing and broadcasting is opening opportunities for new streaming companies. Live streaming and increased storage capacity is becoming more wide spread. Tom H. presented the proposed contractor scope of work for the Sunlight Business Park data center project. The deliverables are focused on site requirements existing capabilities and existing infrastructure. Some limited market will be built into the site feasibility study and discussion followed.
2. Wind development project update was provided. A draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is being reviewed to construct a wind tower prototype at the business park. The MOU includes a potential manufacturing component for turbines. Wind data is being reviewed by the developer to determine financial feasibility.
3. Warehouse office building ground breaking was held on Monday and construction period will 10-11 weeks. Borden project is moving forward and cost estimates on the mechanical component are being worked by the contractor.
4. Todd B. discussed the biological weed control program is still ongoing at a reduced level and focused on knapweed and toadflax. He talked about the sola/wind tower and that a public education session will be held on Thursday, May 22nd and he will get an article in the Ledger on available sessions. One session will be the actual lowering of the tower to look at the components.
5. Marcy L. provided a school update and indicated enrollment is steady. John Sullivan has been selected as the new school superintendent and will start in July. Teacher negotiations are ongoing as well as development of a new budget.
6. Leonard W. provided an update on the Pipestone sedimentation and Jefferson Slough Landowner coordination is a project priority and is ongoing. Leonard W. mentioned a temporary county treasurer has been appointed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 a.m. The next meeting will be held in the Extension office conference room Wednesday, June 11th, 2014 at 7:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Harrington