

Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council
Minutes of the March 17, 2006, Meeting, 10:45 a.m.
15th Floor, James R. Thompson Center

Roll Call: Lt. Governor Pat Quinn, Don Barnes (Department of Central Management Services), Ron Burke (Illinois Environmental Protection Agency), Hans Detweiler (Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity), Steve Frenkel (Governor's Office), Kevin Greene (Illinois Environmental Protection Agency), Warren Goetsch (Department of Agriculture), Prentis Johnson (Department of Central Management Services), Lisa Mattingly (Capital Development Board), Laura Perna (Department of Natural Resources), Geoff Potter (Department of Central Management Services), Karen Shoup (Capital Development Board), George Vander Velde (Waste Management and Research Center), Ron Wheeler (Department of Central Management Services)

Other Attendees:

Mike Jackson (Illinois Historical Preservation Agency), Carolyn Brown Hodge, Katie McClain, Cathy Malina, Mary Beth Murphy, Michael Norbeck, Dan Persky, Sodiqa Williams (Office of Lt. Governor)

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Lt. Governor Pat Quinn welcomed the attendees to the fifth quarterly meeting of the Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council.

Discussion of Fourth Quarter minutes

The Council approved the minutes from its December 20, 2005, without corrections.

Update from the Office of the Lt. Governor

?? **Six Weeks to a Greener Illinois:** Cathy Malina (LTG) reported that the Council's Six Weeks to a Greener Illinois Program, which encourages state employees to take steps to create healthier, more environmentally sound workplaces in Illinois, had just begun. Every week through April 17, state employees will receive emails from the Council with tips on easy projects they can do in their office to reduce waste and conserve energy. Participation and feedback from state employees have so far been very strong. The Council suggested that agency directors also receive the Six Weeks emails.

?? **Green Government Symposium:** Dan Persky (LTG) said the planning for the Council's first annual Green Government Symposium is going very well. The all-day event will be taking place on April 19 at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Building in Springfield. The symposium's sessions and panel discussions will focus on ways to build environmentally sound communities and workplaces in Illinois. Speakers will address green building practices, green purchasing and procurement, energy efficiency, sustainable transportation, recycling and waste management, and approaches to "greening" state offices. The event will be free and open to the public. The Council's target audience will be state employees, local governments, university administrators, and members of the environmental community.

The Lt. Governor encouraged Council members to promote the symposium to all of their colleagues and employees. He said he would like to see all state agencies represented at the April event, and he suggested that all agencies without designees to the Council appoint representatives

by the next quarterly meeting. He would like to increase agency involvement directly through the symposium.

Ron Burke (IEPA) suggested actively reaching out to schools and municipalities, as well, and to look into inviting union representatives. He added that the Chicago Center for Green Technology might have a good list of vendors for the event's green purchasing session. The Lt. Governor agreed the gathering in April should be as large and diverse as possible.

- ?? **Green Government Awards** : The Council's Green Government Awards program, recognizing the environmental accomplishments of Illinois state agencies and employees, is underway. Cathy Malina (LTG) identified the agencies that had so far received nominations, and the Lt. Governor called for further submissions from Council members. Kevin Greene (IEPA) suggested the Council give the award recipients plaques made from environmentally friendly materials.
- ?? **Council Newsletter and Green Solutions Website**: Cathy Malina (LTG) noted that the Council electronically distributed its first quarterly newsletter at the end of January and reported that it was received very well. The Council's website, GreenSolutions.il.gov, has also been a success so far. The site's traffic is growing roughly 20 percent each month, having attracted more than 1,000 visitors in February. GreenSolutions.il.gov currently promotes ways state and local governments, employers, and individuals can be more environmentally responsible. The site also provides links and resources for interested parties. Council members were invited to think of other materials they would like to see included on the site. Ron Burke (IEPA) suggested posting information on municipal recycling and hazardous material disposal.
- ?? **I-CYCLE Program at State Facilities**: Mary Beth Murphy (LTG) reported that the recycling program at the Thompson Center in Chicago has been expanded to include plastic bottles and phonebooks. The Lt. Governor's staff is currently compiling an up-to-date list of the materials that haulers are collecting at government facilities across the state. She recommended that the Council identify its short-term and long-term goals for the state's I-CYCLE program.

The Lt. Governor suggested establishing a Council recycling committee to look at further strategies for improvement. The committee will include Steve Frenkel (Governor's Office), Ron Burke (IEPA), Kevin Greene (IEPA), Hans Detweiler (DCEO), George Vander Velde (WMRC), Geoff Potter (CMS), and the Lt. Governor's staff.

Steve Frenkel (Governor's Office) noted that one of the biggest challenges to improving the state's recycling program is the fact that the state currently has dozens of contracts with various haulers around the state. He recommended that the Council work with CMS to consolidate the number of haulers employed by the state. Geoff Potter (CMS) said he would talk with his colleagues and report back to the Council on the matter.

- ?? **Soybean Roofs in Illinois**: The Lt. Governor announced that he would like to see Illinois become the soybean roof capital of the world. He described soybean roof sealant and the effectiveness of its application as an energy efficient measure. He also noted that the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation has funded a number of soybean roof projects, which are less expensive than rooftop gardens.

Carolyn Brown Hodge (LTG) mentioned the successful use of the product on the roofs of the Shedd Aquarium and the University of Illinois at Chicago. She said the Lt. Governor's staff was planning a display at the State Fair in August. Mike Jackson (IHPA) added that there are a number of Illinois companies that are producing soybean-based insulation and construction materials. The Lt. Governor said he would like to see the building industry as involved in green practices and products as possible.

Update from Council Member Agencies

?? **CMS Green Leasing Template**: Ron Wheeler (CMS) announced that the state has created a new leasing template that incorporates green building practices. CMS is currently receiving proposals for the location of its first green lease, which will house the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation in Chicago. Ron said this is a perfect first project, showcasing the state's green lease template to the business community. He added that the lease should be determined by May 1 and the build out will take an additional six months. The Lt. Governor said the Council should highlight this achievement at the Green Government Symposium.

?? **CDB Green Building Projects**: Lisa Mattingly (CDB) reported that CDB has nine potential green building projects underway, some of which are through U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Program, others through Spirit. She said the Stratton building replacement in Springfield will be green, keeping some components of the old building, such as its parking garage.

Karen Shoup (CDB) added that \$300,000 has been designated for energy-related projects in the next fiscal year. CDB will increase investment in energy efficiency initiatives, identify projects demonstrating savings (i.e. energy audits), and monitor the success of projects as CDB implements them. Katie McClain (LTG) asked what the process for the allocation of the funding would be. Karen said CDB plans to work with CMS and DCEO to determine how to distribute the funds.

?? **Energy Performance Contracting**: Hans Detweiler (DCEO) reported that CMS, DCEO, CDB, GOMB, and the Energy Resource Center had met on the subject of energy performance contracting, and they are moving forward with another meeting next week. Hans noted that the largest portion of the state's overall energy consumption takes place on state university campuses, at state correctional centers, and in veterans' homes and mental health facilities managed by the Department of Human Services. He added that the state needs a firm timeline for RFPs.

The Lt. Governor said the state legislature is becoming more friendly towards energy performance contracting. Don Barnes (CMS) said that CMS met with Corrections on February 15 to establish guidelines for its participation in the process. CMS needs an assessment from IDOC's perspective. Don expects data will be in by next Friday and CMS will begin to advertise sometime in May.

?? **Computer Equipment Disposal Commission**: Katie McClain (LTG) announced that the Computer Equipment Disposal Commission has written a draft report with its recommendations for the state and will be meeting next week to over it in greater detail. The Commission expects the draft will be finalized by the end of May, and Katie suggested the Council post the complete report on GreenSolutions.il.gov. A bill that is currently in the state legislature places recycling responsibility on the manufacturers of electronic products. Northeast states and U.S. EPA Region 5 are following a similar plan.

Carolyn Brown Hodge (LTG) said CMS Director Paul Campbell just approved giving a number of state computers to Boys and Girls Clubs across the state. Hans Detweiler (DCEO) said that DCEO's Bureau of Energy and Recycling has been focusing significantly on funding municipality electronic recycling programs.

?? **Renewable Energy Procurement:** Don Barnes (CMS) said the state currently has one new contract in place for renewable energy procurement and is working on two invitations for bid. These procurements will cover four former utility areas in central Illinois. The state has invited Chicago Public Schools to participate, but CPS declined. The state plans to achieve its goal of eight percent renewable energy procurement from biogas, wind, and solar sources by 2013.

Don added that CMS would be transferring data from its environmental template for energy benchmarking to the U.S. EPA's format in the next couple of weeks. Katie McClain (LTG) said the state plans to establish a FY 2005 energy usage baseline and reduce its overall energy use by 10 percent by 2012. Ron Burke (IEPA) suggested the Council also consider joining the Chicago Climate Exchange to reduce its overall CO2 emissions. IEPA is working with Illinois farmers through the Climate Exchange to get credit for carbon sequestration.

?? **Green Cleaning Products Contracts:** Katie McClain (LTG) said the Council has been working with Rick Hughes at CMS to include a preference for green cleaning products in the state's contracts for procurement. The state has issued a proposal, which is a month and a half-long process, to educate agencies. The state needs to get in touch with purchasing officers; they have a meeting every month and the Council could hold training sessions.

Laura Perna (DNR) asked if CMS was responsible for all of the cleaning products purchased by the state. Prentis Johnson (CMS) said CMS manages procurement contracting for most government facilities, excluding correctional centers, mental health facilities, veterans' homes, and state universities.

?? **Other Council Agency Updates:** Prentis Johnson (CMS) reported that the statistics on the state's energy savings from reducing the temperature in state buildings to 68 degrees in December would be announced within the next month.

Other/Miscellaneous

?? **Agency Reports due July 15, 2006:** Dan Persky (LTG) announced that the Council will be looking to collect reports from state agencies and departments on their environmental achievements by July 15 for the August 2006 Annual Report. He asked Council members to reflect on the accomplishments of their own agencies and begin to write their submissions.

Date for Next Quarterly Meeting

June 8, 2006, 10:30 a.m.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.