

**Decatur County Board of Zoning Appeals Minutes**  
**Decatur County Courthouse**  
**150 Courthouse Square**  
**Meeting Room**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Decatur County Board of Zoning Appeals was convened at 7:32 p.m. on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at the Decatur County Courthouse. The meeting was called to order by Melissa Scholl. There were 4 board members were present, absent was Jay Hatton. Also attending the meeting was Melissa Scholl – BZA Attorney, Krista Duvall – Decatur County Area Plan Director and Debbie Martin – Administrative Assistant.

Melissa Scholl called the meeting to order and read the following; *to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Decatur County requests that participants in this meeting complete a voluntary, anonymous survey that is available on the table in the back of the room.*

**\* Election of Officers for 2020**

Melissa Scholl opened the floor for nominations of the following:

President: Joyce Brindley nominated Brad Schutte  
Vice-President: Brad Schutte nominated Jay Hatton  
Secretary: Brad Schutte nominated Joyce Brindley

With no other nominations from the floor a vote was taken for each office and all members present voted unanimously in favor of the nominations. The elections of officers were then closed.

Brad Schutte then ran the meeting.

\*The minutes of the December 2, 2020 regularly scheduled BZA monthly meeting were approved as mailed.

\* **BZA Petition 2020-21** - Mark **Fixmer of BEX Farms** is requesting a “**Special Exception**” in an I-2 zoning classification to operate a landfill on approx. 48.4 acres more or less. This request falls under Decatur County Ordinance #1220(n). The property is currently owned by the petitioners and is located at 2280 S US Hwy 421, Greensburg in **Washington Township**.

**Kurt Publo:** I don’t know how much information you want; I know we have gone through a long process to get to the I-2 zoning for this property and at the last meeting we presented a plan sheet that showed the proposed area that we are asking for the special exception and where the proposed landfill would be located within that property. Nothing from all of that has changed. **Brad;** what I would like to do is, if this board has any questions for you directly to start with. **Gary;** what was the original size of the first proposal when you came to BZA? **Kurt;** when we came to BZA or APC, we did reduce it from the original in the APC. **Gary;** and that was from where to where, approximately? **Kurt;** I think that the original site was 156? **Gary;** and now we are down to 48? **Kurt;** yes. **Brad;** Kurt, to be clear, when this is voted on tonight it would require 3 yes votes in order to pass, just want to make sure that you are clear on that, and there are only 4 of us present. **Kurt;** there is only 1 person that is not present today? **Brad;** correct. **Kurt;** I understand, yes, thank you. **Brad;** I will take comments and questions from the floor, if we can do this one at a time

that way if there is a question, we can invite them back up to answer immediately. We will try to keep this fairly simple; we have heard this for a couple of years now. If you guys have new information, that would be great, anything that you've got fact wise we want to hear.

## **Audience**

**Bill Obermeyer;** I'd like to start out, I'd like to know why BEX is not held accountable, what I'm getting at is August 2020 meeting they got approval for rezone, BEX said they met all three questions, the APC questions at a prior meeting. I strongly disagree. First one is odor, the night after the meeting it was bad, the next morning I called Paul Stone and he told me that he went by that night and his words were horrendous. I have emailed Paul, the Commissioners the time of day, all the dates that the landfill smells in the month of August. I have records for September and October. I go by there every morning 6 a.m. and usually every evening at 6 p.m. I have every day written down. Also I question the lifespan, the IDEM report from 2014 says there is a 38-year lifespan left on the present landfill, so we are 2021, that should make it 31 years left. At the meeting in August, BEX stated there was only 10-12 years left. The other thing is, my point is when the general public reads information that is printed in newspaper and other documents, they believe them to be true, that is why I have a problem with mainly the smell. We have lived out there since 1980 and the smell has never started until 2019, but no one can give me an answer. I have asked some of the Commissioners, Solid Waste and Board Members what the tipping fee is and no one can tell me. That's puzzling. Do the semis that I follow in every morning pay the same as the garbage trucks? I have asked how many loads come in daily for tipping fee and no one can answer. Solid Waste told me that the landfill keeps track of the loads and we trust them. I question, is that how we do our accounting here in the county? I'd like to know how many tons of waste are coming into our landfill. I have a report from the last quarter of 2019 that said that that quarter alone was 29,791 tons and I guess why are we allowing this much trash to come in. I have a couple of other comments but I will wait until later. Thank you.

Another thing along that line I have talked to other board members and they have been out there to smells, it's not just me saying it.

**Shawn Green;** in the past we have asked questions along the line of a few county members mentioned they could help out if we wanted to go any further with doing any testing because it's been told on record that... a lot of us aren't in the landfill business, we don't know what's going on, there is a lot of (inaudible) questions, especially to approve something that can deal with the health and welfare of our community, which goes into your oath of what you guys are doing here, in which we mentioned, even when it was rezoned from agricultural to industrial that it is now, there is no hardship, they have multiple years for this, they need (inaudible) land for this, safety, the problem with the smell, the noise, the traffic. But going back to, even the meeting that was earlier that was denied, they had members here, neighbors in which that whole story of the storage units being denied, we have been telling the same story all along. Safety, neighborhood, I know the landfill has been there a long time but there are also residents that has been there longer. So, that was denied and we just keep coming back, and I know you guys are hearing some of the same stories but we are bringing new stories as well. I just don't know how a company that is bringing in 75%, approximately of someone else's garbage to our county, can be treated differently to go against our welfare of our community. And going back to a few county members saying they would pitch in to help resolve this situation of testing, answering a lot of questions that are coming up, recently there was a 600 billion, million dollar lawsuit for PFAS, that's coming in the news quite often. We have mention four, and I can go through all of the questions if you would like, (inaudible) if you plan on voting yes, please invite me back to go through them because we still haven't had answers on these questions, of how you are going to help out with testing, testing out the land, the existing land, the neighbors land, the water, the existing water, the creeks, even the leachate that is going from the

landfill to our treatment plant and testing when it gets treated and pushed down the creek or, I'm asking you to not make a move on approving something without knowing all of these answers. I appreciate it.

**Jean Johannigman;** I have brought up the PFAS various times before, there is legislation at the State level but I have some new information from the scientist at Purdue, we don't have data by February 3<sup>rd</sup>, I was checking to see if there would be anything for this meeting and she says: "I am not sure that I would be able to have time to provide input for your meeting by looking closer at the landfill type activities in the area but I will try". She didn't have the time to do so because she got back me. But she said; "we are researching and mapping out our plans for sampling so that we can start in March. I will keep you posted and will likely ask for your help in sampling in your area. In some cases we will go ourselves and in other cases we will send out sampling kits with instructions. In both cases, we will need to identify homeowners who are willing to participate". Now, she has the list that I have provided to you of all the places where the leachate has been applied to properties in our county. So she does have that list. And so I think we need to, if you want proof, she will have some sort of proof one way or the other, whatever it is, but I think you would want that information before you make a decision of this magnitude. And I would also like to point out that Bartholomew County, which you can see it on their website, only takes in the trash from their county, they don't take in 75% from out of county. Why can't we consider that, and what about transfer stations, this has not been discussed and a lot of the other counties are transfer stations. Now I know they said that it will cost more but what is the cost of our health. And I think this all needs to be considered seriously before you make a decision of this magnitude. Thank you.

**Kurt Publo:** the first thing that I would like to address is the PFAS question. It is something that we have heard about the last couple of meetings, I'm not sure how familiar the board is with what that is or what it means. PFAS is a label that is used to talk about a big category of chemicals that have been manufactured that have been manufactured since the 1940's and they are used in non-stick cookware, dental floss, stain repellents, water repellents, firefighting foam, carpet, clothes, car seats, it is over 5000 chemicals that are applied to everything in our everyday life. So it is all around us. The reason that it is a concern for people is that there are some studies that have shown that there may be some links to some of these conditions that Jean is talking about, there is liver and kidney function or premature birth or low birth weight, cancers, but even on the CDC website they talk about the fact that there may be links to high level exposure doesn't mean that you can assign cause, because these conditions are all things that afflicted us as humans before these chemicals were invented. The fact that these chemicals are all around us it is hard to point to that cause. Right now the EPA and IDEM, as far as what they are doing about these, and Purdue is part of this process too, that is part of what she has talked about. The EPA has gone around over the last several years and tested the public water supplies and the public water supplies that they have tested in Indiana, none of them have exceeded the health advisory levels that the EPA has set for lifetime exposure. IDEM, over the next couple of years is going to be testing smaller public water supplies, I think 10,000 people and above. They are looking for the presence of these chemicals. Just last month the EPA put out a revised action plan where they are going to move on from looking at where this stuff is present to the sources, how it is getting into these water supplies. And they have identified 5 target industries that they want to look at: 1) manufacturers that produce the chemicals 2) the pulp and paper industry that uses chemicals to make the paper coating so that you can have microwave popcorn bags and hamburger wrappers 3) carpet and textile industry 4) airports, because of the use of firefighting foams 5) metal plating shops. Those are the places that the EPA sees as significant sources of those chemicals. Obviously, we are concerned about it because here and other places, landfills are getting thrown into that mix because we receive waste, and the waste that we all produce has the stuff in it because it is in everything that we use in our everyday life. Down in North Carolina a study was done that was published last year that looked at landfill leachate and

wastewater treatment plants and tried to see what the connections and levels were. What they found was that the (inaudible) of these chemicals that was being carried in landfill leachate to the wastewater treatment plants was less than 3% of the amount of this material that was going into the wastewater treatment plant. Not so say that there isn't some in the leachate, but the landfill leachate isn't a significant source of what is going into the wastewater treatment plants. It is coming from our houses, from all kinds of businesses, all those places that we listed. That's kind of where we are at, right now there aren't any regulations regarding wastewater discharges. The only thing out there now is the health advisory from the EPA. They are working on some maximum contaminate levels for two out of these 5000 chemicals in drinking water, when that happens there may be some wastewater requirements that come in, that will affect all of us. It will be something that will have to be treated, there will be a cost to that for all of us because it is coming from all of us. I want to clarify one thing, there has been a lot of discussion about the wastewater from the leachate from the landfill going to the wastewater treatment plant and then there is something that gets said about the leachate being land applied. The sludge, the bio-solids from the wastewater treatment plants are land applied. The leachate is going into the wastewater treatment plant just like the sewage from our house and businesses. Regarding the Bartholomew County Landfill, that is owned by the Solid Waste District in Bartholomew County, they are fully within their rights to set whatever restrictions they want on what waste they accept, but it is county owned.

**Gary;** Kurt, can you clarify the question and comments about the in county and out of county trash, what are those percentages? **Kurt;** 25% from this county and 75% from out of county. **Gary;** of the 75% that is out of county, what is out of state? **Kurt;** none, out of county, we talked about this at the APC but I don't think we have talked about it here, but out of county waste is primarily from either the adjoining counties or one county out, we are talking about a 50 miles radius, roughly.

**Jean Johannigman:** concerning the PFAS, you glossed over it a little bit, but I did ask at the roundtable meeting, whether the leachate from the old landfill, the current landfill and the expanded landfill all goes into the city. This is different than a lot of other places, a lot of other towns don't necessarily do this. And we send this in to the city, they process it and solids yes are what goes on the land, and that can also runoff into the waterways. You are having a concentration of it coming from articles and like we said, there is 75% coming out of county into that landfill. So why are we increasing what we know, and I think I gave you enough information on the (inaudible) and other sources to show you that there are studies that show it causes cancer, auto immune and reproductive problems, and we have a vast amount of cancer and auto immune in this community. And yes, it can come from other sources but we have to start cleaning up what we can clean up and why are we taking in, again, 75% out of county in a situation that we know is more serious. I know when they piped it into Greensburg, they thought they were doing a benefit because of the closing of that old landfill, but they didn't realize they were creating an even worse problem. If you go back and read about the old landfill and the leachate from that is still coming in with the current and the future and being processed and put on the ground and then that one article, I gave you from out of state, shows that it's showing up in the crops and in the food supply. This is a serious issue and it's one that is going to be coming at us whether we want it to or not, there is legislation out there. So I hope you won't give this some very serious consideration, it is not an easy subject. Everyplace, every county and city doesn't do what we are doing, but that town did and they served repercussions from it. Thank you.

**Shawn Green:** I have asked in the past about when they were approved for Best Way to come in and have their new landfill, I don't see anything where it said all the businesses, you know, 75% was going to come from out of county to dump here. I'm still curious if there is any information on that... **Brad;** you mean going forward? **Shawn;** no, where they are at now, what was even agreed upon to have what they have, it just seems like they have been able to police themselves quite a bit,

which I'm pro-business, I think most of us are, however it's, when you don't know what's going on, you don't know. And again, for us as a county to vote on something that we know is going to be in your oaths for public, health, safety and morals, comfort and general welfare, I don't see it going for that. I don't see it going for the hardship and it's detrimental to the property, and you have the general welfare and also the noise, smoke, dust, fumes, the (inaudible) odors, this is stuff in our ordinance. They have mentioned before that it (inaudible) property values, it's because they own most of the neighbors there. It does hurt property, I have done a lot of research on it, we can prove our point too, if we lived right next to (inaudible) owned us but that is not the case. The scariest thing is, I hate the word what it, but we have had a landfill go bad before and business people in our community and our taxpayers had to get that fixed. Do we even have, like this lawsuit going on now, 640 million dollars to take care of land gone bad, earth, water, land value around there. Is our county, can we foot the bill for that, in my mind too big of a risk and goes against our oath, so again I request that you deny the application, thanks again.

**Jane Obermeyer:** a close resident to the landfill, again we built in 1980 and there was no smell, now they want to double the size of what is there, we have had a problem with odors since the very first meeting that we were aware of. So if you double the size, we already know 3 more people who have sold their property, people who have trouble selling their property once they discovered how close they were to the landfill, I have got a whiff of the smell, people who are moving from new properties because of the smell, because they are uncomfortable sitting outside. So, you double it, surely the smell will increase, I don't want to have to sell my property, we built there because of the same people in the other building, it was a rural community and there was no smell, but there is now and you are aware of it, and if you are not, drive by, and yes it comes and goes, but it's worse in the summer when you want to be outside and it's not fair to the people of Decatur County to ruin their property, it's just not fair and I hope you consider that and I hope we are as important as the people on frontage road are. Thank you.

**Bill Obermeyer:** I have asked this over and over, I ask again tonight about the odor, I can't get an answer, can't get an answer on tipping fee, can't get an answer on how many tons coming in and if you guys, I know a couple of you live out that way, but if you don't think there is an odor, go by at night, I sent this picture to a few people. One evening I stopped and counted over 50 some buzzards on the tower, 50 some on the fence and other buzzards flying around, how many buzzards are at your house today? That's my point, it stinks.

**Brad;** Kurt, a couple of questions that I have, can you address Bill's concerns regarding the smell and the change that has occurred within the past couple of years? **Kurt;** the only thing that I can address is what we have talked about in the past regarding some issues last year that have been addressed and improved. **Brad;** have you changed the operational procedure? **Kurt;** we did since we were talking about a year ago, yes. **Brad;** so what type of changes? **Kurt;** there were some procedures and there was some gas well installation. **Gary;** can you explain what that gas well that you are talking about to the lay person please? **Kurt;** as waste decomposes in the landfill one of the by products is landfill gas, which is about 50% methane and 50% Co2, as the landfill progresses extraction wells are installed and then a gas collection system pulls vacuum on those wells and sends that gas to, and some of our sites it goes to beneficial, renewal energy projects. Here at this site it goes to a flare and is burnt off. Part of the problem last year was that there was an area that was drilled but the collection lines had not been installed because of weather issues. Those were completed back in the spring. **Janey;** to that point, my question if you work there, do you not smell what they are talking about, I don't go by there but as an employee to you not smell the odors that the neighbors are complaining about? **Kurt;** there are times that there are odors there, sure. **Janey;** and would that odor not increase if the landfill got larger? **Kurt;** the odor has more to do with the

operational size, that size isn't going to change. **Janey**; so you work a certain area... **Kurt**; yes. **Joyce**; is there any way at all that you can stop taking refuse from other places? Does that mean that you will lose a lot of money? **Kurt**; our business is based on this area that we service, it just isn't practical for the business that we have. **Joyce**; my husband worked with hazardous chemicals for 45 years, I learned the ins and outs of it, I'm on the board at Westport, we are having problems with water we are getting down there which comes through here and goes to Westport. The leaching, I know about and I agree with you on that, you can get that stuff from anywhere, that PFAS, you don't have to get that from a landfill, it's out there. I'm worried about the leachate is what I am worried about because of the fact that if our water isn't good, we have had some problems, we don't pass a lot of tests, we are doing better, we have done a lot to our sewer systems and so forth to get it out and put more into treating our water. We are putting in a 6-million-dollar water plant with charcoal in it, I think that the State, one of these days, is going to tell all of us that we are not going to be using creek water for our basic needs to drink. Water is our basic need that we have to have. That water should be good. The landfill smell, there are a lot of things that smell and it won't kill you but bad water will. I don't know if we need, maybe you need to have more business, but I don't know if we as Greensburg residents worry about our water, or Decatur County residents, about our water being polluted. Our water is polluted, and it comes from up here, so I don't know what to do, I do know in my heart that I want everything to be cleaner. I'm also the Chairman of the Solid Waste and I have had a lot of questions about what we are doing with what you are doing. We know you all but I don't know the ins and outs of all of that. I want the best for my county, my town, for this state and this board to make the very best decision that we can possibly make. We are here for all of you. Please be careful and tell us everything, I appreciate all of the information that I got from the Purdue and IU, he explained so much better to me about the aquifer, that scared me because I know the aquifer should be very pure. We're not even close to that aquifer, you can't get to it with what you are doing, and they should understand that if they listened to the geologist. I want and I know these folks her do too, is a good place to live, not smell stuff, but you are going to smell that. **Jane Obermeyer**; but I didn't choose to build by a pig farm, I had my choice, it didn't smell (inaudible) he stood right up here and said it's the wells, it's been a wet year, sorry, my husband owns a farming business, I know when you can work and when you can't, and he said the smell has been taken care of, the same night Paul Stone said (inaudible) you tell me if you haven't driven to the Indianapolis Airport and not wondered what the smell was, it's the landfill. So the bigger it is, the farther the smell. **Joyce**; the bigger the hog farms the worse it smells too. (inaudible....). I want you guys to be successful and I want our town to have the best water it can be and that's where I am at. I'm listening to Purdue and the Geologist. I do know that we have to have things like this, it's got to happen. (inaudible....)

**Brad**; Kurt, at what point in time do you think IDEM is going to start testing your leachate? Do you think that will occur within the near future? **Kurt**; not that I am aware of, we talked to them about this maybe a year ago, year and a half just as an industry and their focus was very much, like I said before, on the target industries that the EPA was looking at. Some other states have tried to see what kind of linkage there is, the one that I point to is the one in North Carolina where they found the contribution from the landfill was small relative to the contribution overall. You could remove 100% of what would come from a landfill and you wouldn't change, in a meaningful way, what was going into the wastewater treatment plant. To speak a little bit to what **Joyce** was talking about, because what she is talking about is very important and this is all part of, it rolls back from IDEM and EPA, the wastewater treatment plant has a permit and they have to do testing in what gets discharged, it meets their permit or they wouldn't be operating. That may change over time, what parameters they need to be, we discharge to them, we have testing that we have to do, we have to meet our permit requirements. As their permit changes ours will too, things are going to change and we will have to comply with those they happen.... **Joyce**; I would say for us (Westport), at our

water treatment plant it will be within the next ten years, we had no choice but to (inaudible).. so I don't know what will be on the landfills but the water treatment plants, (inaudible) so they have changed so much over the last five years. **Gary**; Kurt, who are your regulators? Who do you answer to, give me a snapshot of what that looks like on a daily/weekly/monthly/quarterly/yearly kind of thing? **Kurt**; primarily the landfill is regulated by the Office of Land Quality, which is a division of IDEM, and the Office of Air Quality, we have separate permits for each of them. Water quality, in our case because we discharge to the wastewater treatment plant, then we have a permit with them and they are regulated by the IDEM Office of Water Quality. **Gary**; any Federal regulations? **Kurt**; the State, because the State has implemented rules that are stricter than the Federal rules, the State takes jurisdiction over those. **Gary**; have you been in violation of any of those? **Kurt**; we had a notice of violation for our air permit, 2019 or 2020 I would have to look up the details of it. **Gary**; has that been mitigated? **Kurt**; yes, there was not imposition or fines, it has been remedied. **Janey**; when you initially were beginning the landfill, was it with the understanding that there would be garbage coming in from out of county and the second part is, if it were to pass, will that likely increase the area where the garbage is coming from or is the plan to just still, is there anything that says you can't go any farther that want you are going or how it stands today? **Kurt**; I can't speak to the 1980's, I know that we did have business outside of Decatur County at that time, I don't know if the questions was specifically asked. We have talked already, about our business model and plan for Best Way, we don't have a plan for any change in our service area/territory. **Janey**; but you couldn't say that it wouldn't increase? **Kurt**; right, there is not plan that we are waiting for this and then that's going to happen, there is no plan. At one of the APC meetings we talked about the geographics facing different landfills in the area and region and if you draw circles around them you start getting into overlap, the economics of trucking, the cost of trucking materials becomes limiting factor in Indiana. **Gary**; just as an economy of scale, I do some business down in the Jackson County area and I have talked with some people that live on highway 39 that comes up to US 50 in Brownstown, as a scale they see 15-18 semi loads from Atomic Transfer come out of Louisville every day. At 25 tons a whack. That's an immense amount coming from Louisville. So I mention that just to put the scale together on what we've got, huge difference in that. **Kurt**; if you would like I can speak, I know Mr. Obermeyer had some questions about tipping fee and quantities and things like that, we send a report to the Solid Waste District every month that shows the waste that is coming into the landfill, and quarterly we send a report to the state that is a compilation of those monthly reports. The state report it breaks it down by the counties that it comes from. **Janey**; where can he find that information? **Kurt**; on the IDEM website, it's hard to find things right now, I can probably provide a link to the board. And the tipping fee that gets paid to the Solid Waste District is 50 cents a ton, for every ton that comes into the landfill. **Gary**; who gets that? **Kurt**; the waste district. **Joyce**; what that takes care of is trash pickup here in town and (inaudible). **Brad**; and it is regardless of origin? **Kurt**; correct. **Bill Obermeyer**; why is it stated on documents that the average is \$47 a ton? **Kurt**; there is a difference in what you can use the word tipping fee to mean, so my charge, when you come into the landfill is not 50 cents a ton, my charge is \$36 or so but of that, 50 cents goes to the solid waste district. **Gary**; if we don't like what Best Way is doing and Best Way goes away, we still all generate trash and garbage, what is our alternative? Do we go to Solid Waste and start our own like Bartholomew County? **Joyce**; it would go back to being thrown into the road ditches. **Jane Obermeyer**; or you could do what the other 70% of the counties do and have it transferred. Osgood doesn't have a landfill; Rumpke picks up theirs and as far as I know it goes to Lawrenceburg. Seymour, North Vernon and Rushville trash comes here. So to say oh my gosh, we'll have trash, the other places don't have trash but they don't have landfills either, yes there is trash, and yes they do a nice job of picking it up, I have seen them, their guys run that gator up the road and it looks nice, you drive by the landfill and it looks nice but to do this, oh my, we will have trash what do we do, or Mark Klosterkemper says oh my gosh, we can't take the two trucks and drive to Indianapolis, of course not, you don't see trucks from Osgood taking their trash to the

landfill. Somebody picks it up in a dumpster, and that can be done in Greensburg, and is the price astronomical, no, it might be more than what they are paying now, they have said in the paper they are not paying enough, they haven't raised the fee. But to say oh my gosh what do we do, other towns have figured it out, they send it here. **Joyce**; it does have to go somewhere. **Jane Obermeyer**; it does have to go somewhere, but do I think we all should recycle more, yes. Do I know that it is a profit/loss business right now, yes. And until the United States says that I will give you a nickel for that plastic bottle like Michigan does and California, there will be plastic bottles. As kids everybody sitting here took those coke bottles in for that nickel so we could buy that twinkie for 12 cents. **Joyce**; and the trash from that twinkie went in the road ditch. **Jane Obermeyer**; I never threw trash in the road ditch. **Gary**; my point here is if we have trash and we have problems with our trash, we need to find a better way to use this trash, let's not transfer it to somebody else, let's figure out a better way to crack the nut. Whether that is Best Way or Rumpke, or Amazon or whoever finds a better way to crack the nut, lets figure that out. If it is a profit/loss business, and I agree with that, trash isn't any different than corn and beans, it's all about the freight. **Jane Obermeyer**; and they are profitable or else they wouldn't (inaudible). **Gary**; that dictates a lot of things. **Shawn Green**; I agree Gary and we have 30 or more years to figure it out.

**Brad**; my general take right now, there has to be landfills in this world, we can't get around that fact. I have to agree with Shawn, and everyone here, in that there are questions that need to be answered. You guys aren't going to close up next week. You have time and honestly sitting here right not I probably have more questions, granted, this is the first go around I have had with BZA, the questions are getting better. We are getting some answers, I do have more questions. I get the general feel up here now that we don't want to vote on this. I don't want to rush to anything. It is in your best interest as well that we don't. Because the outcome would potentially be not in your favor. I would really like to table this issue for now and I have some questions and I would really like to put something together and formatted to where I can get some structured answers on several things. That's my take on it. **Gary**; I concur. **Janey**; and if that is the case, if we could send anything, we have to Krista to add to that, because I didn't come in with that many questions tonight and I have got more now. **Brad**; I agree, email me, I know I'm going to catch it all. I have a lot of questions; I want some structured answers that comprehensively cover some of the concerns that we are hearing from this crowd before we do anything further. **Krista**; I would like all of the questions to come to me so that compile them into a document.... **Jane Obermeyer**; so if you get those questions, does the public get to see them too? **Brad**; that is my point, I want that to be presented at a meeting because that's to your benefit. You guys no longer feel like you are getting circumvented on any answers. **Jane Obermeyer**; because as I've said, we have heard yes we did but no they didn't, I don't want it to be yes we did and us go, wait a minute, what happened, why didn't we have some input too. **Brad**; you are getting it. Do you all agree, Gary, Joyce..... **Bill Obermeyer**; I want to make another point to Joyce, I understand that the smell, I grew up on a farm, I'm in the ag business. The thing is with the landfill, the smell did not start until sometime in 2019. People have asked me, how come you haven't complained before, it started in 2019 and being in the construction business, this is my opinion, I don't think, and these guys can answer it, are you guys doing any dirt covers now at all? (inaudible due to multiple conversations at once) I also still, one of my questions is; I still thing we, and you especially as a board should know how many loads are coming out there per day. **Brad**; technically we should have the answers to that per the IDEM report because they are reporting total tons per month and quarter. We should be able to get you an answer for that. Melissa corrected me, what we will do is you guys email questions to Krista and we will be able to post them to make this public viewed so that you can see what questions we are putting forward, before the meeting. And that will give you guys the opportunity to come to the meeting to address all of these questions. Krista's email is on the county website on the Area Plan tab. **Shawn Green**; thank you for finally listening, we really appreciate it, I think all of you guys have done a great job with coming up with these questions. I'm not sure about everybody but I'm



sure Brad has been to a lot of variance meetings and I really feel grateful for you guys having the questions but in my mind the question should be them being unprepared for the meeting. We have asked a lot of these questions for a long time and I still recommend a vote tonight for no because they are unprepared. I have been to a variance meeting, if we are unprepared what happens? Thank you. **Jean Johannigman**; I just want to clarify a couple of good points; I know that you pressed the Purdue Geologist but I also want to point out the IU study of the aquifers that shows an aquifer sensitivity of high sensitivity in the area of the landfill. And I will tell you too that we called testing companies and the one testing company acknowledged the aquifer in that area. I also want to confirm something you said earlier because I talked to Jeff Smith and one of the dry creek beds that they are putting the leachate in, which is a higher concentration than the normal environment, does go down to Westport when it rains. **Joyce**; our engineers told us totally different. **Jean Johannigman**; this is what Jeff told us where they are putting it. Jeff Smith at the sewer plant. **Joyce**; that didn't come from Purdue or the Geologist? **Jean Johannigman**; no, it came from Jeff who is treating it and applying it.

**Leon Nobbe**; I live on 100 S and the back way to the dump is pasty my house, I pick up trash every week on my own, there is so much that I have to put it on the back of the pickup. A lot of it is screws, I have a lot of flat tires because they haul roofing, they haul shingles, they lose half of it before they get there. I picked up 12 nails and screws in one day. You talk about the smell, if you have ever been to Cincinnati on 275, it smells. That is the nature of a dump. So, if you expand it you will be expanding on top of the aquifer, the old landfill is east of the aquifer, or on the edge of it. So, it's going to be worse and the water in Decatur County either comes Rural Water, City Water, most of it comes from Flatrock which is off the surface water, it's chlorinated to the max, Greensburg, several years ago, I was at the meetings they were offered water from Columbus, they turned it down. They were offered from Hoosier Hills and turned it down, so that is the way our city is run. Thank you.

**Brad**; all of that taken into consideration, once again you can reach out to Krista with the questions. Other than that, we are adjourned.

Decatur County Board of Zoning Appeal

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Secretary, Joyce Brindley

Decatur County Area Plan Commission

ATTEST:

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Brad Schutte, President      Decatur County Board of Zoning Appeals