

RESUME OF MINUTES OF A STUDY SESSION OF THE COUNTY BOARD,
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS
February 15, 2005

Chair Wysocki opened the Study Session at 7:05 P.M. Chair Wysocki made opening remarks. The subject of the Study Session was the Blue Ribbon Environmental Panel. The Panel was formed in October 2002. The Panel finished their report in October 2004.

Members of the Blue Ribbon Environmental Advisory Panel, Hal Barnhart, William Goran, Cynthia Hoyle, Gary Jackson, Richard Rayburn, Annette Stumpf, and Ruth Wene, presented a summary report. Cynthia Hoyle, Chair, gave an overview of the Blue Ribbon Environmental Panel. The summary consisted of six concerns. Concern one, Comprehensive Planning, was presented by Cynthia Hoyle. Concern two, the Mahomet Aquifer, was presented by Richard Rayburn. Concern three, Soil Resources, was presented by Hal Barnhart. Concern four, Watersheds, was presented by Gary Jackson. Concern five, Lack of Green Space for County Residents and Managed Habitat for Native Biological Systems, was presented by Ruth Wene. Concern six, Failure to Monitor Champaign County Environmental Conditions, was presented by William Goran. Mr. Goran also went through scenarios, viewing Champaign County from 2020. Annette Stumpf spoke about their website; and surveys which were conducted, asking citizens about their environmental concerns. All the concerns were supported by the Panel's recommendations.

Chair Wysocki thanked the Panel, and opened the floor for Public Participation. Beth Chato, former County Board Member, spoke regarding the Blue Ribbon Environmental Advisory Panel and their presentation. Jamie Ellis, a resident of Urbana, spoke regarding the Blue Ribbon Environmental Advisory Panel and their presentation. Mel Pleines, Chairman of the Mahomet Aquifer Consortium, spoke and answered Board Member's questions regarding the Mahomet Aquifer and their needs. Bob Holmes, director of the USGS Illinois Water Science Center, spoke regarding the USGS Illinois Water Science Center and concerns about the water sources in Illinois.

Chair Wysocki opened the floor for discussion, questions, and comments from Champaign County Board Members. During the discussion it was concluded the recommendations would be handled through the Policy and ELUC committees.

Chair Wysocki asked Frank DiNovo, Director of Planning and Community Development, to speak regarding the Visioning Project.

Chair Wysocki adjourned the Study Session at 8:54 P.M.

Mark Sheldon

Mark Sheldon, Champaign County Clerk
and ex-Officio Clerk of the Champaign County Board
Champaign County, Illinois

