

The Board of County Commissioners of Guernsey County, Ohio, met in regular session on the above date and time with the following individuals in attendance:

Dave Wilson	Commissioner	Jennifer Douglas	Clerk
Jack Marlin	Commissioner	Jason Miller	
Bill Cowgill	Commissioner	Rich Stokey	

Quick recap

The meeting focused on discussing a potential data center project proposed for Guernsey County, with Jason Miller and Rich Stokey from Smart Energy Partners presenting the concept to Guernsey County Local Government officials. Rich explained his background in energy and telecommunications, describing how data center technology has evolved to use more efficient cooling systems and closed-loop water systems that minimize water usage. The discussion covered concerns about power generation, water consumption, job creation, and community benefits, with Rich emphasizing that the project would utilize natural gas infrastructure and potentially include additional businesses like farming operations and training facilities. Guernsey County Local Government officials expressed interest in the economic development potential while noting the challenges of finding suitable developable land in the county, and they requested educational materials to help address public questions about the project.

Guernsey County Data Center

The meeting focused on discussing data centers in Guernsey County, with participants noting that state legislation (House Bill 15 and Senate Bill 103) regarding data centers is still pending. The county officials explained they are gathering information about data centers after receiving inquiries from state representatives and local residents, particularly regarding infrastructure concerns. The discussion highlighted that Guernsey County is a non-zoned area, giving property owners like Jason flexibility in what they can do with their land, including potentially developing data centers on his 425 acres.

Energy Project Introduction Meeting

The meeting introduced Rich from Smart Energy Partners and Caterpillar USA, who has been working on a project with Guernsey County Local Government for the past 5-6 months. Rich shared his background, which began in telecommunications before transitioning to energy projects, including work on solar development, energy efficiency for buildings, and data center power solutions. His career progression led him to focus on land development and investment opportunities in the energy sector.

Data Center Property Evaluation

The discussion focused on evaluating a potential data center property in Guernsey County, which shows promising features including good land, location, and natural gas access. The speaker emphasized this is in very early stages and explained that common community concerns about water and electricity usage are legitimate but can be addressed through modern technology improvements. The speaker noted they work with consulting partners rather than as a developer, and the goal is to gather community support and address questions before proceeding further.

Data Center Technology Planning

The Guernsey County Commissioners discussed technology capabilities for addressing water and electric concerns related to data center development, noting that there are more efficient approaches than traditional methods that use large amounts of water. They mentioned meeting with Senator Chavez who supports the technology but wants it implemented intelligently, and referenced information shared by Senator Chavez about different cooling systems. The discussion emphasized the importance of community education and addressing concerns directly, with plans to potentially involve Rashay Kirapova as a community advocate and to explore on-site power generation solutions.

Community Project Information Strategy

The discussion focused on developing informational materials about a potential project before details are finalized. Guernsey County Commissioners proposed creating fact sheets and website content to educate the

community and manage public inquiries. The project is currently in early stages with no land offers yet, and involves potential training facilities in partnership with Caterpillar, which would bring significant economic benefits to the area.

Guernsey County Data Center Project

The discussion focused on potential benefits and opportunities for a data center project in Guernsey County, including community benefits like tax base expansion and job creation during construction and operations. Jason Miller explained that existing gas pipeline options exist nearby, including the Rocky Mount Express and Will they allow a tap, though formal requests have not been submitted yet. The conversation also touched on potential spin-off businesses and innovative ideas, including waste-to-energy projects.

Guernsey County Data Center Project

The discussion focused on a proposed data center project in Guernsey County, with participants addressing concerns about energy usage, water consumption, and job creation. Rich Stokey explained that the project would use a closed-loop system requiring minimal water and could generate power through natural gas, with excess energy feeding back into the grid. They discussed potential additional businesses like on-site farming and training programs to support local workforce development. The conversation also covered a separate airport-related development opportunity and addressed challenges around finding suitable developable land in the county that meets floodplain and infrastructure requirements.

Next steps

Guernsey County Local Government

- Review the educational materials and fact sheet provided by Rich, and provide feedback/guidance on distribution (e.g., website, townships, public handouts).
- Connect Rich/Jason with Bill Arnett at the Community Improvement Corporation and Port Authority for further coordination regarding airport area development.

Jason Miller

- Continue discussions with partners regarding potential co-located projects (e.g., greenhouse/autism workforce initiatives, airport-related development) and update Guernsey County Local Government as relevant.

Rich Stokey

- Summarize key talking points and educational materials regarding data center technology, water/energy usage, and community benefits, and share with Guernsey County Local Government for review.
- Coordinate with his community advocate contact (potentially Rashay Kirapova) to assist in developing an information/fact sheet for local officials and the public about the proposed data center project.
- Schedule or facilitate a future meeting with Senator Chavez and other relevant stakeholders as appropriate to maintain communication and address concerns.
- Provide updates to Guernsey County Local Government on progress with site control, term sheets, and any new information from Columbus or Delaware projects that may inform the local process.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted;

S/Jennifer Douglas

Approved by;

S/Jackson L. Marlin, President S/David L. Wilson, Vice President

S/William S. Cowgill, Commissioner