

Advisory Council Minutes
March 25, 2010
Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency

Members Present:

Peter G. Williams, Public Health
Ray Kelleher, Business Community
Chester Johns, Jr., Agriculture
Adriane Borgias, Environmental
Doug Pottratz, Citizen

Staff Present:

Bill Dameworth, Director
Ron Edgar, Chief of Technical Services
Matt Holmquist, Compliance Administrator
Debbie Riley, Secretary II

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

1. Approval of the February 25, 2010 Minutes

Ray Kelleher moved to approve the February 25, 2010 minutes and Doug Pottratz seconded it. Minutes approved.

2. Continued Discussion on Fees and Funding – Matt Holmquist and Ron Edgar

Matt gave an overview from the last meeting on Registration Program Costs direct and indirect agency costs. Some of the activities that go into the direct costs are emission reporting, inspecting registered sources and compliance assistance. Indirect agency cost includes operation and maintenance. General agency expenses are supplies, postage, certain professional services, insurance, building and equipment repairs and maintenance. About 30% of the indirect cost is charged to the registration program. Bill stated that we are still not at full-cost recovery, but recognized that this is not a good time to be asking for a fee increase. There was some discussion between staff and the advisory council.

3. Round – Robin- Council Members Tell Us Their Air Quality Issues and Concerns- (held over from February 25, 2010 meeting)

Doug Pottratz commented that a number of sources will be reporting greenhouse gases in the State of Washington for 2009 and 2010. Doug asked what role Spokane Clean Air would be taking in this. Bill replied Spokane clean Air doesn't want to take any active role. It is a federal or state program that really doesn't affect local air quality. Also, it is not part of Spokane Clean Air's mission which is air quality not climate. Doug would like to see Spokane Clean Air expand it's website to include public information about greenhouse gases, agriculture, water issues and precipitation and the farming industry.

Peter Williams stated that he would like to see the Agency take more of a public stand and support alternative transportation initiatives such as bicycle commuting, bus services and light rail. A new initiative called “Complete Streets” is encouraging more bicycle commuting, more pedestrian friendly streets and more alternatives to single car occupancy. The idea behind the initiative is that for the past 80 years in this country, roadways have been used to move vehicles; ideally they should be used to move people because that’s what it is all about. John Schneider who is a local city council member has a good presentation on “Complete Streets” that may be worth while as a presentation for Spokane Clean Air.

Adriane stated that its time the agency take a more sophisticated approach in terms of looking at the system in Spokane and how it all works; where can the agency fit in to encourage other forms of effective transportation? It’s more than advertising on buses, it should begin with the planning process. Ron replied that the planning department has to get the City Council to agree. He suggested the presentation on “Complete Streets” be presented to the Board of Directors. Bill believes that the agency can do more to educate the public with commute trip alternatives; because our role is more of an educational role. We have no authority to do planning or zoning, but we can comment on those issues and we do. Ron will talk to the people involved with “Complete Streets” and see if they will do a presentation to the Advisory Council Members. There was some discussion between the advisory council members and staff.

Peter suggested that the Advisory Council and staff revisit the Round Robin at the next meeting due to the lack of Advisory Council members present at this time.

Ray Kelleher moved to adjourn the Advisory Council meeting and Chet Jahns
Seconded it. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

WILLIAM DAMEWORTH, DIRECTOR