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SPOKANE REGIONAL CLEAN AIR AGENCY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 6, 2008 9:00 a.m.
SPOKANE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING
LOWER LEVEL HEARING ROOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Board Member Ahern
Chair Jeff Corkill
Councilmember Taylor

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bill Dameworth, Director
Barbara Nelson, Finance & Personnel Admin.
Ron Edgar, Chief of Technical Services
Lisa Woodard, Public Information Officer
Matt Holmquist, Compliance Administrator
Joe Southwell, Engineer
Michelle Wolkey, Legal Council
Peter Williams, Advisory Council Member
Mary McDermott, Secretary

BOARD MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING: The board meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m.

1. Advisory Council Report

Peter Williams gave a report on the last meeting of the Spokane Clean Air Advisory Council. At the meeting, they were provided a detailed overview of the different outdoor burning programs that Spokane Clean Air implements, including the residential yard and garden debris burning in Spokane County, land clearing and agricultural burning. The Council also looked at some of the numbers and types of permits that are being provided, reviewed the Clean Air Smoke Management Guidelines and Bill provided a legislative update concerning the burn ban and the wood stove rebate voucher program. There was also talk about consideration of a new office for Spokane Clean Air. Peter and Chair Corkill discussed this morning about trying to have some regular meetings between themselves to discuss mutual interests that the Board and Advisory Board may have and some potential initiatives. One thing that is interesting with the Advisory Council is that it is a great organization and does good work, but it's very easy to be dependent on staff initiative and staff reports and Peter would like to see more energy in encouraging them to take some initiative in things that the Advisory Council may be interested in and that matches with some of the interests that the Board may have. Chair Corkill added that he believes that the Advisory Council is under used and should be choosing projects to investigate on their own to bring to the Board's attention.

2. Director's Report for February – Bill Dameworth

Bill stated that based on approving that Spokane Clean Air go ahead with its contract on developing regulations for the rendering industry, he has a meeting setup with EKW Law. Michelle

Wolkey reviewed their proposed agreement and suggested some changes and EKW Law accepted all of the changes so Spokane Clean Air will go forward with this. The wood smoke burn ban legislation that extended the authority that Spokane Clean Air got for Spokane County to call bans using appropriate trigger values last year has been proposed to be extended state wide through SB 6753 and HB 6753. Both bills eliminate the 2009 sunset clause in Spokane Clean Air's current authority. Bill offered \$425,000 for the property previously discussed with the caveat that we obtain funding. The building owner counter-offered \$5,000 less than the asking price. Bill believes that he will wait to negotiate in earnest until the financing issues are straightened out. The Auditor has begun the biennial audit of the agency. An entrance conference was held on February 25th with the Auditor's representative, Jeff Corkill, Barbara Nelson and Bill. The final report will probably come in early summer but they will give a heads up to any issues needing to be dealt with before hand.

Chair Corkill asked if the proposal that Bill has of assessing the towns and Spokane County for the purchasing would be executive board meeting or should it be out in the public? Bill stated this is something the County suggested, that Spokane Clean Air have a special one-time assessment for all of the people paying into the local assessment and the annual assessment savings would pay for the building in just over five years. Bill would like to discuss the pros and cons and the financial aspect with the Board in executive session and find out what the City of Spokane Valley and the City of Spokane think about this before moving forward on this proposal. Councilmember Taylor stated that he spoke with the City of the Spokane Valley about this and the City Manager would like to see more information on this proposal. Bill replied that his plan is to provide as much information on this subject as possible to these cities.

3. Public Information/Education Update – Lisa Woodard

Lisa gave a brief overview of the February events. Spokane Clean Air was at the following events: Sunrise Elementary School Science Night for a hands-on air quality activities; Mobius Children's Museum doing clean air activities with the Lung Association and Weather Service; Southside Newcomers Club air quality presentation; and mailed out free "Magic School Bus Gets Cleaned Up" booklets from EPA.

The Compliance Assistance Program consisted of drafting articles for the spring newsletter, revising the agency's "Doing Our Share for Clean Air" business recognition program to add another recognition level for going "beyond compliance"; updated and distributed CAP materials to the cities and towns in Spokane County; and posted the updated gasoline station guidebook on Spokane Clean Air's website.

Other publications were updates to the web page on air monitoring, news articles, expanded the FAQ page, draft spring seasonal air quality pages and the Clean Air Kids page. The spring burn season is coming up in April and will be the first two Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Mondays of the month. A news release was drafted and the materials were updated.

Special projects consist of the wood stove change-out program which is going great and the low income full-replacement program starting in April. The "No Idle Zone" school program is moving along with meetings with the school districts and scheduling program dates at the schools. The "Spring Chipping and Composting" event will take place on April 12 at Fire Station 49 of Fire District 4 on Highway 395 and Monroe Rd. Spokane Clean Air teams up with the Master Composters, Fire District 4 and DNR. ABCO Wood Recycling has donated three 30-cubic yard collection containers for the event. There will not be a chipper for this event.

Lisa also conducted media interviews on the wood stove program and the air stagnation experienced. There was some discussion from Councilmember Taylor, Chair Corkill and Lisa regarding the no idle zone program and expenses incurred by the program. Lisa explained that the County Roads Department puts some of the signs up for Spokane Clean Air and they encourage that they go up on existing signs.

4. Activity Report for January 2008 – Ron Edgar

Ron stated January was a quite month for complaints. All inspectors have been trained so the number of inspections for the sources is up. We are getting into the construction season so more NOCs will be coming in. No AOPs were issued in January, but the Kaiser Facility permit is in public comment at this time and the TransCanada gas transmission permit public comment closed the end of February and is with the EPA for its final review. We are in the process of developing an on-line notification and payment system for asbestos which should make it easier for contractors to file notifications. Air quality in January had some high PM_{2.5} readings toward the end and there was air stagnation in February. PM₁₀ is of more concern at this time because the snow is melting and the sanding material used is now in the lanes of travel. The City, County and State are out with sweepers to pick up the debris. There have been no exceedances of any Federal Standards since the exceedance in November around Thanksgiving. We have established three new monitoring sites at Broadway Elementary in the Spokane Valley, Sunset Elementary in Airway Heights and in Deer Park. Councilmember Taylor asked for more information on AOPs. Ron stated that AOPs are major air pollution sources that emit over 100 tons of a criteria pollutant or more than 10 tons of a hazardous air pollutant. They are required to get a Title V AOP which is all of the different NOCs for all of the different sources within a facility combined into a single permit for everything that is required of that facility. The permit is issued to the facility after public comment and a review by the EPA. Every five years the permit goes through a renewal process to include any changes made in the facility. There are eleven AOP sources in Spokane County and over 600 smaller sources.

5. Income/Expense Statement for January 2008 – Barbara Nelson

Barbara stated that Spokane Clean Air is on track with its projected budget for revenues and expenditures. There is nothing unusual to point out except for the wood stove rebate program bills and expenditures. The AOP fees are billed on an annual basis and go out in December.

6. CONSENT AGENDA – ACTION ITEM – Approval of the February 7, 2008 Board Minutes and Voucher Numbers 2449 through 2505 in the amount of \$48,774.48 and Payroll of \$119,787.88 for a Grand Total of \$169,562.36.

Councilmember Taylor moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Board Member Ahern seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Resolution 08-07 – Amend Budget for PM_{2.5} Grants – Barbara Nelson

Barbara stated that this is a house keeping action to increase the budget, the approved appropriation for the PM_{2.5} work that Spokane Clean Air does. This is Federal money that comes to Spokane Clean Air through the State and they've increased the current grant by \$7,398 taking the total to \$16,988 and this is a budget amendment for that grant. It is for work that Spokane Clean Air is currently doing and they are reimbursing us for our work.

Councilmember Taylor moved to approve Resolution 08-07 and Board Member Ahern seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Public Hearing: Resolution 08-08 – Amend No Burn Area – Matt Holmquist

Matt stated that Spokane County recently expanded the Urban Growth Area (UGA) out in the Medical Lake – Airway Heights area and the WAC prohibits residential burning within any UGA. This expansion excluded two parcels that will be included in the “No Burn Area” to avoid creating areas of land where residential burning may occur that are surrounded by areas of land where residential burning is prohibited. The north parcel is an active mining site and they probably couldn’t burn anyway and the south parcel is a residence.

There were no comments from the Public. Board Member Ahern moved to approve Resolution 08-08 and Councilmember Taylor seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Executive Session: Chair Corkill stated that the executive session is to consider legal matters about pending and threatened litigation and the possible purchase of future office space. Chair Corkill adjourned the Board into executive session at 9:47 a.m. for approximately 40 minutes. Michelle Wolkey announced to the staff and the public waiting that the executive session would be extended for approximately 20 minutes. Chair Corkill called the board meeting back into order at 10:45 a.m. and stated that there was no action taken on any of the matters.

10. Board Concerns – There was discussion on the retreat date and also some discussion on the new board member election. The Board Members agreed that the retreat would be better on May 9th at 11:00 a.m., because it gives more time for discussion. Also, the election for the new board member should be final and that would give a full board for the retreat. Barbara will make the final preparations for the location.

11. Public Forum – There were no public concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

The next Board Meeting will be April 3, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in the lower level of the Public Works Building.

JEFFREY CORKILL, CHAIR

WILLIAM DAMEWORTH, SECRETARY