



PIMA COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY COUNCIL
33 N. Stone Avenue, Suite 700
Tucson, AZ 85701

Summary Minutes – January 19, 2011
Bank of America Building, Conference Room, 7th floor
33 N. Stone, Tucson, AZ
1:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Dr. Eric Betterton
Mr. Jeff Yockey
Mr. Daniel G. Rowe
Dr. Roger Caldwell
Mr. Allan MacDonald
Dr. Mark Witten
Mr. Warren Thompson

Members Absent:

Mr. Curt Lueck
Mr. Ben Dorris
Mr. Peter Livingston

Others Present:

Ursula Kramer, Director, PDEQ
Richard Grimaldi, Deputy Director, PDEQ
Beth Gorman, Sr. Program Manager, PDEQ
Vicki Bennie, Council Secretary, PDEQ
Lee Comrie, PAG
Roxanne Linsley, ADEQ

Note: Some agenda items were heard out of order

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order and introductions were made. A motion was made by Mr. Rowe and seconded by Mr. Yockey, to change Item No. 4, "Discussion of Role and Purpose of EQAC for 2011" to Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2010 MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Rowe, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A motion was made by Mr. Rowe and seconded by Dr. Witten, to nominate Warren Thompson for the position of Chair for 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Rowe and seconded by Mr. Yockey, to nominate Dr. Caldwell for the position of Vice Chair for 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

V. OZONE REPORT

Ms. Kramer provided background information on this issue. Slightly over a year ago, EPA revised the ozone standard to .075 parts per million (ppm). EPA is revising the standard again, and the expectation is that the new revision will be lower. EPA has delayed issuing any type of change until the end of July, 2011. However, Pima County's latest numbers for ozone are quite low.

VI. PDEQ STAFF REPORT

Ms. Kramer and Ms. Comrie, of PAG, went to Phoenix to make short presentations to the Arizona House of Representatives' Environment Committee. The House Environment Committee's new Chair requested a short overview from ADEQ and all Arizona Counties with environmental departments.

Ms. Kramer reported on both the Environmental Quality and Solid Waste Divisions of PDEQ.

a. EQ Division

In the EQ Division, revenue remains flat, but stable. No increases or drops in revenue are projected.

A new Senior Hydrologist was hired in the Water and Waste Program. This position will work on the NPDES program.

Rosemont Mines submitted an air quality permit application that was incomplete. PDEQ requested additional information which Rosemont Mines supplied. With the additional information, the permit application has been determined to be technically complete and the 18 month review process has begun. PDEQ is working closely with EPA on this issue.

EPA is moving ahead with Greenhouse Gas (GHG) regulations. EPA's new regulations went into effect on January 1, 2011, and apply to new, major sources or to sources with revisions. PDEQ does not have any sources at this time that this would apply and do not anticipate any new sources. It is anticipated that EPA will be issuing regulations in the future that require controls for GHG emissions for all sources. Nationally, this is a huge issue.

Mr. Yockey expressed appreciation of Mr. Hawke's legislative summary. Ms. Bennie will forward this summary to EQAC members.

b. SWM Division

PDEQ's SWM Division will have to report GHG emissions for SW facilities to EPA.

SW functions have stabilized at this time. The Ina Landfill closed on June 30, 2010, and the tire facility has moved to the Tangerine Landfill.

Ms. Gorman, Sr. Program Manager for PDEQ's Communications Program, reported that PDEQ is operating and maintaining two air quality monitoring sites in Green Valley. One is located at the Sheriff's Station and the other is at the GV Fire District, located at 1285 Camino Encanto, Green Valley. The monitoring site located at the Fire District is new and monitors PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, wind speed and direction.

PDEQ is working with the County Administrator's Office to promote alternate modes of transportation. A long-term capital improvement is to link the Santa Cruz River path with the Rillito River walk. This has already occurred and a celebration of the convergence is planned for the future. The goal is to create an urban loop by connecting bike paths, river walks and linear parks to form a large circle around the whole Tucson metropolitan area. This project will be completed in phases as funding is available. Various County departments are partnering to work on this project. Partial funding is from a grant to combat obesity called the Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW).

Robin Johnson created a new handout called the Home Energy Savings Checklist. The handout starts with easy, low cost ideas to make your home more energy efficient and moves up to higher cost and more complex options. Ms. Bennie will email it to EQAC members.

VII. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Thompson made a call to the audience.

Ms. Comrie also complimented Mr. Hawke on the legislative summary that is sent to PAG's Environmental Group.

Ms. Cotty and Ms. Comrie wrote an article for the Journal of Environmental Management, called "Tracking Greater Tucson's Carbon Footprint". Ms. Bennie will forward the article to EQAC.

Ms. Comrie clarified that PAG's Long Range Transportation Plan runs to the year 2040, not 2050.

A motion was made by Mr. Rowe and seconded by Dr. Witten, to go into Executive Session.

Dr. Witten made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rowe, to return to regular session.

VIII. NEXT EQAC MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next EQAC meeting and agenda will be announced.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Yockey made a motion and was seconded by Dr. Witten to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Warren Thompson, Chair

Date

Vicki Bennie, Recording Secretary