



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

Summary Minutes – March 21, 2012  
Bank of America Building, Conference Room, 7<sup>th</sup> floor  
33 N. Stone, Tucson, AZ  
1:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Mr. Warren Thompson  
Dr. Mark Witten  
Dr. Curt Lueck  
Mr. Daniel G. Rowe  
Dr. Eric Betterton  
Mr. Peter Livingston  
Mr. Jeff Yockey  
Ms. Linda Hanson  
Ms. Mónica D. Ramírez-Andreotta

Members Absent:

Mr. Ben Dorris

Others Present:

Ursula Kramer, Director, PDEQ  
Richard Grimaldi, Deputy Director, PDEQ  
Beth Gorman, Program Manager, PDEQ  
Marie Light, Principal Hydrologist, PDEQ  
Skye Siegel, Program Coordinator, PDEQ  
Vicki Bennie, Council Secretary, PDEQ  
Mead Meier, PAG  
Sherri Zendri, SRO Regional Compliance Manager, 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.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

A motion was made by Dr. Lueck, seconded by Mr. Rowe, nominating Warren Thompson for Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dr. Lueck, seconded by Mr. Rowe, nominating Dr. Witten for Vice Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2011 MINUTES**

The November, 2011 and January, 2012 EQAC meetings were cancelled.

A motion was made by Dr. Betterton and seconded by Dr. Witten, to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

V. **Pima County DEQ's Stormwater Management Program**

Marie Light, Principal Hydrologist, PDEQ, provided information regarding PDEQ's Stormwater Program's Stoppin the Droppin Campaign. Ms. Light gave an overview of the department's mission which is to identify & respond to environmental issues by providing public services:

- Air, water & soil (illegal dumping) monitoring
- Permitting and compliance inspections
- Enforcement
- Education and outreach

The Stormwater Management Program's objective is to maintain the water quality of surface water in our washes using:

- Flood control measures
- Pollution prevention

Stormwater is rain water flowing on the ground (also called runoff or surface water). Stormwater pollution occurs when runoff carries pollutants into our desert washes such as pet waste, oil and grease, trash, gasoline, and paints and solvents.

Ms. Light showed a graphic of the hydrologic cycle and water sources.

Methods of protecting stormwater include:

Public outreach

- Prevent pollution with good housekeeping practices
- Inspection of places likely to have pollutants
- Construction Sites
- Industrial Facilities
- Storm drains and drainage channels
- Reports of pollutants or suspicious looking water

Monitoring stormwater

Ms. Light talked about PDEQ's new "Stoppin the Droppin" Campaign

One myth is that pet waste makes good fertilizer. This is not true, in fact, it is toxic. In 1991, EPA deemed that pet waste is a non-point source of pollution, which puts feces in the same category as oil and toxic chemicals. A single gram of dog poop can contain 23 million fecal coli form bacterium. This bacterium has a negative effect on our water quality including monsoon and winter rains, temporary water bodies, and desert watersheds.

Feces on the ground are a public health nuisance and contain E. coli. The potential health effects of E. coli are cramps, diarrhea, intestinal illness, and urinary track and kidney infections.

Ms. Light emphasized the need for clean water because it is essential for life support and vitality (around 2 liters per day), essential for hygiene (about 35 liters per day), essential for food (about 2,825 liters per day for vegetables, fruit, grains, fish, poultry, meat), and is important for aesthetics and recreation.

**Pima County DEQ's Stormwater Management Program** (continued)

Legislation that protects the Nation's waters includes:

- Constitution of the United States
- Clean Water Act (Pollution Prevention)
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
- Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

What is the solution?

- Install pet waste stations (contains plastic bags) and garbage cans
- Scoop up the poop
- Don't litter
- Slow it down and soak it in by diverting rainwater toward plants
- Rainwater harvesting
- Practice good housekeeping by storing chemicals safely
- Apply pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers in a way that minimizes runoff
- Dispose of household hazardous waste properly or recycle
- Fix leaky vehicles
- Reduce, reuse, and recycle

Ms. Light encouraged EQAC to let her know about environmental concerns. The stormwater program also performs inspections and works with the source of the concern to resolve the issue.

**VI. Pima County Communications Program**

Beth Gorman, Program Manager, talked about PDEQ's spring 2012 upcoming events such as:

- Bike Fest ~*March 17-April 21*
- Cyclovia ~*March 18*
- Green Fest ~*April 7*
- Science Saturday ~ *April 7*
- Fiesta Grande ~ *April 14-15*
- PCC Earth Day ~ *April 18*
- Earth Day Festival ~ *April 21*
- Stand For Children ~ *June 9*

Ms. Gorman explained that PDEQ's public outreach and education program provides:

- School & Business Presentations
- Other Types of Public Outreach
  - Permitted sources
  - Air quality advisories
  - News releases
  - Website articles/info
- Coordination with Public Library (new)
- Community Events
- Educational Material Development

The next event is Bike Fest which will be held March 17 through April 21. This event meets one of the PDEQ Clean Air Program goals and began as the Annual Bike to Work Day in 1990. PDEQ and the City joined forces in 1995 and expanded the event to a Bike Week/Fest/Clean Air Days. Bike Fest is funding from the clean air grant which the department receives from ADEQ.

**Pima County Communications Program** (continued)

In 2009, the Clean Air Program funding was cut and the City Department of Transportation took over coordination and most of funding. Due to City funding cuts that have followed, the Living Streets Alliance is now coordinating the event with multiple sponsors.

The 2012 Bike Fest includes the following events:

- March 17th – Old Pueblo Grand Prix;
- March 18th – Cyclovia Tucson;
- March 24th-25th – GABA Sonoita to Bisbee Spring Bike Tour;
- March 25th – Bikes and Tykes Expo;
- March 31st – Kidical Mass Tucson;
- March 31st – Urban Bike Adventure;
- April 9th through 13th - Bike to Work Week;
- April 11th – U of A Bike 2 Work and School Day;
- April 13th – Downtown Bike to Work Celebration;
- April 13th – Walk & Roll to School Day;
- April 15th – GABA Bike Swap Meet;
- April 21st – Bike to the Zoo Day; and
- April 22nd – “El Tour de Campus” Bike Event for Preschoolers.

The Communications Program is also involved with the Third Annual Cyclovia event, the development of Educational Material Development and the new educational website, Eco Kids Corner. A new outreach is the desert dwellers nook at three of the public libraries. The nook has information such as PDEQ’s 51 Ways to Green the Earth poster and bookmark, 10 tips to fight pollution bookmark, Bike Fest handout, etc.

**VII. PDEQ STAFF REPORT**

Ms. Kramer, Director of PDEQ, reported on events occurring since the last EQAC meeting in September, 2011, within each division of PDEQ. She explained that PDEQ consists of two separate divisions: Environmental Quality Division (regulatory) and Solid Waste Management (operations for landfills and transfer stations in Pima County).

*a. Environmental Quality Division*

Rosemont Copper Company appealed the Air Quality Hearing Board decision in superior court. The judge will hear oral arguments on May 14 and make a decision. Prior to appealing the AQHB’s decision, Rosemont asked ADEQ to take delegation back for this project and issue the air quality permit. ADEQ has not made a decision on their request.

Staff is ready to begin the public comment period for the air quality permit for Brush Ceramics, now called Materion.

Other projects ready for public comment in the near future are air quality permits for the Marana Landfill and Oracle Ridge Mine.

*b. Solid Waste Management Division*

This division operates with a \$2 million dollar deficit. The Solid Waste landfills are more community service than a business.

**VIII. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Thompson made a call to the audience.

Dr. Witten stated that a geologist student from the Kansas State University is coming to Sierra Vista to investigate tungsten in the area's hot spots.

Ms. Myer stated that PAG has tracked the effectiveness of outreach events and suggested that Ms. Gorman add a couple of survey questions on PDEQ's website.

**IX. NEXT EQAC MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS**

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 16, 2011. Agenda items are:

- Solar information and presentation - Betty Stamper, DSD
- Modern Streetcar Presentation – Shellie Ginn, City DOT
- Rosemont Copper Mine Update – PDEQ staff
- Staff Report – Ursula Kramer

Agenda items mentioned for future EQAC meetings were:

Dust monitoring – would like to hear summary

Air monitoring update

Tungsten update – Dr. Witten

Stormwater – hear more in the future

Ozone standard

Water harvesting measures (in relation to low impact development)

Rainfall - (after rains) – One of Dr. Betterton's associates

Landfills – Tangerine (Al Wylie) and Marana Landfill DKL Holdings Progress (PDEQ staff)

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Livingston made a motion, seconded by Mr. Yockey, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Warren Thompson, Chair

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Date

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Vicki Bennie, Recording Secretary