



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

Summary Minutes – September 18, 2013
Bank of America Building, Conference Room, 8th floor
33 N. Stone, Tucson, AZ
1:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Mr. Daniel G. Rowe
Dr. Eric Betterton
Mr. Jeff Yockey
Mr. Peter Livingston
Ms. Linda Hanson
Ms. Denise Moreno Ramírez

Members Absent:

Mr. Warren Thompson
Dr. Mark Witten
Mr. Richard W. Murphy

Others Present:

Ursula Kramer, Director, PDEQ
Richard Grimaldi, Deputy Director, PDEQ
Vicki Bennie, Council Secretary, PDEQ
Heather Spitzer, Raytheon
Zach Guido, CLIMAS, UofA
Roxanne Linsley, ADEQ
Suzanne Cotty, PAG

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Betterton called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Dr. Betterton introduced the new EQAC member, Denise Moreno Ramírez. Ms. Ramírez explained that she works for the University of Arizona and talked briefly about her work on Superfund and environmental justice projects.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Betterton led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 17, 2013 MINUTES

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

IV. 2013 MONSOON REPORT

Mr. Zach Guido, University of Arizona Climate Assessment of the Arid Southwest (CLIMAS) Program, presented a power point presentation which is attached. Mr. Guido stated that interested parties may gain more information by visiting CLIMAS' website at www.climas.az.edu.

The group thanked Mr. Guido for his informative and organized presentation.

V. PDEQ STAFF REPORT

Ms. Kramer, Director of PDEQ, reported on events occurring since the last EQAC meeting in July 2013, within each division of PDEQ. 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

There was a nice news clip about PDEQ's environmental dump inspector, K.C. Custer. There is a link to the television segment on PDEQ's webpage.

Staff is working on an amendment to the State Implementation Plan (SIP). The amendment consists of adopting changes made at the State level into the current rules. Ms. Kramer explained the SIP process submittal to EPA, which can take several years to complete.

PDEQ proposes to revise the air quality permitting rules in the Spring to be consistent with State rules. Future changes also include an air quality fee increase package to match state fees.

PDEQ submitted a number of comments to ADEQ on Rosemont Copper's air quality permit. There was an appeal of the permit issued by ADEQ to an Administrative Law Judge. A ruling is expected by the end of the year.

Pima County purchased the Acela enterprise software to tie all permitting together for Public Works. PW Departments will be able to look at each other's permits and information. Various staff has spent the summer working with the company designing the software program. Mr. Grimaldi stated that there is a huge learning curve ahead. Phase II will include the Health Department and some other select departments.

b. Solid Waste Management Division

The County entered into a contract with Tucson Recycling and Waste Services (TRWS) to operate the County's landfills and transfer stations. TRWS has made some changes such as expanding the days and hours of operation at the Ajo Landfill. Changes to the Catalina Transfer Station include additional days and hours of operation, accepting green waste year round and accepting commercial waste.

Staff is proposing to close the Tangerine Landfill in approximately November, 2013. The new Marana Landfill will be opening around that time. The Tire Program currently being operated at the Tangerine Landfill will move back to the Ina Road Landfill. The tires are currently being picked up by CRM in Queen Creek and recycled into usable items.

VII. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Dr. Betterton made a call to the audience.

Ms. Linsley discussed ADEQ's Environmental Healthy (AEH) School Program. This self-evaluation program recognizes policies and actions taken by schools to help ensure a healthy and safe learning and teaching environment. If a school can certify that it meets at least 14 of ADEQ's 22 criteria, it will be designated as an AED School and receive an ADEQ certificate stating that the school is environmentally healthy. Ms. Linsley will forward the information to Ms. Bennie for EQAC members.

VIII. NEXT EQAC MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 20, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. Agenda items for the November meeting are:

TEP's Sustainability and Resources (includes solar and wind projects)
TIAA Solar Project

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Yockey, and seconded by Dr. Livingston, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.