



Advisory Council Minutes
January 25, 2007
Regional Health District
Environmental Health Conference Room

Members Present:

Tom Brattebo
John Hjaltalin
Peter Williams
Ray Kelleher
Chet Jahns
John Livingston
Nancy Enz Lill
Jana McDonald

Staff Present:

Bill Dameworth
Ron Edgar
Debbie Naccarato

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

1. Approval of the November 30, 2006 Minutes:

Tom Brattebo moved to approve the November 30, 2006 minutes and Chet Jahns seconded it. Minutes approved.

2. Air Monitoring – Ron Edgar:

Ron asked what direction the Advisory Council would like to go with the air monitoring equipment. There will be a settlement soon which will give SCAPCA a considerable amount of penalty money and SCAPCA is proposing to use that to upgrade the air monitoring network. The first that he would do is look at establishing more outlying PM_{2.5} continuous telemetry monitoring sites. The proposal that Ron would like to put forward is that SCAPCA upgrades the Liberty Lake site to a continuous site with telemetry and put a new site in at Deer Park and that we look at the establishing of a site on the West Plains. Ray Kelleher has had contact with the owner of property near the Medical Lake Interchange and I-90 belonging to Oran Powers and is a secured site. Ron stated that at all three of those sites SCAPCA would put in TEOMs that measure the mass of particulate matter. This is what is at the Health District and Crown Z sites. The data from that would be put on SCAPCA's web page and used in calculating the air quality index to report to the public. In addition, SCAPCA is looking at the installation of ozone, NO_x and hydrocarbon monitoring equipment. Ray Kelleher has donated some surplus ozone monitors. In addition, with ozone you need additional information that regards to NO_x and hydrocarbons. We would purchase a NO_x and a hydrocarbon analyzer. The total cost of what SCAPCA is looking at doing would probably be in the range of about \$175,000 to \$180,000.

Department of Ecology will continue to operate ozone monitors in Greenbluff and Turnbull Wildlife Refuge. SCAPCA will have one carbon monoxide at Third and Washington and continue to operate the Crown Z site with a version of every instrument available. At the Health District, we will keep the particulate monitoring going and a State operated nephelometer that is giving us correlated particulate data at Monroe and Wellesley. There is also money to buy a shelter to put an extra TEOM in at Turnbull as a PM₁₀ continuous analyzer to look at dust storms that blow into the Spokane area.

Peter Williams asked what the increase in annual costs would be to maintain these. Ron replied that right at this moment he doesn't believe that SCAPCA will have to increase its staffing. There will be some cut backs in the filter monitoring and that will free up some time. These are continuous instruments so unless they are acting up, they will only need servicing about every other week. There will be additional costs for phone lines to be run on site for certain sites and filters that will be changed on a quarterly or couple times a year basis. We're not adding any staff so the increase will be a couple thousands dollars at each site per year and that would be the highest except when parts start to wear out. SCAPCA is looking at continuous monitors at Liberty Lake, Deer Park and on the West Plains and as funds become available and as the need arises. We would like to see South Spokane County have continuous particulate monitoring. There isn't a lot down in the south part of the County and the West Plains monitor will be centralized and not in any of the urban areas, but it will probably pick up regional and larger air stagnation but may not show us that there are localized hot spots.

Bill Dameworth added that SCAPCA does not want to commit itself to this site until it spends some time doing surveillance and figuring out what the ideal spot would be with security and location, etc. Ron stated that at some point he would like to put a monitor in the Spokane Valley. Liberty Lake will cover a lot for the Valley and will show any agricultural burning impacts from Idaho that might drift in.

Nancy Enz Lill asked if SCAPCA got the grant for the wood stove program. Bill replied that it hasn't come through yet and the last SCAPCA has heard from EPA was that they were going to recommend SCAPCA for it. Bill asked for thoughts on what SCAPCA is thinking about on this expansion of the monitoring network. Should we be doing things differently or does anybody have any other input? Ray stated that he concurs with the real-time monitoring. Ron would like to continue to run a filter method correlated with all of the continuous methods so that we can maintain good correlation and it also lets us know that the equipment is behaving itself. On occasion we could locate a filter method out with some of the other continuous sites to make sure everything is operating properly.

Tom Brattebo stated that he favors a site in Airway Heights because it is changing so fast out there and there are a lot of businesses. Also one in the West Plains area would be good. Bill stated that there is siting criteria for these monitors and finding a good safe spot is important, but we also need to find a place that is representative and we may end up having to put more than one site out there. We will spend some research time finding out where sites would be beneficial. Tom asked what would be the timing in the southeast. Ron replied that the southeast

is pretty much not on the radar screen but DOE has a nephelometer in Rosalia, just south of the Spokane County line.

Chet Jahns asked if there has been any thought about the Nine Mile and Long Lake area, because it is getting pretty populated and it is kind of a valley in there. Ron replied that when SCAPCA was monitoring in the Seven Mile area, they were still running lower than the downtown and Freya and Ferry monitoring sites.

3. Other Items of Interest:

Bill Dameworth gave an update on an enforcement case. We have settled with this company, Ecology and ourselves, and a press release is coming out on Monday. This involves the incineration of hazardous waste that was inadvertently generated and so they will have to change their process so that they don't create the hazardous waste. They will owe SCAPCA about \$250,000 in penalties and the press release is set to come out on Monday. The system that this company is going to have to put in to replace the one that caused the problem is less expensive to install and operate so the company did not profit from not being in compliance. SCAPCA expects them to be fully in compliance July 1, 2007. They will be submitting a NOC to make the modifications and SCAPCA will be putting some additional air monitoring requirements in their permit other than what is in there now. Ron added that the amount cyanide released into the air was under the state air rule and there was no great risk to public health but it was improper how they were doing it and it did not meet with the rules and regulations for handling hazardous waste and that's why they are in trouble. Bill added that SCAPCA knew that they were emitting cyanide when we gave them their initial permit and we set the limit based on them being below the federal impact levels. Testing showed that they are below them but this is one of those technical requirements that if you had hazardous waste, it is different than if you have something else. There are a bunch of hoops to go through and this particular regulation that the EPA has on this, as far as we know, nobody has yet been able to comply with it or has applied for a permit to operate under these requirements. Chet asked if the company would be able to come up with that kind of money right away. Bill stated that the check will be here before July 1st. Ron added that if Spokane County ever does go non-attainment, blows the standard for ozone, a lot of this new air monitoring information will be necessary such as NO_x, hydrocarbon levels, emissions inventory, etc.

Ron asked if there is anything that the Council would like the staff to bring back to them that they would like to discuss more or have more details on. Ray asked how Baker Commodities was coming. Bill replied that except for a process upset that they've had, the last three months there have been zero odor complaints. This is the slow time for complaints but they have implemented some of the processes or improvements that we've talked about. One is operating the boiler after the plant shuts down so it continues as an afterburner to get rid of odors. We will be able to tell in the spring and summer if some of the changes are working but the plant engineer is interested in trying new things and getting them to where they are less of an impact on the community.

Chet asked what weekends are going to be for yard and garden waste in the burning areas. Ron stated that the first two weekends in April are standard now (Friday through Monday). Bill added this is the case unless the Fire District has a Delegation Agreement with SCAPCA. Ron added that SCAPCA is trying to encourage the Fire Districts to take on a delegation so that there wouldn't be the issue with the burning dates and whether or not it's a dry enough weekend or whatever. Tom asked if they would have variable dates. Ron replied they wouldn't have a variable date, most of the time they would issue an annual burning permit and they specify rules that they must follow and that there are no air quality problems. It works well in the outlying areas because it spreads it out instead of making a lot of burning in one location at one time. They would not be able to burn during high fire danger and air quality episodes. This makes the Fire Districts more responsible for the people burning in their districts. The Fire Districts with these agreements are 2, 5, 11 and 12. Bill stated that SCAPCA is in the process of trying to figure out what the other air pollution agencies are doing with enforcement of the new burning rules. On the west side, they have somebody called a Fire Marshall that heads up all the burning and coordinates everything. Right now there are three agencies with different jurisdictions of burning and it is confusing to the public who are wanting to burn, so the public is not being served very well in this area. Ron added that SCAPCA would prefer to deal with only the air quality. We would get these monitors down in these locations and look at the air quality and if air quality starts to deteriorate, we would call the Fire Districts up and tell them that they need to tell the public they can't burn today.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 a.m.

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

WILLIAM DAMEWORTH, DIRECTOR