



Advisory Council Minutes
August 30, 2007
Regional Health District
Environmental Health Conference Room

Members Present:

Tom Brattebo
Peter Williams
Ray Kelleher
John Hjaltalin
Nancy Enz-Lill
Chet Jahns

Staff Present:

Bill Dameworth
Margee Chambers
Ron Edgar
Mary McDermott

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

1. Approval of the May 24, 2007:

Ray Kelleher moved to approve the May 24, 2007 minutes and Tom Brattebo seconded it. Minutes approved.

2. Update on Compliance Assistance & Pollution Prevention Programs – Margee Chambers:

A brief history of what has been done in the past and what Spokane Clean Air is moving forward on for the future. Ten years ago a Compliance Assistant Program (CAP) was started. It was to help businesses/registered sources meet the minimum air quality requirements. During an annual inspection if they did not meet the requirements, the enforcement staff would take the time to educate them with information sheets. When Bill came on board, he looked at the CAP and decided that instead of just helping the sources meet the requirements, let's help them go above and beyond compliance and exceed the requirements to reduce pollutants further. Margee did some research on pollution prevention, compliance assistance and business assistance programs available in the United States. The research showed three core models: the white hat model is to help sources meet and go above and beyond the requirements; the grey hat model is Spokane Clean Air's AQS staff and they are there to help the sources meet the requirements, but they have enforcement capabilities; and the black hat model which is where if you don't meet the requirements, you will get a ticket. The most successful pollution prevention model is the white hat model where a staff person helps the businesses/sources, but does not have the ability to write a NOV. The white hat model can let the business know that they need to correct something and that then if they do not correct it, it will be turned over to the enforcement staff. This gives the business the chance to correct the problem and for Spokane Clean Air to educate them.

The recommendation is to look at the white hat model where we will still have our enforcement out there educating every time they do an inspection, but we will have a separate staff person who will really work with the businesses to meet the requirements and then go beyond. We will be offering a consulting program where the staff person would go out and learn what the business does, their process, etc., do some research, brainstorming and talk with the engineers and go back to the business with some possible ideas that they could use to reduce air emissions. Air emissions are Spokane Clean Air's focus for this program. A letter will be inserted into Spokane Clean Air's newsletter going out to the over 650 registered businesses in Spokane County and it promotes the Pollution Prevention Consulting Program to meet and exceed requirements. This will help businesses by looking at source reduction, pollution prevention, material substitutions, method changes and combustion efficiency improvements.

There will be a mass outreach with the CAP newsletter to see if it generates calls. If we don't get a lot of calls, we will go by sectors (i.e., dry cleaners, boilers, surface coating, etc.) and do a direct mail with follow-up calls. We will also network, research and update appropriate agency contact information so that it is available if we need to forward clients to other agencies.

Oregon has an excellent pollution prevention program and has documents that are already created that we could customize for Spokane Clean Air's program. We would also use some of Oregon's success stories that are from businesses similar to Spokane County's so that they can see what can be done, until Spokane County has some of its own success stories. The initial contact will be through the CAP newsletter and from there we would contact individuals from our registered sources with a letter explaining what Spokane Clean Air is trying to do and if they are interested, to call Spokane Clean Air. We are hoping to work with other agencies like hazardous waste, water quality, etc. to improve not only the air quality but the water and waste areas as well. The Advisory Council Members present were in favor of the pollution prevention program being created and they liked the program's outreach to help the businesses comply with the rules and the fact that Spokane Clean Air would be working with other agencies. Nancy Enz Lill made a suggestion for the head of the letter to be more captivating so that the businesses would know that it is a free service. Bill suggested making a postcard for them to fill out and then Margee could call them back. Chet Jahns suggested putting it on compliance letterhead since the businesses are already familiar with Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency. Tom Brattebo suggested adding something like "save time and money and help save the world" in the letter. There was much discussion and input for making this program appealing for the businesses and recognition of their input into reducing pollution by more than the minimal requirements in Spokane County. Margee stated that Oregon's DEQ said this program is a hard sale, but it is a good program, it can benefit Spokane County. Once the people/businesses get in, they really appreciate it. Bill added that he participated in this program when he was on the business side of things and it is a good program, it really helps and it is a good use of government resources.

3. Update on Wood Smoke Assessment Committee – Bill Dameworth:

Bill is on the wood stove assessment committee that was established pursuant to the same legislature which established our ability to set new burn ban triggers. A number of things have

been talked about: wood stove change outs, enforcement, burn ban triggers, requiring people when they sell their house to get rid of their non-complying wood stoves, etc. The group is made up of three local air agencies (Bill represents Spokane Clean Air, there is Puget Sound Clean Air and Yakima Clean Air), Realtors, Home and Hearth Products Manufactures and a City Councilman from Tacoma. The group must turn in its recommendations to the legislature by December. To do something for the budget process, Ecology needs to do it before then. We are looking to push a reasonable request for the state to help us fund change out of non-compliant wood stoves. We told the group that we probably could disperse about \$150,000 a year in grant money in the form of certificates for the general public and replacements for low income people. We will start on this in the winter with our EPA group. The realtors are opposed to the change out at the sale of a house. Bill would like to see if they would be amenable to putting in a disclosure that when they sell their house it says what the wood heating device is and what year it was installed, etc. and this would go to the potential buyer of the house. If it is a non-compliant stove, the purchaser could demand that the seller replace it. The different counties will have to adjust their programs according to what will work in their areas. The cost of the wood stove change out is approximately \$2,500 to \$3,000 and the vouchers would run approximately \$300 to \$600. There was much discussion on the wood stove program by the Advisory Council Members and staff present. Bill added that Spokane Clean Air will do media contacts in October. Vendors will also get the word out to the public about the wood stove change out for low income people and the vouchers available for the rest of the public. The Advisory Council Members present were very interested and in favor of getting this program started.

4. Review of Applications for Advisory Council Chemistry Position – Bill Dameworth:

The Advisory Council Members present and Bill were in favor of Mark Roberge being appointed by the Board for the open chemistry position on the Advisory Council.

5. Other Items of Interest:

Ray Kelleher stated that Lisa forwarded some information about the wood burning regulations and program and he went to the West Plains Chamber meeting and there were no real negative comments about it.

Chet Jahns moved to adjourn the Advisory Council meeting and Ray Kelleher seconded it. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

WILLIAM DAMEWORTH, DIRECTOR