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SPOKANE REGIONAL CLEAN AIR AGENCY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 1, 2010 9:30 a.m.
Spokane Clean Air's Conference Room
at 3104 E. Augusta Ave.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Edward Crockett
Councilmember Rose Dempsey (Chair)
Board Member Jeff Corkill
Board Member Tom Brattebo

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Dameworth, Director
Ron Edgar, Chief of Technical Services
Barbara Nelson, Finance & Personnel Admin.
Matt Holmquist, Compliance Administrator
Lisa Woodard, Public Info. Officer
Chuck Studer, Engineer
Michelle Wolkey, Legal Council
Mary McDermott, Secretary

WORK SESSION: Began at 9:30 a.m.

1. Asbestos Regulation Revisions – Matt Holmquist

Matt gave an overview of the proposed asbestos rule and fee schedule revisions. The summary of changes proposed are as follows: Clarifying the level of detail required regarding identifying the location of asbestos-containing material; clarifying that copies of the asbestos surveys must be provided to the Agency when requested; removing reference to prepayment accounts and fax notifications since owners and contractors can now file the online electronic notifications and pay with their credit card; clarify the fee waiver for demolition by structural fire training to indicate that it also applies when the notifications list both the asbestos removal and demolition; add a provision which allows owners or contractors to file annual notifications which can be used for numerous small scale projects; if asbestos is found in the course of demolition that wasn't identified in the asbestos survey, allow the owner or the owner's agent to amend the notification form for the removal of the previously unidentified asbestos; a revision so that one person doesn't have to have multiple credentials to prepare an alternate work plan and instead, allow multiple persons to develop an alternate work plan if they hold the individual credentials required; add a provision for accepting emergency notifications one working day after the emergency work commenced; and change the provision that states the Board "shall" amend the

fee schedule to more accurately recover program costs to “may” amend the fee schedule to more accurately recover program costs.

Something that has come up recently is we’re considering adding to the proposal a provision for an additional fee for extremely large projects. Currently there is a \$1,250 notification fee for any project over 5,000 square feet of asbestos removal. We don’t often see large projects like this but we have had some in the past. One came up last week for EWU to remove over 150,000 square feet of asbestos which is well over 5,000 square feet, and will probably be done over the course of three or four months. We don’t believe we will see many large projects like this but we believe we should have a provision that would help us address the cost associated with keeping an eye on something this large. We have discussed charging an extra \$250 or so for each additional 10,000 square feet over the first 10,000. This would be sent out for public comment. Does the Board concur to send this out for informal public comment and then the comments would come back to the Board in May and move on from there? The Board Members present were in favor of sending it out for informal comments.

BOARD MEETING: The board meeting was called to order at 9:41 a.m.

1. Advisory Council Report – Chet Jahns

At the last meeting we discussed mainly the air permit fees and Matt presented several alternatives for air permits. One was to leave it as is and the other was to increase it several different ways to cover some of the indirect costs. The Council believes that it would be best to leave the fees as they are for now considering the business climate right now. Eventually, a lot of the members of the Council are looking to cover all of the direct and indirect costs of the program; right now only the direct costs are covered. There was also a round table so that the Council could discuss their concerns with Spokane Clean Air staff.

2. Director’s Report for March – Bill Dameworth

We have rewritten the draft assessment of rail yard impacts on air quality and health in Spokane County to include the State Department of Health’s comments and added some information and analysis from our air toxics study completed a few years ago. A letter was prepared and sent out to BNSF in Spokane asking for comments on the study and asking them to partner with us in reducing the emissions of diesel particulate.

Considerable time was spent in March reviewing our costs and fee structures as well as fees from other clean air agencies in Washington. We are still not at full-cost recovery, but recognize that this is not a good time to be asking for a fee increase. Information on costs and fees was presented at the board retreat. Staff will be presenting a budget at the May board meeting that keeps costs to a minimum and provides for a balanced budget. One issue that has presented itself is the lack of NOC permits coming in. It appears this will continue for some time and, beginning May 1, we are putting all the engineering staff on 80% time until further notice. Engineers will have the option of conducting compliance inspections for all or part of the one day per week they are not assigned to engineering duties, it will be at the rate of compliance

staff pay not engineering wages. This will provide for more compliance inspections and also allow for more complaint investigation. This will last until the economy picks up.

3. Public Information/Education Update for February/March 2010 – Lisa Woodard

Print and electronic materials consisted of an outdoor burning brochure we produced in partnership with DNR that was printed. Over 1300 copies will be distributed to fill Fire District and DNR order requests. Spring “On the Air” newsletter was developed and an electronic version was e-mailed and uploaded to the website. The printed version will go out the first week in April. In partnership with local Fire District contacts, we have created new display cards and photos of recreational fires for a special display for the upcoming Home Show and flyers have been developed and distributed to Fire District 4 on the April 10th Chipping & Composting Day event.

Special projects consist of the spring outdoor burning season television and radio spots produced and airing in late March. Planning is underway for a compost bin giveaway promotion. The KHQ Call Center on outdoor burning is confirmed for April 8th. Final details are underway for the April 10th “Chipping and Composting Day” at Fire District 4, Station 49. Event flyers have been distributed and print ads have been placed in the April 1st Northside Voice. KREM is working on getting a chipper donated to this event and Solid Waste has donated 100 compost bins. We have drafted scripts for PSAs on recreational fires with input from our Fire District contacts. The EnviroKids Club had information at the West Valley Outdoor Learning Center’s booth at the Big Horn Show. The Club’s spring newsletter has been finalized. We are working with the County’s CTR office and local employers on the planning committee for the April “Travel Green” promotion; including a bike shop swap. Planning is underway for the June 3rd conference which is open to 7-12th graders.

Media activities consist of a news release distributed that addressed the spring residential yard and garden debris and it focuses on alternatives available. There was a brief interview related to questions about our chipping event.

4. Activity Report for March 2010 – Ron Edgar

Ron gave a brief overview of the complaint summary, enforcement action summary, burning permits issued, inspections, surveillance, asbestos, NOCs, registration and air quality issues for the month.

5. Treasurer’s Report for March 2010 – Barbara Nelson

Barbara gave a brief overview of the treasurer’s report. There were no questions from the Board Members present.

6. CONSENT AGENDA – ACTION ITEM – Approval of the March 4, 2010 Board Minutes. Approval of Vouchers for March 2010 – Numbered 4656 through 4724 totaling \$229,052.60 and March Payroll of \$119,882.11 for a Grand Total of \$348,934.71.

Board Member Brattebo moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Board Member Corkill seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Resolution 10-05 – Amendment to Regulation I, Article VI, Section 6.04 Odors and Nuisances – For Board Decision Only

Board Member Corkill moved to approve Resolution 10-05 and Board Member Brattebo seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Resolution 10-06 – Amending Board of Directors By Laws – Bill Dameworth

The change was to start the Spokane Clean Air Board meetings at 9:30 a.m. at the request of Commissioner Mager.

Mayor Crockett moved to approve Resolution 10-04 and Board Member Brattebo seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Board Concerns – There were no board concerns.

10. Public Forum – There were no public concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

The next Board Meeting will be May 6, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. – Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency office at 3104 E. Augusta Avenue.

COUNCILMEMBER ROSE DEMPSEY, CHAIR

WILLIAM DAMEWORTH, SECRETARY