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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 3, 2005 9:00 a.m.
SPOKANE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING
LOWER LEVEL HEARING ROOM

PRESENT WERE:

Mike Brewer
Michele Pope
Commissioner Todd Mielke
Matthew Pederson

STAFF:

Eric Skelton, Director
Matt Holmquist
Lisa Woodard

WORK SESSION: The work session of the board meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Presentation of 2005 Clean Air Award to Avista Corporation

Eric Skelton gave background, stating that last year was the first year we gave a Clean Air Award to a business or entity that has gone above and beyond for air quality. This year a presentation was made at the "Way To Go Awards". A year ago the award was given to Fairchild Air Force Base for innovations they have done to voluntarily reduce air pollution.

This year the award goes to Avista Corporation, for upgrades to their air pollution control system at the Northeast Combustion Turbine Facility, and for their partnership in developing two programs; to replace and repair 950 of Spokane's highest emitting motor vehicles over the past three years, through the vehicle emission repair program (VERP), and the voluntary accelerated vehicle replacement program (VAVR). The Northeast Combustion Turbine facility has been in operation since 1978. Avista upgraded the air pollution control systems on the turbines, installing oxidation catalysts that reduced carbon monoxide emissions by over 95%, and making design changes to reduce nitrogen oxide emissions by over 25%. Avista also formulated a partnership with SCAPCA, Department of Ecology, Spokane Neighborhood Action Programs and approximately 20 local auto repair shops to develop and implement the VERP and VAVR programs. These programs have significantly reduced air pollutants by providing low-income motorists that have failed the state emissions test, emission system repairs or a subsidy to have their vehicles replaced. Under the state emission check program, when an automobile fails an emission test, after the owner has spent \$150 or more on repair work, a waiver is offered regardless of whether the system is effectively repaired. Under the VERP, low-income motorists receive up to \$500 in vehicle emission system repairs. If the necessary repairs are more substantial and essentially exceed the car's value, low-income motorists can apply for a 2-1 match, to replace their vehicle with one that meets emission standards. The air quality benefits of these programs are significant including reduced levels of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides, which contributes to smog formation. Additional benefits for these programs, include

long term cost effective emission reductions, repair rates that significantly exceed the state average for vehicles that have initially failed their emissions tests, and a very significant helping hand extended to people to meet their vital transportation needs. In just over three years about 950 motor vehicles in Spokane have been repaired or replaced, resulting in about 235 tons of emissions reduced. Eric acknowledged Thomas Dempsey and Pam Kish who were in attendance. Also acknowledged were Joe Kurrus, Doug Pottratz and Hank Nelson, all of whom were significant players in the success with this project.

BOARD MEETING: The board meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

Public Concerns

There were no public concerns.

Minutes of the January 6, 2004 Board Meeting

Michele Pope moved to approve the January 6, 2005, board meeting minutes and Mike Brewer seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Information/Education Update

Lisa Woodard gave a summary of activities in January. Print materials developed included the winter issue of *On The Air* newsletter. The Clean Air Kids Club winter packet was mailed out to approximately 265 kids. A brochure on outdoor burning has been updated, which is distributed year round. Twice a year, we team up with Department of Natural Resources and hold a burning alternatives workshop event scheduled for April 9th at Fire District #4, Hwy 395 and Monroe. Residents can bring their clean green for chipping and shredding at that event. On March 2nd the Spokane Youth Environmental Conference will be held. This conference attracts between 100 and 200 students, in 7 – 12th grade, to share their science projects. In April, we will co-sponsor a Car Care Month, and will offer a free car care fair to our community. For news media, in January the Department of Ecology issued a news release on the Air Toxics Study that was launched last month in Spokane.

Activity Report for December

Eric Skelton reviewed statistics on air quality for calendar year 2004. The highest air pollutant level in 2004 for Carbon Monoxide was 4.5 ppm, exactly half of the standard. That level was registered in June, which is unusual because we normally see the high levels during the winter months. For PM₁₀ we had a high on August 2nd of 138 µg/m³ probably due to a dust storm. The standard was not exceeded, which is 150. In November, PM_{2.5} was registered at 37 µg/m³ on a 24-hr average, the standard is 65 µg/m³. Ozone, which is becoming a primary pollutant of concern, in terms of making sure that we meet the standard, was measured at 0.75 ppm in July as our highest level. The standard is .08 ppm. Our public education efforts will be more focused on finding ways for the public to help keep ozone levels down.

Eric reviewed the number of good, moderate and unhealthy days in regards to the Air Quality Index summary as December 31, 2004. The vast majority of our days in the good category were 283 days, 82 days in the moderate category and 1 day in the unhealthy for sensitive groups category. There wasn't a standards violation, however, it was a close enough to the standard under the air quality index to be registered as unhealthy for sensitive groups.

Commissioner Mielke brought up a question regarding the notice of construction applications and the new source reviews in regards to the paint booth applications. The question is are we coordinating these through the Building and Planning department, and if we are, are we in some way notifying the public when they apply for a building permit, what SCAPCA's requirements are? Commissioner Mielke wanted to ensure there was a joint effort on all departments to coordinate literature and materials to help the public understand all applicable requirements.

Voucher Approval for January \$214,352.51

Mike Brewer moved to approve the January 2005, vouchers and Michele Pope seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Income/Expense Statement for Period Ending December 2004

Eric Skelton pointed out that because of the timing of the January board meeting, this is the same income expense statement that was provided at last month's board meeting.

Resolution 05-04 – Delegation of Certain Authorities

Eric Skelton gave a brief summary of the four resolutions presented for adoption. The resolution for the delegation of certain authorities is to formalize the delegation of authority as discussed at last month's board meeting work session. The attached matrix specified what the authorities are and who they would be delegated to. Mike Brewer moved to approve Resolution 05-04 Delegation of Certain Authorities and Commissioner Mielke seconded it. Motion passed.

Resolution 05-05 – Amendment of Mutual Agreement with Department of Natural Resources

Eric Skelton stated that the reason for bringing this amendment is that we expect our two-non attainment areas to be redesignated to attainment sometime this year. Under the state laws for purposes of silvicultural burning, there is no burning in non-attainment areas. However, the law allows for exceptions for fire hazard abatement purposes. DNR and SCAPCA agreed that the non-attainment areas by virtue of population and topography would still be considered smoke sensitive areas, since a lot of burning all at once could mean significant air quality impacts. The existing DNR agreement contains provisions on how we handle silvicultural burning in smoke sensitive areas. We've added a category of former non-attainment areas to the category of smoke sensitive areas. Mike Brewer moved to approve Regulation 05-05 Amendment to Mutual Agreement with Department of Natural Resources and Commissioner Mielke seconded it. Motion passed.

Resolution 05-06 – Amendment of Debarment Certification Policy

Eric stated that this is in response to the discussion that we had at the last board meeting where we decided to simplify the process for debarment certifications for purposes of the board members. As we receive federal grants, Eric can do a web search for board members names. If there are no debarment or suspension issues, Eric can sign the certification and submit it to Department of Ecology.

Commissioner Mielke moved to approve Resolution 05-06 Amendment of Debarment Certification Policy and Mike Brewer seconded it. Motion passed.

Resolution 05-07 – Approving an MOU with Washington Health Care Authority Addressing HIPPA Compliance

Eric stated that SCAPCA is no longer under the umbrella of Spokane County for health care benefits, and we are now our own employer group for purpose of compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and its privacy rules. Washington State Health Care Authority asked us to enter into this MOU which governs how personnel information is handled and protected as private information under our new relationship. Mike Brewer moved to approve Resolution 05-07 Approving an MOU with Washington Health Care Authority Addressing HIPPA Compliance and Michele Pope seconded it. Motion passed.

Board Concerns

Mike Brewer mentioned that he had received a call from a renter regarding an asbestos issue, and after a call to Eric, it has been handled.

The next Board Meeting will be March 3, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in the lower level of the Public Works Building.

Commissioner Mielke made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

MATTHEW PEDERSON, CHAIR

ERIC SKELTON, SECRETARY