

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
BUILDING #7 – CONFERENCE ROOM  
MEETING 3-18  
December 11, 2017**

**Committee Members/(Alts) Present**

Sara Marie Baldi, Salvation Army  
Jeanne Clark, ALCOSAN  
Michael Corcoran, PPG  
Coleen Davis, USS, (ALT US Steel)  
Rachel Filippini, GASP  
Steven Hvozdoovich, Clean Water Action  
John Palmiere, Allegheny County Council  
Robert Orchowski, Hillcrest Group

**Others Present**

Zacary Bausin Penn Environmental  
Lee Ann Briggs. SBOC/EMAP  
Steve Hepler, DEP  
Brian Joos, Concerned Citizen  
Matt Mehalic AQC  
Ned Mulcahy GASP  
Thaddeus Popovich, ACCAN  
Angelo Taranto ACCAN  
Carol Wivell, Concerned Citizen

**Committee Members/ Not Present**

Dan Bricmont, (Chair), Bricmont Law  
Chip Babst, Babst, Calland (Vice Chair)  
Mark Jeffrey, US Steel  
John Baillie – GASP (ALT)  
Mick Winek – (ALT Chip Babst)

**ACHD Members Present**

Jeff Bailey  
Sandra Etzel  
Jayme Graham  
Michael Parker  
Karen M Sagel  
Ron Sugar

**1. Welcome and Call To Order**

With the consent of the committee Jayme Graham called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. and chaired the committee in the absences of both the Chair and Vice Chair.

**Action:** A quorum was present. All in attendance made their introduction.

**2. Approval of Minutes October 16, 2017**

**Action:** Moved by Rob Orchowski 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Hvozdoovich

**3. Subcommittee Reports:**

**A. Criteria Pollutant/Air Monitoring Subcommittee** – Coleen Davis reported that the Subcommittee met on November 06, 2017. The PM 2.5 FEM monitor was installed and operating in East Liberty but the power knocked out the modem and the county is working on that. Ozone, we are still attaining the 70 ppb limit. Still not obtaining the DEP limit but are close on the 3-year design value. South Fayette had 8 exceedances and one at Harrison, none at Lawrenceville. The Mon Valley Path VOC Study has not started yet although it is still in the planning stages. Kopp Glass monitoring is complete but the EPA has not released the final report. The Opal Court Dust Study is also on going. There have been quite a few dust episodes that the County is investigating. The County has installed a new SODAR on site at

Clairton. It was started today and tested for a couple hours, but actual testing is put on hold due to some construction in the area. The EPA has ruled the SO2 SIP was administratively and technically complete and accepted the SIP; the sanctions clock was turned off. PM 2.5 was continuing but the results were still being reviewed and validated. GASP talked about H2S and passed out comments that were presented to the Board of Health asking what could be done, the response will be brought to the committee. The committee is now going to meet the second Wednesday of odd months.

Next meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday January 10, 2018 at 1:30.

- B. Pollution Prevention/Education Subcommittee** – Rachel Filippini reported the subcommittee met November 16, 2017. Tony Sadar gave an update on the progress of the Air Quality website as it is folded into the County website. The P2E committee is concerned about the time it is taking to update the Air Quality page as it is their only avenue of educating the public. There was an update to the Open Burning outreach mailing. 130 packets were mailed to all the municipalities in the county, many called requesting more information and several are updating their websites to reflect the updated information shared by the P2E. If there is funding still available more mailings will be sent out. The complaint system procedure has been updated and working more efficiently. Time was taken to brainstorm ideas to work on for 2018 to educate the public to various forms of pollution and how they can help stop them.

The next will be January 18, 2017, at 1:30 PM.

- C. Regulation Subcommittee** – Robert Orchowski reported the committee did not meet. Progress update – there are a number of pending changes to Article XXI, between editorial or significant, the changes will be presented to the Subcommittee in the beginning of the new year. There are at least two sections impacted by the County voluntarily withdrawing from the Risk Management Program. There has been a change to the Sulfur Fuel regulations that was adopted by the County. Lee Ann Briggs has volunteered to be part of the Regulation Subcommittee.

There is no date set for the next meeting.

#### **4. Updates for renovation of Building 1 – Ron Sugar**

Ron Sugar provided a presentation of the plans for the updating of Building 1 of the Clack Center for use of the Air Quality department as their main office setting. Ron reviewed the plans that were presented to the committee two years ago and explained the growing need of the Air Quality department. He highlighted the renovation plans, the energy and gas savings and the green energy improvements of moving into a renovated building rather than continuing in the current building. Sara Marie asked why Building One was selected, the answer was because it was the biggest in the complex and we own it. Jeanne asked

what the plan was for renewable energy use, Ron will get back to her about that. Jayme said it was not feasible at this time to use renewable energy due to costs. Jeanne also asked about the use of gray water, Ron said again that would be an additional cost that isn't being factored in now. Various questions were discussed regarding LEED certification questions and funding questions. Rachel asked how many how many employees currently work at this building, how many can potentially work at the building, and what is the financial plan of the Air Quality Department to hire more employees? The new building may potentially hold 65 people, the Program is planning to increase when the State increases the permit fee and emissions fee structures. A business case analysis will be done prior to the hiring of any new employments. Rachel asked who was currently located in Building One. Ron explained the Food program will be relocated to the smaller Building 7 eventually, until the completion of the renovation, the Food program will have to be temporarily relocated to a rental space for approximately two years. The other program, the TB program, is being relocated permanently to another location. Rachel wanted to go on record that this is an unprecedented amount of money to spend on refurbishing this building and feels the County's Clean Air Fund should not be used to for this project. Bob added he would prefer the money to go into the Diesel Retrofit, but understands the need for the renovations to help the Air Quality function to do the work required to keep the air clean in Allegheny County. Steve expressed concern with the amount of money that is being used. Bob would like to see a projection of income for the Title V fund to see if the fund can afford the cost of this renovation.

#### **5. Review of the Clean Air Fund. – Jayme Graham**

Jayme explained that due to an ambiguity in the interpretation of Article XXI she was bringing the operational expenses of the Clean Air Fund to the Committee. Jayme first reviewed the various activities and projects that were approved by the Committee. Then she presented those items in 2016 & 2017 that were costed to the "5% operational costs" allowed in Article XXI. She apologized for not providing this information earlier, but said she will come to the Committee in February to ask the Committee's recommendation to charge some additional funds for 2017 and operational costs for 2018. She also said she would be addressing the Regulations committee regarding changes needed to this particular regulation.

#### **6. Report of the Air Quality Program – Jayme Graham**

The Sulfur in Fuel Oil regulations have been finalized. The Department has been notified it will be receiving a failure of finding for not having the PM 2.5 SIP in on time it was due October of 2017. At that time the County will be put on an 18-month sanctions clock, but Jayme has full confidence that our SIP will be submitted well before the sanctions clock hits and this will not be a problem for the department.

There was recently a Public Hearing for the renewal of the McConway & Torley permit. The department is currently culling through a few hundred comments but should have the new permit out with in a few months.

The Board of Health has requested that regulations need to be done in a package form rather than submitting one at a time. Jayme is working on putting an order to what needs addressed first and will be submitting the request to the Board of Health.

Jeanne asked if we were having a problem with “Bot” (computer generated) comments and Jim Kelley confirmed that we are receiving comments from people who were not aware they submitted comments and Jayme said we also receive form comments from some groups.

- 8. Other Business/Citizen Comments – Carol Wivell** shared the information from Red House regarding the Open Burning campaign. She expressed disappointment that only two copies were sent per mailing to municipalities; there should be a copy for each member of each municipality’s council. She believes the P2E will be sending out more copies so that all officials with decision making abilities will have copies to educate themselves with. She also shared information of a man who is a lobbyist for “green heat” but is actually about pushing wood burning through pellet stoves. Carol asked that the Health Department does not accept this man’s claims of the health benefits of wood pellet stoves. Again, she stressed her concern of wood burning of any kind in Allegheny County and the health affects it is having on the residents of this county. Karen Sagel will make copies of the material and share it with the members of this committee for their education of the subject.

Matt Mehalik questioned that the department permitted a controlled burn in Homestead on December 2, 2017. Breathe Collaborative felt it was in poor practice that the Department would permit a burn on a Saturday during a busy shopping day where there was not only a higher population of shoppers but also many stopping to watch the burn. He said the department should have also considered the inversions happening that day as well. Matt questioned the practice of how the Department approves burn permits. Jayme said she was not prepared to explain that and would get back to Matt when she had more information.

- 9. Dates of 2018 Meetings**

Jayme recommended a list of anticipated meeting days. The dates were moved by Coleen Davis and seconded Steven Hvozdoch.

The approved dates are:

February 12, April 9, June 11, August 13, October 15, and December 10<sup>th</sup> 2018

- 10. Adjournment**

The meeting concluded at 6:55 pm. Coleen M Davis moved to adjourn and Robert Orchowski seconded the motion. The next meeting is February 12, 2017 at 5:30 pm.

Draft Minutes transcribed by: Karen M Sagel

Draft Minutes approved by: Jayme Graham