

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
BUILDING #7 – CONFERENCE ROOM
MEETING – 2- 20
June 8, 2020 - 5:30 PM**

Committee Members/(Alts) Present

Chip Babst, Babst, Calland (Vice Chair)
Sara Marie Baldi, Salvation Army
Jeanne Clark, ALCOSAN
Michael Corcoran, PPG
Coleen Davis, US Steel
Rachel Filippini, GASP
Steven Hvozdoovich, Clean Water Action
Mark Jeffrey, US Steel
Robert Orchowski, Hillcrest Group
John Palmiere, Allegheny County Council
Mike Winek, alternate for Chip Babst
Coleen Davis, alternate for Mark Jeffrey

Others Present

Lee Ann Briggs, SBAP/EMAP
Stephen Hepler, PA DEP
Clara Kitongo, One Tree
Brian Joos
Isabela-Cajiao Angelelli,
Amanda Gillooly, GASP
Danielle Crumrine, One Tree
Carol Wivell

Committee Members/ Not Present

Dan Bricmont, (Chair), Bricmont Law
Richard Schwartz

ACHD Members Present

Jeff Bailey
Dr. Debra Bogen
Dean Deluca
Sandra Etzel
David Good
Jayme Graham
Jeff Bailey, Esq.
Paulette Poulet
Brandon Turley
Shaun Vozar
Jason Willis, Esq.
Karen M Sagel

At the start of the meeting Jayme announced that the meeting was being recorded on Microsoft Teams. She then introduced Dr. Bogen as the new Health Department Director and invited her to offer a few remarks. She greeted all, thanked the Committee, and shared her interest in air quality issues. Dr. Bogen's bio is on the website under the Health Department "About" tab if anyone wished to learn more about her.

1. Welcome and Call to Order

With the absence of Chair Dan Bricmont, Chip Babst called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

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

2. **Acting Chair's Remarks – Chip Babst** – No comments were made at this time.
3. **Approval of Minutes February 2020 meeting** – approved with no corrections

Action: Moved by Coleen M. Davis 2nd by Sara Marie Baldi – unanimous with abstention by Bob Orchowski as he was not at the last meeting to approve these minutes. Jeanne Clark abstained.

4. Sub-Committee Reports:

A. **Criteria Pollutant/Air Monitoring Subcommittee** – Coleen Davis – Because of the Covid 19 pandemic the sub committee has not met since the last Air Advisory meeting but will be meeting tomorrow via the Teams application tomorrow June 9th. At tomorrow's meeting they plan to discuss are reviewing the monitoring network changes and some SIP updates, a couple highlights on the SO2 SIP we received final approval and the PM 10 a conditional approval is expected soon in June.

The next meeting is June 9th at 10:30 AM via Teams

B. **Pollution Prevention and Education Subcommittee** – Rachel Filippini – The March meeting of P2E was canceled due to the Covid 19 Pandemic but we did meet by teleconference on May 21st. We spent time discussing potential Pollution Prevention Activities but given there are so many limitations to doing public and school-based education at the moment, we are quite limited in what we can do. We did talk about some suggestions such as having another municipal workshop since the first one did take a lot of time and effort that went into it and it was a very good workshop it has a low amount of participation, however we think this may be a good time to redo it and possibly have it as a virtual remote event and that may even increase the likelihood of more municipalities participating because they wouldn't have to travel. We also discussed some ideas for educating the public on the Air Quality Index and perhaps even something on citizen monitoring. The bulk of the time we spent was on a presentation by the Health Department Meteorologist Tony Sadar on looking back at the surface temperature inversion analysis. The presentation did get very technical so there was a discussion on how to make it more relatable to the general public.

The next meeting is July 16, 2020 at 1:30 PM.

C. **Regulation Subcommittee** – Bob Orchowski – Meeting for March was postponed because of the Covid 19 Pandemic there is no date set for the next meeting currently. One thing he wanted to draw everyone's attention to is the Regulations Table. Quickly highlighting things that have changed: Stage 2 control regulation - the DEP was taking their draft to the EQB last month, once that plays out then the Department will go forward with their draft. The Commercial #2 Fuel Oil Sulfur limit is being ratcheted down for 50 parts per million to 15 ppm. This was given to County Council for final

approval. Even though the agency is still finishing appeals on RACT 2, (for the 2008 ozone standard) a new RACT 3 plan (for the 2012 ozone standard) will be needed as soon as the State Regulation is final.

The next meeting is unknown at this time.

5. **Air Quality 2019** – Shaun Vozar – Shaun gave a quick summary of 2019 PM_{2.5} and SO₂. For PM_{2.5}, The annual standards a 3-year average of 12.0 ug/m³; we are presently out of attainment at Liberty, at 12.4 ug/m³, but attainment all sites elsewhere. On the annual standard we are meeting the 35 ug/m³ standard (3-year average), even with the aftermath of the USS Clairton fire and some temperature anomalies.

For SO₂ we had 4 exceedance days of the one-hour standard at Liberty. At North Braddock there were 2 exceedances. We place two additional monitors following the USS Clairton fire, but there were no exceedances at those sites. Liberty remains the only site above the standard.

Rachel asked if the aftermath of the fire and the fog event would hurt our SIP plans for attainment. Shaun feels that we will be able to make the proposed attainment date. Rachel asked for an update of the hydrogen sulfide readings. Shaun offered to make a future presentation, but the data is in the summary report on the network.

- 6.. **Air Monitoring Network Review and Changes** – David Good –

David Good introduced himself as the new manager of the air monitoring section and proceeded to give a presentation summarizing the 2021 Annual Network Plan. While the ANP was currently out for public comment and he would take questions, no formal responses to comments would be given during or after the presentation. He then proceeded to explain the procedures taken and conclusions drawn during the review, including comparing the network to other air agencies and utilizing the findings of the Five-Year Annual Network Review (also due July 1st, 2020). Next he went over what changes occurred over the past year and what changes are proposed for the network going into 2021. Lastly it was stated that the final draft along with responses to public comments will be submitted by July 1st.

7. **Clean Air Fund Requests**

Before Brendan began, Jeanne inquired of the status of the new process, and whether it was followed for this request. Jayme responded that this is one of the three that were submitted before the work group began, and we said at the time that they would be processed under the previous methods. Jeanne was dissatisfied with her answer; Bob added his dismay. He suggested that this proposal be funded at half the requested amount, until the new review was done.

One Tree Per Child (\$99,995)– tabled at December Meeting. Brendan gave a summary of the proposal. Tree Pittsburgh’s One Tree Per Child will seek to plant 1,250 trees in partnership with five school districts: Bethel Park, McKeesport, Woodland Hills, West Mifflin, and South Fayette. In doing so, it will engage 1,000 children in tree planting and educational programming and develop customized tree care plans for each of 20 schools across the five districts. This will include comprehensive tree care workshops with the cooperation of schools’ grounds and facilities teams.” Danielle Crumrine added that One Tree received a fund also from the Heinze foundation to expand this program to all schools, so they’ve hired Clara Kitongo to manage the program.

Jeanne asked how the application would be different if it had followed the new Clean Air Fund process. Jayme responded that it would not be very different. She stated that there would be a clearer message that trees are to be placed in locations that would best benefit air quality – near roads (to separate traffic emissions from persons), providing shade (to limit ground-level ozone) and so forth. In answer to a question from Chip, One Tree will be working with each school district every year. John Palmiere offered assistance with any future park installations. To answer a question of Jeanne’s Avonworth school was the first school in the program, so South Fayette School District is included, even though it is not an environmental justice area.

. Steve Hvozdoch asked how this project fits in with the other two projects to come. Jayme responded that this is a school project; the others are community projects. John supports the project for getting the children involved.

Mark Jeffrey proposed approval of the request, seconded by John Palmiere. The discussion returned to Bob’s previous amendment proposal to fund half the request, to allow for time to review the success of the project. It was seconded by Jeanne. With a vote of 2 to 7, the amendment was defeated. The full proposal passed 8 to 1.

Steve asked on the status of the Clean Air Fund work group recommendations. Jayme responded that they are to be wrapped up soon, and the tow remining proposals will be reviewed based on those recommendations. Rachel asked if the procedures would be followed for all proposals. Jayme said it would for all requests outside the Department. Rachel responded, and echoed by Jeanne for all Clean Air Funds should follow the same procedures.

Action: Passed with a vote of 8 to 1.

8. **Report of the Air Quality Program** – Jayme Graham. A lot of time has been spent on Covid-19. Not so much directly involved as other groups, but we assisted in contact tracing and logistics for testing. Most efforts were making arrangements and technology changes to allow for work to be done at home. Very little work slowed, though we held up actions requiring public hearings for a while. We are trying to fill some open positions, though most jobs are frozen at this time.

9. Other Business/Citizen Comments – No comments or other business

10. Date of Next Meeting and Adjournment

The meeting concluded at 07:15 pm

The next meeting is August 10th at 5:30 pm. (Editor's Note: This meeting was later changes to August 24.)

Draft Minutes transcribed by: Karen M Sagel

Draft Minutes approved by: Jayme Graham

*All power points and handouts available upon request.