

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
BUILDING #7 – CONFERENCE ROOM
MEETING – 4-21
August 9, 2021 - 5:30 PM**

Committee Members/(Alts) Present

Dan Bricmont, (Chair), Bricmont Law
Chip Babst, Babst, Calland (Vice Chair)
Mary Ann Bucci, Port Commission
Jeanne Clark, ALCOSAN
Rachel Filippini, GASP
Steven Hvozdoovich, Clean Water Action
Mark Jeffrey, US Steel
John Palmiere
Robert Orchowski, Hillcrest Group

Others Present

Lee Ann Briggs, SBAC/EMAP
Coleen Davis, US Steel
Amanda Gillooly, GASP
Steve Hepler, DEP
Brain Joos, Citizen
Matt Mehalik, Breathe Project
Ned Mulcahy, GASP
Carol Wivell, Citizen
Ken Zapinski, PGH Works Together
Branden * Unknown

Committee Members/ Not Present

Sara Marie Baldi, Salvation Army
Michael Corcoran, PPG
Richard Schwartz
Anna Siefken

ACHD Members Present

Jeff Bailey
Patrick Dowd
Aja Ellis
Sandra Etzel
David Good
Jayme Graham
Tom Lattner
Vijyalakshmi Patel
Karen M Sagel

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Dan Bricmont called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

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

2. Chair's Remarks – Dan Bricmont – Dan introduced Mary Ann Bucci and Anna Siefken as new members of the Air Advisory Committee

3. Approval of Minutes February 8, 2021 meeting – approved with no changes.

Action: Moved by John Palmiere 2nd by Steven Hvozdoovich – unanimous

4. Sub Committee Reports:

A. Criteria Pollutant/Air Monitoring Sub-Committee – Coleen Davis reported that the sub-committee met August 3, 2021. Site access has been steady. CO monitor at North Braddock is operational but does not have received the high calibration gas yet. Finishing PM2.5/10 analyzer at NB; installed successfully and is passing QA/QC; special purpose monitor until get enough data (FRM is 1 in 3); will used for AQI. Swissvale metals study is done June; the County expects to have that report in the fall. Portable H2S are done with field testing; next step is to put in field. Annual network plan is out for public comment. PM2.5 liberty 2 days of high 24- county-wide but not official – 7/5 from fireworks; 7/20 from wildfires; will submit for exceptional event if going to exceed NAAQS. PM10 limited maintenance plan was submitted to EPA July 20. EPA considering a “clean data determination” for PM2.5.

The next meeting is October 5, 2021 at 10:30 AM

B. Pollution Prevention and Education Sub-Committee – Rachel Filippini – Met August 5th, 2021 the bulk of the meeting was really spent discussing various projects that are ongoing. One thing discussed was that the dashboard was back up with the AQI being displayed but additional information like the Episode Plan and the visuals around that will hopefully be on the website at some point. The Health Department would entertain suggestions for improving that. The Department announced a new Environmental Communications Specialist will be coming onstaff shortly. Many of the project that the P2E works on may now fall in the prevue of this new position. The AQ Ambassador Program was discussed, the Department received 10 proposals and is working on drafting Letters of Agreement for 9 of the different organizations that applied. The ongoing issue of odors and how they are addressed was talked about. There are a number of ways citizens can contact the Department and we need to find a way for everyone involved to give and get the right information. Pollution Prevention Seminars for the municipalities was discussed as the next project for the P2E to work on. Increasing membership and working with Cancer Free Economy Network. Rachel also announced she will be leaving GASP this fall and will be resigning as Chair of the P2E Subcommittee.

The next meeting is September 16, 2021 at 1:30 PM

C. Regulation Sub-Committee – Bob Orchowski – A virtual meeting on July 20, 2021 and had a very high level of attendance. Bob reviewed the Regulations in Progress Table. Tom Lattner presented the permit notification regulation to be discussed tonight.

The next meeting is September 25, 2021 at 1:30 PM

5. **Regulations: Permit Notification regulation changes – draft for public comment** – Tom Lattner reviewed the changes being made to Article XXI. Due to the decline of printed newspapers, The Department will now be posting public notices of upcoming announcements to the website instead. There will be updates for the EPA’s new petition rules, the incorporation by reference were moved to one section, and the nomenclature for our Bureau of Environmental Health

Request for Recommendation to take it to the Board of Health to put out for Public Comment.

Action: Motion to recommend to the Board of Health for Public Comment – Motioned by Jeanne Clark – Seconded by John Palmiere.

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous to recommend to BOH

- 6.. **Canadian Fires and High PM-2.5 on July 20, 2021** – Aja Ellis gave a presentation regarding the recent wildfires and how they affected our area and the correlation to the exceedances in our air quality during that time.
7. **Clean Air Fund Updates** – Jayme Graham reviewed the updates regarding the Clean Air Fund Guidebook and thanked the committee members who helped contribute their time to working on it.
8. **Report if the Air Program** – Jayme Graham gave an update on the Air Quality Program activities. The Air Quality Ambassadors Program had 10 applicants; one has been rejected because the purposed activities were not within the scope of the program. The letters of agreements are being drafted and will be sent out shortly. A second round of requests will be offered to cover the areas that were not covered in the first round of request.

An additional Coke Oven Inspector has been hired and Jim Kelly has resigned, if anyone knows of anyone for the position of Deputy Director please let us know. The new communication specialist should be on board in the next couple weeks and they will be helping with more outreach and education.

9. **Other Business** – Carol Wivell requested that the committee considers canopy maintenance for the removal of dead trees and invasive vines which contributes to Climate Change. Carol also expressed displeasure with the termination of minutes for the Sub-Committees.

10. **Date of Next Meeting and Adjournment October 18, 2021 at 5:30 PM**

Action: Moved to adjournment by Chip Babst, 2nd by John Palmiere – Unanimous

Draft Minutes transcribed by Karen M Sagel

Draft Minutes approved by Jayme Graham

*All power points and handouts available upon request.