

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
BUILDING #7 – CONFERENCE ROOM
April 11, 2022 - 5:30 PM**

Committee Members Present

Dan Bricmont, (Chair), Bricmont Law
Chip Babst, Babst, Calland (Vice Chair)
Sara Marie Baldi, Salvation Army
Anna Batista, High Street Consulting
Steven Hvozdoch, Clean Water Action
Mark Jeffrey, US Steel
Courtney Maronich Vita, Friends of the
Riverfront

Participants Present

Lee Ann Briggs, SBAC/EMAP
Patrick Campbell, GASP
Michael Contestabile, Imperial Landfill
Coleen Davis, US Steel
Lisa Fleming, Citizen
Amanda Gillooly, GASP
Christopher Hardin, US Steel
David Hacker, US Steel
Steven Hepler, DEP
Anna Hoffman, CMU Create Lab
Brian Joos, Citizen
Matthew Mehalik, CMU Breath Project
Ned Mulcahy, GASP
Brett Tunno, US Steel
Jay Ting Walker, Clean Air Council
Carol Wivell, Citizen
Tishie Woodwell, USS

Committee Members Not Present

Mary Ann Bucci, Port Commission
Jeanne Clark, ALCOSAN
Michael Corcoran, PPG
Rachel Filippini, GASP
Robert Orchowski, Hillcrest Group
John Palmiere, Allegheny County Council
Anna Siefken, CMU

ACHD Staff Present

Dr. Debra Bogen, Director ACHD
Patrick Dowd, COO ACHD
David Good, ACHD
Jayme Graham, ACHD
Sandy Fischer, ACHD
Tom Lattner, ACHD
Jason Maranche, ACHD
Karen M Sagel, ACHD

1. Welcome and Call to Order

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

A quorum was present.

2. Chair's Remarks

Mr. Bricmont announced Jayme Graham's retirement and thanked her for her years of service.

3. Approval of Minutes Revised October 18, 2021, and February 7, 2022, meetings:

The minutes for the meeting of October 18, 2021 were tabled again in the February meeting, the corrected minutes were moved from the table and brought forth for approval.

Action: Chip Babst moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2021 meeting and Sara Marie Baldi seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Action: Chip Babst moved to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2022 meeting and Mark Jeffery seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

4. Sub Committee Reports

a. Criteria Pollutant/Air Monitoring Subcommittee:

The subcommittee met on April 5, 2022. – Coleen Davis reported that the new trailer at Liberty has been installed and that the Air Quality program expects to move the monitors in May. The continuous PM 2.5 and CO monitors at North Braddock have been installed and the data looked good.

The Air Quality program received \$289,000 in American Rescue Plan funding for improvements to equipment and for installing four new PM 2.5 monitors, three SO₂ and CO monitors, some dense calibrators, and an NO₂ analyzer.

The EPA has approved the 2022 Network Monitoring plan which is available online. The 2023 Network Plan will be going out for public comment in early May.

Also discussed was the County plans to move the monitors from Lawrenceville to the Northside.

There was a PM 2.5 exceedance on March 15, 2022. The FRM Data is not yet available. There was a SO₂ hourly exceedance also on the same day. The last SO₂ exceedance at Liberty was three years ago.

ACHD is requesting certification of last year's PM 2.5 data, the year was in attainment. With the 2018 – 2021 design values, the EPA has proposed a clean data determination that was published final on March 16, 2022 with an effective date for April 15, 2022 with the 2012 Standard. The full county is in attainment for all three PM 2.5 standards and will be taking steps to request redesignation. Also discussed was a possible PM 2.5 Standard change, the EPA is reconsidering that standard.

The group discussed the impact of possible changes to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) on the Episodic Rule and the rule would not be impacted if the PM 2.5 NAAQS changes.

The next meeting is scheduled to be June 7, 2022.

b. Pollution Prevention and Education Subcommittee:

The subcommittee met on March 17, 2022. Mark Jeffrey reviewed the Episode Rule and responded to questions received from citizens. She also discussed the similarities and differences between the Air Quality Index values found on the ACHD Dashboard and the Air Now website.

The group also discussed the new monitors being installed in Braddock and Clairton site locations as well as the Air Quality Ambassador Program. The City of Duquesne and GASP have joined the Air Ambassador Program.

The next meeting is scheduled to be May 19, 2022.

c. Regulation Subcommittee:

The subcommittee met on March 15, 2022. Tom Lattner gave an update on the Regulations Table and reviewed the information that was shared with the members.

The next meeting is scheduled to be May 17, 2022.

5. Regulations: Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

Tom Lattner presented the proposed revisions to Article XXI for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills asking for a recommendation to go to public comment.

Action: Chip Babst moved to recommend the Board of Health send the proposed revisions to the public for comment. Sara Marie Baldi seconded the motion. The committee approved the motion unanimously.

6. Episode Plan Update

Episode Plan:

David Good explained the March 15th exceedance. Committee members discussed various aspects related to the communications surrounding the episode.

7. EPA's announced reconsideration of the particulate standard and expected SIP Schedule

Jason Maranche gave an update on the Reconsideration of the Standards and there were no questions or comments.

8. Clean Air Fund

Jayne Graham gave a quick overview of the Clean Air Fund. She turned over the presentation to Patrick Dowd, who shared an overview of the ACHD and Air Quality Program's emerging plans for the utilization of these resources. Mr. Dowd thanked the members of the committee who worked to improve process and explained this presentation built on that work. The ACHD and Air Quality Program hope to develop a more specific plan for the utilization of the funds, including increasing the amount of funding available to the Air Quality Program.

Following this, Ms. Graham announced that there were three requests for Clean Air Funds.

The first request involved the production of the Einstein Szilard refrigerator. Ms. Graham informed the committee that the ACHD Air Quality Program did not recommend support this request. The committee discussed the request.

Action: Chip Babst moved to accept the recommendation of the ACHD Air Quality Program and recommend that the Board of Health not support this request. Dan Bricmont seconded the motion. The committee approved the motion unanimously.

The second request was from US Steel to support the acquisition and replacement of switcher locomotives at the USS Clairton plant. Ms. Graham informed the committee that the ACHD Air Quality Program did not recommend support for this request.

The committee members discussed the process by which the ACHD prepared requests for disbursement.

Action: Mark Jeffery moved to table the request. Chip Babst seconded the motion. The committee approved the motion unanimously.

Mr. Dowd shared the third request, this one for a planning grant, led by ACHD in partnership with three local universities, to study the health effects of PM2.5, SO2 and H2S in Allegheny County. The ACHD Air Quality Program recommended that the committee recommend this request to the Board of Health. Members discussed whether or not such a request should be put through a "request for proposal" process.

Action: Steven Hvozdoch moved to recommend this request for approval by the Board of Health in an amount not to exceed \$30,000. Courtney Maronich Vita seconded the motion. Chip Babst abstained. Dan Bricmont, Anna Batista, Steven Hvozdoch, Courtney Maronich Vita in favor of the motion; Sara Marie Baldi, Mark Jeffery voted against the motion. The motion passed 4-2-1.

9. Report of the Air Program

Jayne Graham let the committee know that the Cheswick Power Plant closed as of April 1, 2022. She informed the committee that the Air Quality Program will be producing an air quality report for the general public. It should be available this summer. Ms. Graham reviewed the results from the Pittsburgh Science and Engineering Fair that was held the end of March and was supported in part by the Clean Air Fund. Jayme also explained that because she is leaving all committee meetings and subcommittees meetings will be rescheduled through a different TEAMS link because as she retires so does her TEAMS account and will cancel all the previously scheduled meetings. Look for new meeting links to come.

10. Other Business/Citizen Comments

There were no comments.

11. Date of Next Meeting and Adjournment

Action: Sara Marie Baldi moved to adjourn, and everyone seconded the motion. The meeting concluded at 7:54 PM.

Next Meeting: June 13, 2022 at 5:30 PM