

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
BUILDING #7 – CONFERENCE ROOM
April 10, 2023 - 5:30 PM**

Committee Members/(Alts) Present

Dan Bricmont, (Chair), Bricmont Law (TEAMS)
Sara Marie Baldi, Salvation Army (TEAMS)
Chip Babst, (Vice Chair), Babst, Calland (TEAMS)
Anna Batista, High Street Consulting
Jeanne Clark, ALCOSAN
Steven Hvozdoch, Clean Water Action
Mark Jeffery, US Steel
Courtney Maronich Vita, Friends of the Riverfront
Robert Orchowski, Hillcrest Group (TEAMS)
John Palmiere, Allegheny County Council
Anna Siefken, Department of Energy (TEAMS)
Jill Vovaris, PPG

Committee Members/ Not Present

Mary Ann Bucci, Port Commission
Michael Corcoran, PPG

Others Present

Lee Ann Briggs, SBAC/EMAP
Coleen Davis, US Steel (TEAMS)
Annie Fox, Clean Air Council (TEAMS)
Amanda Gillooly, GASP (TEAMS)
Marty Hochhauser, Citizen
Chris Hardin, US Steel (TEAMS)
Steven Hepler, DEP (TEAMS)
Brian Joos, Citizen (TEAMS)
Matthew Mehalik, Breath Project (TEAMS)
Ned Mulcahy, GASP (TEAMS)
Debra Smit, Breath Project (TEAMS)
Brett Tunno, US Steel (TEAMS)
Carol Wivell, Citizen (TEAMS)
Tishie Woodwell, US Steel (TEAMS)

ACHD Members Present

Sandy Fischer, ACHD
Tom Lattner, ACHD
Jason Maranche, ACHD
Geoffrey Rabinowitz, ACHD
Karen M Sagel, ACHD
Brendan Turley, ACHD

1. Welcome and Call to Order

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

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

- 2. Chair's Remarks** – Chair Bricmont gave recognition to Rachele Filippini for her contribution to the Air Advisory Committee. He also gave clarification on public comment and the Sunshine Law. Additionally, the Chair provided an update regarding the procedures for the sub-committees and suggested that be an item on a future agenda.

3. Vote for Committee Officers 2023 – Dan Bricmont

Mr. Orchowski nominated Dan Bricmont for Chair. Council Member Palmiere seconded the motion which the committee unanimously approved.

Mr. Bricmont nominated Chip Babst for Vice Chair and Ms. Clark seconded the nomination. The members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

4. **Approval of Minutes December 12, 2022, meeting:**

Action: Mr. Orchowski moved to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2022 meeting and Council Member Palmiere seconded the motion. Chair Bricmont, Mr. Babst, Ms. Batista, Ms. Clark, Mr. Hvozdoch, Mr. Jeffery, Ms. Maronich Vita, Mr. Orchowski, Council Member Palmiere voted no, Ms. Marie Baldi voted yes. The motion failed. Dr. Rabinowitz requested the committee members put specific requests and suggestions into writing and email them to the Air Quality program secretary or himself by April 14, 2023.

Approval of Minutes February 13, 2023, meeting:

Action: Mr. Orchowski moved to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2023 meeting and Council Member Palmiere seconded the motion. The motion was withdrawn after further discussion of changes required for approval. Without a motion, a vote was unanimously passed to defer approval of the February minutes until review of changes at the June 12, 2023 meeting. Dr. Rabinowitz requested the committee members put specific requests and suggestions into writing and email them to the Air Quality program secretary or himself by April 14, 2023.

Approval of Minutes March 13, 2023, meeting:

Action: Ms. Clark moved to send the minutes of the March 13, 2023 back to the Air Quality Program for revision. Dr. Rabinowitz requested the committee members put specific requests and suggestions into writing and email them to the Air Quality program secretary or himself by April 14, 2023.

5. **Sub Committee Reports:**

- A. **Criteria Pollutant/Air Monitoring Subcommittee** - Ms. Davis reported that the subcommittee did not meet recently as there was nothing needing attention. No new meetings are scheduled at this time.
- B. **Pollution Prevention and Education Subcommittee** - Mark Jeffery reported that the subcommittee did not meet recently as there was nothing needing attention. No new meetings are scheduled at this time.
- C. **Regulation Subcommittee** - Bob Orchowski reported that the subcommittee did not meet recently as there was nothing needing attention, Mr. Orchowski did review the regulations in progress and upcoming hearings. The next meeting will be announced at a later date.

6. **Deputy Director / Program Update:**

Deputy Director Rabinowitz – announced that the ACHD had been selected by the US EPA for a 2022 Targeted Air Shed Grant of \$10,000,000 for replacement of multiple diesel buses with electric buses for the Pittsburgh Regional Transit Authority. The ACHD was not selected for a second grant for \$10,000,000 for municipal replacement of vehicles, equipment, and supporting infrastructure within the Mon Valley communities. The request for Public Notice for the Amendment for Article XXI was approved by the Board of Health and is out in Public Comment, the Public Hearing is scheduled for May 9 and the public comment period ends on May 15. The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) is an EPA initiative that came out in March that will focus on greenhouse gas reduction. It is a two-phase project that starts with a \$1,000,000 planning phase. The multi-jurisdictional team for this grant will be led by the Southwest Pennsylvania Commission. EPA has not released their full criteria for the implementation part of the grant process, but this is a great opportunity for millions of dollars to come to this area to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Jason Maranche – Because of the Clean Air Fund revision still being in public comment the discussion of the SO₂ SIP/redesignation is going to be held off until next meeting. Jason did give a brief overview of the progress made to date.

7. **Clean Air Fund Project Proposal Update:** Deputy Director Rabinowitz reviewed two projects for which the Air Quality program plans to seek applications for and eventual funding from the Clean Air Fund. Dr. Rabinowitz provided a brief overview of the two projects. The first project will support the electrification of municipal vehicles, equipment, and supporting infrastructure for municipalities listed in the Mon Valley Episode. The second project focuses on replacing tree canopy and will be open to municipalities and organizations across the county. The program anticipates receiving proposals for projects which taken together could exceed \$2 million. He reviewed the proposed timeline. The committee discussed the ideas and how applications would be reviewed. The committee asked for an accounting of the use of funds.

8. **Other Business / Citizen Comments:**

Chair Bricmont – As mentioned by Dr. Rabinowitz, the next meeting should include a discussion about expanding the Committee's officers to include a secretary whose primary role would be to make roll calls and record votes.

Brian Joos – Expressed the need for citizen comments to be enumerated in the meeting minutes and public record.

Carol Wivell – Thanked members of the committee for their support of the Mon Valley Area and would like to see an emphasis on canopy maintenance and helping citizens remove decaying trees.

Steve Hvozdovich – After a very brief discussion of nominating a secretary from

within the Air Advisory Committee, it was agreed to add it as a discussion point on a future agenda.

9. Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

Action: Chair Bricmont moved to adjourn the meeting; all committee members present seconded the motion. The committee approved it unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM. The next meeting is June 12, 2023, at 5:30 PM.