

**The Minutes of the  
Air Improvement Resources Executive/Advisory Committee Meeting  
Alamo Area Council of Governments  
AACOG Board Room, 8700 Tesoro Drive, San Antonio  
Wednesday, January 23, 2002, 9:00**

**Executive Members Present**

Mayor Patrick Heath, Chair, City of Boerne  
Commissioner Jay Millikin, Vice-Chair Comal Co.  
Walter Ague for Councilwoman Bonnie Conner  
Councilman Gene Uptain, Greater Bexar CCC  
Kathy Contreras, City of Seguin  
Judge James Sagebiel, Guadalupe Co.

**Advisory Members Present**

Julie Klumpyan, Valero  
Dan Feliz for Mark Brown, Zachary Co.  
Chris Treutler, USAA  
Bill England, Neighborhood Asso.  
Ken Bercaw, New Braunfels C of C  
David Splitek, Lackland ISD  
Lance Freeman, VIA  
David Splitek, Lackland ISD

**Guests Present**

Scott Ericksen, MPO  
Jeanne Geiger, MPO  
David Bernal, MPO  
Renee Green, Bexar Co.  
Susan Stuver, COSA  
David Martinez, VIA  
Kate Williams, TNRCC  
Matthew Warren, COSA Council District 9  
Charissa Barnes, Official Inspection Station  
Mike Magee, TNRCC

**Staff Present**

Al Notzon, AACOG Exec. Dir.  
Dean Danos, Deputy Dir.  
Peter Bella  
Steven Smeltzer  
Chris Langston  
Brenda Williams  
Dorothy Birch  
John Quebe  
Berti Vaughan

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**I. Roll Call**

Roll call was conducted by Dean Danos. Subsequently, Mayor Heath called the meeting to order.

**II. Citizens to be Heard**

Mayor Heath asked if there were any citizens to be heard on any item of consequence or concern germane to the meeting. There were none.

**III. Minutes**

Mayor Heath asked the committee to review the minutes. Commissioner Millikin moved to approve the minutes. Lance Freeman seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

**IV. Public Education Report**

Dorothy Birch reported that the media air quality packages that the committee had approved in December were mailed to fifty-five media representatives throughout the Metropolitan Statistical Area. She pointed out that several stations had already responded positively to the information and would be broadcasting the information during the ozone season. She reminded the committee that she would be scheduling media visits involving members of the executive committee and asked interested members to let her know when they would be available to make the visits.

Next, she reported on the Ozone Season Kick-Off Event. The ozone kick-off event is scheduled for Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. Currently, the Public Education Committee is considering several locations to hold the event. Sites under consideration include the CPS south side Service Center located on Southwest Military Dr., the Blossom Athletic Center, and the Bandera and 410 VIA Park and Ride. She explained that priority had been placed on the Blossom Athletic Facility because the location is well known; however, each location is being considered in case availability and negotiations are a problem.

Concerning the Remote Sensing Event, Ms. Birch told the committee that she had sent out over 300 requests for donations. AACOG's Air Quality Program had committed \$5,000 and several other agencies and businesses had expressed interest in assisting as well.

Ms. Birch also reported on the Homeowner Efficiency Workshop scheduled for Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 4 p.m. at the new Loew's store on Callaghan and 410. She invited everyone to attend.

Vice-Chairman Millikin stated that he had initiated a letter that the New Braunfels Chamber was sending out to their membership asking for \$5000 to support the Remote Sensing program. Ms. Birch was asked if radio air spots were going to be used for some of the events. She replied that all events were being covered through the media including live remote events on each event. Vice-Chair Millikin asked if technical help was going to be available to help inform the people who attended the events. Ms. Birch said that she was going to have more people involved and that a flyer was going to be available explaining air quality in a simple presentation.

#### **V. A. Clean Air Plan Report**

Mr. Bella reported that the 03Flex Plan (or Clean Air Plan) was ready to send to member governments for a final nod of approval. Mr. Bella provided an update on the Clean Air Plan. He discussed the need for the plan and its contingency measures that provide flexibility in the event the San Antonio region is declared non-attainment under the eight-hour ozone NAAQS.

Mr. Bella presented a timeline to obtain approval from the involved member governments. According to the proposed timeline, during January and February the 03Flex Plan is to be reviewed and the Chamber of Commerce initiative presented to the local chambers, with the approved recommendation of the committee. In February, the Clean Air Plan will be sent to the local governments. In May, meetings will be scheduled with TNRCC and EPA for reviewing the plan. By late spring 2002 everyone would be on board with the plan. The Ozone season begins on April 1<sup>st</sup>, and by the end of the year, we would hope to have the 2007 photochemical model in place.

Renee Green stated that the City of San Antonio (COSA) needed to be the cornerstone in signing the document and that other local governments would follow. She would recommend during the Technical Committee meeting that the COSA Council agenda timeline be taken into consideration. Walter Ague replied that Councilwoman Conner would be the primary contact for putting the item on the agenda as she chairs the most pertinent committee. Chairman Heath replied that it was time for the approval process to take place after three years and that every effort was going to be made to adhere to it. Judge Sagebiel asked if, at the local level, there was opposition from local experts who wanted to change the document if that was permissible. Chairman Heath replied no. The agreement was such that it either needed to be agreed to or not. Tampering would not allow the document

to fulfill its intent. He reminded everyone that it had taken three years to refine the document. Discussion was held on misinformation that was being conveyed as a result of enforcement from within non-attainment areas.

#### **V. B. Chamber of Commerce Initiative**

Mr. Bella gave a background report on the origins of the initiative. He explained that the idea began in Austin over a year ago. The idea being that the Chamber of Commerce provides strong leadership and provides a goal for a ten percent reduction in Austin's commuter emissions. The Chamber maintains the database created by filling out the emissions profile tool. Each participating company receives an emission spreadsheet, which is an indicator of how much the company's contributing to air emissions. Mr. Bella used a handout to explain the emissions profile that, when completed by the businesses volunteering into the program, provided a baseline profile for each company. That baseline profile shows how to reduce emissions by ten percent and provides a memorandum of agreement for the company to commit to reduce emissions.

The Air Technical Committee agreed to recommend the idea to the Air Executive Committee and to adapt the program for San Antonio. Ms. Green explained that if approved, this effort would be a voluntary measure and could be used as a control strategy in the 03Flex Plan. Mr. Magee with TNRCC pointed out that the program provided a variety of options for the companies to use in their efforts to reduce emissions. Vice Chairman Millikin motioned for the committee to accept the initiative. Dr. Splitsek seconded the motion. Chairman Heath reminded the committee that the motion endorses and approves the chamber of commerce initiative. He suggested that the issue of including it in the Clean Air Plan would be part of the motion. The initiative would be in the amended memorandum of agreement in February because of the way the motion was worded on the agenda. It was agreed that all local Chamber of Commerce organizations would be approached. The motion passed.

#### **VI. A. Technical Reports**

Mr. Smeltzer presented information on the landfill gas emissions plant by comparing the emissions from power plants that generate power from landfill gas and landfills that flare the gas. Using a handout he explained that it was better to burn methane to produce electrical power rather than flaring it because flaring increased VOC emissions.

#### **VI. B. Status of the Photochemical Modeling Episode**

Mr. Smeltzer reported that Environ had completed a draft emission inventory report, meteorological report and a draft final report for the 1999 September modeling episode. The reports will be provided to the committee during next month's meeting for their consideration. Currently, the Air Tech committee is reviewing the information and the model is being loaded onto the computers at AACOG. It is much larger than anticipated. Scheduled training for staff is being set. Environ is providing two final runs.

#### **VI. C. Ozone Monitor Placement, Moving CAMS58, Adding Sulfur Dioxide Monitor**

Mr. Bella reported that during the last meeting the committee approved a request to TNRCC that the CAMS 58 ozone monitoring equipment be moved from the current Camp Bullis location. Originally, as stated by TNRCC staff, there was a problem accessing the site and it was recognized that the Camp Bullis location was not an optimal location. Now there is no longer a problem of access. Commissioner Huston addressed a letter to the AIR Committee asking that the monitor remain at its current location. In addition, TNRCC was asking to place a sulfur dioxide monitor at the Marshall High School CAMS 23 monitor location. The

Air Tech Committee approved this suggestion. Mr. Bella said that a letter had been drafted requesting the Sulfur Dioxide Monitor be placed at CAMS 23.

Regarding the placement of additional ozone monitors as specified in the TNRCC work plan, there are 4 existing monitors. Three are operated by TNRCC and are used to determine our attainment status. Under the signed work plan, AACOG staff proposed placing 4 to 5 additional monitors that provide additional information about the creation and movement of ozone locally. One monitor would be placed in Comal County close to the Kendall County line.

Mayor Heath suggested that the motion read that the committee supported the Air Technical Committee's recommendation for siting of monitors and the release of request for proposals for the monitors. He also suggested the motion include approval of the draft letter to Chairman Huston regarding that issue and the addition of the sulfur dioxide monitor at Marshall High School. Mr. Bella asked that funding for maintenance of the Trinity site be included in that motion. A motion for approval was made. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

#### **VII. A. Off-Road Sub-Committee Report**

Chris Langston reported on the activities of the Off-Road Committee and goals for 2002 using a handout. The activities included hosting a second air pollution control workshop on a larger scale than the first, possibly in conjunction with Austin; participating in off-road related events as information providers; exploring off-road related incentives and money opportunities; and expanding the committee's focus to include industrial and commercial equipment operators. The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 14, 2002.

#### **VII. B. Other Informational Items**

Mr. Bella referred to the 2002 Meeting Schedule listing all committee meeting and subcommittee meeting dates. He also provided articles on the health affects of air pollution and the Clean Texas Partnership Conference on Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>. He also announced that EPA will sponsor a forum for environmental assistance providers in San Antonio in December 2002.

#### **VIII. Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.