

**The Minutes of the
Air Improvement Resources Executive/Advisory Committees
Meeting
Alamo Area Council of Governments
Wednesday, December 10, 2008, 1:30 a.m.
Marriott Plaza Hotel-Hidalgo Room C
555 South Alamo
San Antonio, TX 78205**

Executive Committee Members

Chairman Jay Millikin, Commissioner
Comal County
Mayor Bruce Boyer, City of New Braunfels
Councilman Jim Tremblay, GBCCC
Judge, Marvin Quinney, Wilson County
Judge Mike Wiggins, Guadalupe County
Judge Diana Bautista, Atascosa County
Ann Reissig for Gaylan Schroeder,
Kendall County Judge

Guests

Debra Engler, SAWS
Christine Bergren, TCEQ
Elena Serna, GEAA
Mari Aguirre, Rackspace
Samantha Swain, Rackspace
Stephanie Lee, SABCMPO
Erin Zayko, Lockheed Martin
Michelle Hallish, Northwood Elementary (NEISD)
Joe Nunez, CINTAS
Dan Toomey, CINTAS
June Sharrer, Northwood Elementary (NEISD)
Sandy Potter, Representing District 8
Dub Smothers, Citizen

Advisory Committee Members

Bill Bushman, Air Force Center for
Environmental Excellence
Dan Titerle, San Antonio Water System
Jesse Balleza, VIA
Forrest Mims, Guadalupe County
W. Laurence Doxsey, COSA
Aleisha Knochenhauer, Arias & Asso.

Technical Committee Members

Nick Page, SABCMPO

AACOG Staff

Gloria Arriaga, Executive Director
Dean Danos, Deputy Director
Peter Bella, Director, Natural Res.
Steve Smeltzer, Environmental Manager
Brenda Williams, Program Coordinator
Annette Prosterman, Trans. Spec.
Berti Vaughan, Administrative Asst.
Isabel Gonzales, Secretary

1. Meeting called to Order

Chairman Jay Millikin called the meeting to order. He asked that the roll be called.

2. Roll Call

Dean Danos, AACOG Deputy Director called the roll and declared a quorum.

3. Citizens to be Heard

Elena Serna with the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance signed up to speak. Ms. Serna's statement is located at the end of these minutes.

Chairman Millikin thanked Ms. Serna for her comments.

The Chairman asked that the sequence of the agenda be adjusted to consider the following action items first:

8. Business of the AIR Executive/Advisory Committees.

8.A Action Item: Consider and possible approval of Resolution for the 81st Texas Legislature.

The Chairman remarked that on October 30th in New Braunfels during an AACOG regional legislative seminar, state senators Jeff Wentworth, and Leticia Van de Putte were in attendance. The Chairman mentioned there was discussion on funding requirements during the seminar and the resolution before the committee reaffirmed the appropriate funding to meet some of the programs that are critical to the region.

Mr. Bella gave a synopsis on the four items in the resolution for their consideration.

Chairman Millikin asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Councilman Tremblay made the motion to approve the resolution. Judge Quinney seconded the motion. Chairman Millikin called for the vote. The motion passed. Judge Bautista opposed the vote.

8.B Action Item: Nominations to the AIR Advisory Committee.

1. W. Laurence Doxsey, Director of the Office of Environmental Policy, City of San Antonio
2. Aleisha Knochenhauer, Director of Environmental Services, Areas and Associates.

After introducing each of the nominees, Chairman Millikin asked for a motion from the floor to approve their nominations. Judge Quinney made the motion to approve the nominations. Judge Wiggins seconded the motion. The motion passed.

8.C Action Item: Consider and possible endorsement of Golf Course Environmental Management proposal: Bill Bushman, Program Manager, Natural Infrastructure, Brooks City-Base.

Bill Bushman gave a power point presentation on the comprehensive environmental management initiative plan outlined in the resolution. Mr. Bushman asked the committee to embrace a voluntary, continual improvement-based environmental management system specifically designed for large facilities like

golf courses that focuses on air quality, energy use, water quality, water conservation and environmental stewardship.

Chairman Millikin asked for a motion in support of the resolution. Councilman Tremblay made the motion to support the resolution. Mayor Boyer seconded the motion. Chairman Millikin asked for the vote. The motion passed.

8.D Action Item: Consideration and possible approval of 2009 meeting schedule.

Mr. Bella presented the draft document for the committee's consideration. Chairman Millikin asked for a motion to accept the 2009 meeting schedule. Mayor Boyer made the motion to approve dates coinciding with the AACOG Board agenda. Judge Bautista seconded the motion. Chairman Millikin asked for the vote. The motion passed.

4. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Millikin asked the floor for consideration of the minutes for August 27, 2008. Judge Quinney made a motion for approval of the minutes. Councilman Tremblay seconded the motion. Chairman Millikin called for the vote. The motion passed with one abstention.

5. Ozone and Particulate Matter Update

Mr. Bella reported that the new 8-hr. av. 03 National Ambient Air Quality Standard effective May 27, 2008 could not exceed 0.075 ppm. Based on current three-year average data, he explained the numbers indicated by area monitors were not in keeping with the federal standard and could place the region in non-attainment.

6. AIR Public Education/Outreach Update

Mrs. Williams reported that during the EPA Blue Skyways Conference recently held in San Antonio, a Press conference was held by the EPA to acknowledge AACOG and the City of San Antonio for their efforts in implementing voluntary air quality measures through innovative strategies. The EPA awarded the City of San Antonio for their Clean Vehicle Fleets and AACOG was awarded for their School Bus retrofits and replacement program. Andrew Hudgins AACOG Program Coordinator was cited as instrumental for funding and managing the program. Mrs. Williams pointed out that the EPA applauded the region for the downward trend of air pollution and ozone during the past few years and for implementation of the Early Action Compact.

A. Update: AQHA Banners and Schools.

Annette Prosterman provided a survey data hand out on the use of AQHA banners on health alert days by participating schools. She reported the following:

- 430 AQHA banners were delivered to 13 Bexar County School Districts
- 142 schools surveyed responded to displaying flags on AQHA days
- 59% were using banners
- 17% reported having a banner but not using it
- 20% replied that they did not have a banner
- 4% said that they had misplaced the banner.

Ms. Prosterman said the survey was limited in that not every school in the district was surveyed instead staff used the 200 plus ISD contact addresses that exist in AQHA notification list. Therefore the results were not even across the school districts. In addition some districts had more than one response from the same school. In other districts there was no response at all because no one from that district had requested notification. Ms. Prosterman said that because a school does not display an AQHA banner, doesn't necessarily mean that the school community was not informed when there was an AQHA day. Sometimes feedback stipulated they posted signs in the schools, sometimes they e-mailed school personnel or made an announcement over the intercom. However, the survey did show that there is a lot of room for improvement to educate and inform school communities. She concluded by saying that staff would be working at overcoming those kinds of obstacles and had a much better idea of where to focus attention.

Chairman Millikin commented that the effort to educate, inform and recruit all schools needed to continue and progress.

1. Presentation: Dr. Neeraja Erraguntla, Senior Toxicologist, TCEQ: Ozone and School Children- Presentation- was postponed.
2. Review of AQHA School Policies-Presentation- was postponed.

- B. Presentation: AIR Public Education Committee Environmental Stewardship Awards.

Commissioner Millikin moved this item up on the agenda right after the approval of the minutes. Brenda Williams presented the following awards:

- In the Large Business Category: Rackspace Corporation
- In the Small Business Category: Cintas Corporation
- In the Category of Large Institution of Learning and Research: Southwest Research Institute
- In the Category of Small Institution of Learning: Northwood Elementary School from NEISD

7. Clean Air Plan Update

- A. Local strategy analysis update

1. Initiatives from Bexar County, the City of San Antonio, and others

Mr. Bella introduced Environmental Policy Director W. Laurence Doxsey for the City of San Antonio who presented information on the City of San Antonio initiatives being advanced by the Mayor's task force on sustainable building. He said that at this point and time the advisory and executive committees on the task force are preparing to recommend sponsoring to the city council a 15% increase in the stringency of the energy codes in the City of San Antonio so that there would be an upgrade in new construction in regards of how new buildings would have to be constructed such that they would use 15% less energy. He said there are also a series of incentives that are accompanying these recommendations that are going forward for deliberation by the committee and then will be passed forward to the City Council. Mr. Doxsey said it

was also recommended that they continue to evaluate and move forward over time as technologies improve to increase the stringency of the building standards.

Chairman Millikin welcomed Mr. Doxsey to the advisory committee and thanked him for the report.

2. Sustainable Skylines Initiative: EPOA Grant Application – was not discussed

B. Review: Nonattainment Areas and Boundary Proposals for Texas as proposed by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

1. Definition: Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Mr. Bella said TCEQ Commissioners were meeting to discuss the recommended nonattainment areas and boundaries made by the TCEQ executive director. The TCEQ recommendation approved Bexar County alone be the county designated nonattainment based on current year data. He explained that with the new standard that was approved in March of 2008 the numbers indicated by area monitors were not in keeping with the federal standard. Mr. Bella explained the processes that would be used to determine compliance and the process which would determine what counties would be included in the nonattainment areas and boundaries throughout Texas. He presented a timeline outlining the Ozone Standard Key Dates and explained what defined a Metropolitan Statistical Area.

8. Business of the AIR Executive/Advisory Committees A-D (approved earlier on the agenda)

9. Informational Items

There were none.

10. Next Meeting Date: April 1, 2009

11. Adjournment

With no business to conduct, Chairman Millikin adjourned the meeting.

Reference: Item Number 3; Citizens to be Heard comments submitted

December 10, 2008

Statement of Support for the Golf Course Environmental Management Initiative

To Members of the Air Improvement Resources Executive and Advisory Committees,

My name is Elena Serna, and I am speaking on behalf of the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance (GEAA), a coalition of concerned individuals and citizen groups from throughout San Antonio and Central Texas, working together to preserve the Edwards Aquifer.

GEAA member groups endorse the following precepts regarding protection of the aquifer that are pertinent to the Golf Course Environmental Management Initiative:

- GEAA believes that water is necessary to life and must be conserved, reclaimed, and protected for all future generations. It is a fundamental human right and public trust to be guarded by all levels of government.
- Due to its faulted geology and karst limestone composition, the Edwards Aquifer is particularly vulnerable to pollution. Therefore, GEAA enthusiastically supports the Golf Course Environmental Management Initiative's goal of protecting our drinking water through proper management of storm water runoff and appropriate handling, storage, and use of harmful manmade products.
- GEAA recognizes that population growth, expanding water demands, and suburban sprawl can irreversibly deplete our uniquely valuable and irreplaceable water source; therefore, we support any action taken to enact more sustainable and conservation-driven golf course operations and development.

In summary, the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance fully supports the Golf Course Environmental Management Initiative's goal of implementing a sustainable process that minimizes or eliminates the negative impacts on natural resources that result from golf course management practices. We urge you and your private and public golf course constituents to endorse and promote this initiative.