



Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting
Date: January 22, 2014
Location: G.H. Dawe Centre Boardroom, Red Deer

In attendance

Board Members and Alternates:

Kelly Bauer, Government
Bob Bryant, Public
Bonnie Denhaan, Public
Brian Goliss, Industry
Butch Howard, Government
Andy Lamb, Government
Glenora Skoreyko, Government
Lawrence Lee, Government
Tali Neta, Government
Jim Saltvold, Public
Reg Watson, Public
Kevin Warren, Executive Director

Committee Members:

Lauren Maris, Communications
Aaron Rognvaldson, TWG

Meeting Support:

Kim Sanderson

Not Attending

Jim Ainslie, Public
Rod Boshnick, Industry
Paul Bradley, Industry
Tyler Callicot, Government
Dale Christian, Public
Al Duben, Government
Ken Heck, Government
Shane Lamden, Industry
Jennifer Lutz, Government
Alasdair MacKinnon, Public
Dan Richen, Government
Ed Szymanek, Industry
Clay Tjostheim, Industry

Guest:

Barb Shepherd, Lacombe County

ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

No action items were assigned at this meeting.

Reg Watson convened the meeting at 3:03 pm. Those present introduced themselves.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1.1 Approve Agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus.

1.2 Minutes of November 27, 2013 Meeting

The minutes of the November 27, 2013 meeting were approved by consensus.

1.3 Report on Action Items

Item	Status
76.1: The G.H. Dawe Centre's boardroom will be booked for the January, April, September and November meeting dates.	Done

1.4 Membership

Kevin advised that 2014 invoices have been sent to EPEA plant members, totaling about \$542,000. Municipal invoices will go out later this week, followed by the \$1,000 invoices to industry next week.

Since the last board meeting, Clearwater County's agriculture department contacted Kevin informing him that they are now the point of contact and to discuss their involvement and support of PAMZ. Kevin will follow up to see if Clearwater County wants to keep their seat on the board. Lacombe County has also expressed interest in rejoining the PAMZ board. PAMZ will determine the best way to accommodate representation of both municipalities on the board and encouraged Barb Shepherd, Lacombe County's designated representative, to continue attending.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Technical Working Group (TWG)

Aaron Rognvaldson reported that the TWG met January 17. A key item of discussion was the contracts for support services provided to PAMZ. The proposed annual price adjustments were 2% or less for another year, so contracts for the following were extended for one year:

- Focus (air quality monitoring program operations and maintenance)
- Whiteley Enterprises (report compilation)
- Gene Lesoway (passives changeout)
- Sue Arrison (communications)

Maxxam Analytics is in the third year of a three-year contract. At its June meeting, the TWG will decide whether to renew their contract or to go out for bids in the fall.

The TWG also discussed the funding request to ESRD to support establishing the Lancaster site as the second permanent PAMZ site in Red Deer and for updating the air quality monitoring program plan in accordance with the revised air monitoring directive. ESRD has provided funds to the Fort Air Partnership and the Alberta Capital Airshed for and updating and developing their monitoring plans, so PAMZ is hopeful it will also receive funding. Shelly Morris, who heads up ESRD's air quality monitoring auditing team attended the TWG meeting and offered various options regarding PAMZ and ESRD equipment for the Lancaster site. The options will be examined and evaluated as they emerge. PAMZ will work with City of Red Deer Environmental Services to clarify requirements to make Lancaster a permanent site.

Quality assurance plans for airshed monitoring operations must be audited and updated every three years. PAMZ will again hire Calvin Consulting who did a good job on the audit three years ago. They have indicated the cost this time would be about \$6000 (down from \$10,000) because they are already familiar with PAMZ and its plan. Kevin is working to find a date to do the audit.

b) Air Monitoring Program

Kevin advised that there have been no exceedances of any air quality objectives or guidelines at the Caroline station since the November board meeting. Several recent PM_{2.5} high-scaling episodes are definitely not associated with power interruptions or precipitation events. The TWG agreed to monitor this analyzer's performance closely in case early replacement with a new SHARP 5030 is warranted. Last fall, there were also some high THC concentrations. Brian Goliss followed up to determine if these were associated with

venting at the Schrader Creek compressor station, but nothing unusual occurred at the facility during the time in question. At this point there is no explanation for the readings.

There have been no exceedances of any air quality objectives or guidelines, including $PM_{2.5}$, at the Red Deer Riverside station since the November board meeting. There is currently a lot of activity on the utility corridor that runs past the station, including idling in front of the station when vehicles are being staged. A wide mix of vehicles has been observed. ESRD agreed that PAMZ could use both the SHARP and TEOM FDMS analyzers to the end of July 2014 to compare performance and readings. More differences are appearing between the two analyzers, especially in December, which is the coldest month since installation. The TEOM is showing higher readings and it's supposed to do the better job in winter months, although SHARP is the newer technology. Data from the SHARP is being used to calculate the Air Quality Health Index to ensure consistency with the majority of other sites in Alberta that also use that type of analyzer.

Kevin reviewed the schedule for 2014 for the portable stations. The McCoy station is at Everdell for January. It was to move to north of Sundre for February, but this may change if a suitable site cannot be secured. It will go to Crossfield in March, then to the factory to have new roof railings and ladder installed, and to Olds for April through June; the circuit will then be repeated for the third quarter and then to the Crossfield-Carstairs site through March 2015.

At Everdell, the issue was a resident complaint of THCs in winter. Some elevated THC was observed consistent with resident complaints. AER did a survey of gas plants to the north and east in August and did find some small leaks that were corrected but overall, the facilities were in compliance. Higher THC levels are being seen in December and January but with a weaker diurnal pattern. PAMZ asked AER to do another FLIR survey, but this is unlikely to be done while the PAMZ station is still there.

Kevin ground-truthed sites near the Johnston residence earlier today, with the aim of installing the station next Wednesday in response to concerns about emissions associated with liquid loading at the Bonavista facility. It will be challenging to find a site that will give air quality monitoring information about that facility as there is a lot of activity in the area and not many residences with power close by the facility. The McCoy station may have to go to Crossfield for February and come back to the Johnston site in March.

The Martha station has been at Lancaster Park since June. Levels have been within historical normals for the city of Red Deer. Levels and trends are similar to Riverside station. $PM_{2.5}$ readings for November and December are slightly lower at Lancaster than at Riverside. No elevated TRS was observed during November and December even with southeast winds, which does suggest that the high TRS levels seen in the summer were associated with natural sources (i.e., wetlands south of the city).

Levels and patterns of the passives were consistent with historical normals for October and November. The TWG decided to investigate removal of the two mountain park sites from the PAMZ passive network in 2014. It is time-consuming (and thus costly) to change out the samples and we now have a good understanding of the air quality at those sites.

c) Ozone and $PM_{2.5}$ Management Plans

As noted at the last meeting, Linda Jabs is the ESRD lead on developing the new $PM_{2.5}$ Management Plan. She has prepared a draft timeline, and the first steps will be to establish a steering committee and get stakeholders involved. The 2010 and 2011 $PM_{2.5}$ episodes in

Red Deer are now being analyzed and the intent is to have a plan in place by spring 2015. The new plan will like piggyback on the existing Ozone Management Plan rather than start from scratch, but more rigorous actions will likely be needed to get PM_{2.5} levels down. Most of the Ozone plans assigned the lead on medium- and long-term objectives to ESRD, and many of these have been deferred due to reorganization within the department.

d) Communications Committee

Lauren Maris provided an update from the Communications Committee. The committee followed up on suggestions from the last meeting for obtaining regional photos, but did not have much success. The photo contest will run again but with fewer categories and bigger prizes. There will be one category for atmospheric pollution and one for people interacting with the environment. First prize will be \$750 and second prize \$250. The contest will run through to December 31.

The spring newsletter will come out in March and board members were encouraged to submit articles or ideas for articles to the committee.

The Idle-Free sub-committee continues to work on this initiative and involve other interested partners. This work will become even more important as the PM_{2.5} plan is developed. The survey of municipalities in 2012 showed that not many had anti-idling initiatives or bylaws in place and little interest in developing any. Other options were explored and the sub-committee decided to customize and amalgamate existing tools to build capacity in central Alberta municipalities to address idling. The aim is to make it as easy and convenient as possible to take action. Each municipality has different circumstances so materials and approaches need to be adaptable to meet these needs. The initiative has three parts:

- Tool kit with options and resources from which municipalities can pick and choose.
- Workshop available to communities that want to implement anti-idling activities, so they can see what's worked and learn how to use the resources.
- Grant program. Municipalities that need funds to take action can apply for grants or funding from various sources and PAMZ would administer the grants.

A Red Deer College statistics class is looking for projects and it may be possible to do a baseline survey then follow up after an anti-idling program has been implemented to determine the effect. The professor has been approached but it would be up to students to decide if they want to work on such a project.

Lacombe County and the Town of Stettler have both expressed interest in the initiative. Lacombe wants to work with their municipal fleet, some agricultural producers, and industrial-commercial-institutional facilities. Stettler wants to implement a program in the community. The Town of Stettler is not within the PAMZ boundaries but Stettler County is partly within PAMZ, and the Town does not belong to any other airshed zone. The sub-committee is seeking approval from the board to pilot the anti-idling resources initiative in these two communities.

The board expressed strong support for the Anti-Idling Sub-committee to partner with Lacombe County and the Town of Stettler to pilot the anti-idling resources initiative.

Rather than focusing solely on Environment Week, Kevin advised that ESRD will be spreading its focus across four different "weeks" this year to better reflect the diversity of the merged department. For Clean Air Day, June 4, PAMZ will work to raise awareness about the PM_{2.5} reduction plan.

e) Issues Response Group (IRG)

Brian Goliss advised that the IRG was supposed to meet on Jan. 23 but the meeting was moved to Feb. 3. The meeting's primary purpose will be to plan the annual public issues identification meeting to identify potential monitoring locations for 2015.

f) Financial

Bob Bryant distributed copies of the financial statement to December 31. Not all expenses for 2013 had been paid by Dec. 31, so the percent spent for the year is low. The auditor is reviewing the books now. As expected, when all the 2013 expenses are in, PAMZ should carry over about \$40,000.

3. CLEAN AIR STRATEGIC ALLIANCE (CASA) UPDATE

Kevin distributed a CASA update to the board as part of the pre-meeting materials. Board members can review the update at their convenience. Kevin advised that the joint CASA-AAC committee won't likely meet until fall. Brad Pickering has been named as CEO for the new Alberta Environmental Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Agency (AEMERA). The Human and Animal Health Implementation Team submitted its final report to the CASA board in December and was disbanded. The assumption is that the report will be made public. A statement of opportunity on non-point source emissions may come forward.

4. ALBERTA AIRSHEDS COUNCIL (AAC) UPDATE

Kevin reported that the AAC met Jan. 14 in Calgary. An airshed presentation is being prepared, and Bob Scotten and others on the AAC will meet with some of the key stakeholders (e.g., CAPP, AFPA, AAMDC, AEMERA) to refamiliarize them with airsheds and the work they do. Bob met with former ESRD minister Diana McQueen in December; she assured Bob that airsheds are needed and valued by the Government of Alberta. She said that the focus for the next few years will be on oil sands. Airshed zones could use this time to examine potential new structures and approaches so as to be in a good position when monitoring attention shifts to include the rest of the province.

The AAC will hold a forum, likely October 21-22, to look at what airsheds need to do to stay relevant and how they can transition to fulfill the management role under the National Air Quality Management System. The event will be by invitation only, to about 120 people. It will probably be held in Sherwood Park.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

The board briefly discussed the recent news item about the financial situation of the Wood Buffalo Environmental Association when the quarterly budget for WBEA was not approved. Some emergency meetings have been held to address concerns.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next PAMZ board meeting will be April 16 in Red Deer at the G.H. Dawe Centre. Kevin will give the presentation he made at a recent CRAZ workshop on the history and evolution of air quality monitoring systems in Alberta. A presentation based on the CASA Human and Animal Health team's final report and recommendations could be considered for the June meeting.

The board meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.