



**Minutes:** Board of Directors Meeting  
**Date:** January 21, 2010  
**Location:** Kinex Arena, Red Deer

**In attendance**

Board Members and Alternates:

Jim Ainslie, Public  
 Bob Bryant, Government  
 Lloyd Cumming, Public  
 Bonnie Denhaan, Public  
 Brian Goliss, Industry  
 Amber Hines, Government  
 Ryan Hornett, Industry  
 Andy Lamb, Government  
 Jennifer Lutz, Government  
 Vicky Monfette, Industry  
 Lynne Mulder, Government  
 Greg Rathjen, Government  
 Dan Richen, Government  
 Wayne Ungstad, NGO  
 Reg Watson, Public

Kevin Warren, Executive Director

Meeting Support:

Kim Sanderson

**Absent with Regrets**

Rod Boshnick, Industry  
 Dale Christian, NGO  
 Simon Cobban, Industry  
 Bill Knight, Public  
 Jim McKinley, Government  
 Kim Ng, Public  
 Cory Sieben, Industry  
 Leonard Standing on the Road, Government  
 Al Simcoe, Industry

**ACTION ITEM SUMMARY**

Item	Who	Deadline
58.1: Kevin will add request for decision on redeploying Martha trailer for monitoring Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority's landfill to agenda of February IRG Meeting	Kevin Warren	Jan. 27
58.2: Kevin will request a presentation from Bev Yee on GOA's Cumulative Effects Management Strategy.	Kevin Warren	Feb. 15
58.3: Kevin will distribute the draft objectives with a timeline for feedback so the committee can continue to refine the plan.	Kevin Warren	Jan. 22
58.4: Kevin will try to secure the Kinex Arena for the March board meeting.	Kevin Warren	Jan. 31

Brian Goliss convened the meeting at 3:04 pm. Those present introduced themselves.

**1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**1.1 Approve Agenda**

Two items were added under the following sections of the agenda:

IRG: Presentation from Rocky Mountain Solid Waste Authority on a local air quality issue

AAC: Update on East Central airshed

The agenda was approved with these additions.

### 1.2 Minutes of November 26, 2009 Meeting

The November 26, 2009 minutes were approved as circulated.

### 1.3 Report on Action Items

Item	Status
56.1: Jennifer will email pdf maps of complaints to Kevin to share with the board.	Done
57.1: Kevin will arrange for a formal acknowledgement of Shane Lamden's work as TWG chair.	Done. Shane was presented with a plaque and gift certificate for his three years of service as TWG chair.
57.2: Members who blocked consensus on transferring funds from the human health fund to capital reserve will come back to the board with ideas on how the funds might be used for human health activity.	See notes immediately below this table.
57.3: Dan will follow up regarding the requests for information on the health exposure study and the status of the report and advise Kevin.	Done. The report is not yet ready and Alberta Health and Wellness will advise Dan when a draft is ready to be released; likely within the next few weeks.
57.4: Kevin will arrange a location for the January board meeting.	Done

#### Discussion of Action 57.2:

Rationale for blocking consensus was: 1) This is not a good way to fund capital costs. If we have a problem, we should look at funding sources. 2) Some tasks related to the Ozone Management Plan are health-related. How will those be addressed without a committee with funds? 3) At least some PAMZ members feel they have gaps in their understanding of health and ozone and some of these funds could be used to help educate the board.

The board discussed this matter, noting that the only way the Human Health Committee (HHC) was able to do its work in the past was through the support from David Thompson Health Region, which no longer exists. Infrastructure and support is not there now and people have moved on. In the absence of funds from Alberta Health and Wellness, it is unlikely that PAMZ could do any significant long-term health study with the funds available.

***The board agreed to leave the human health funds where they are for this year and if no activities or other need for the funds comes up, it will be transferred to capital reserve during budget discussions for 2011.***

### 1.4 Memberships

The membership drive is underway. Kevin issued 18 invoices for EPEA facilities, totaling \$642,000. Full payment of these invoices is expected. One has already paid.

Using ERCB data, Kevin has generated invoices to companies that don't have monitoring tied to their approvals. Previously, the invoiced amount would have been just over \$100,000. This time PAMZ only invoiced if the company had more than two facilities or if a facility is very large. A total of 67 invoices were issued at \$1,000 each and PAMZ expects to get about \$25,000 from these companies.

Municipal invoices will go out at the end of January to 65 municipalities. According to the funding formula, PAMZ should get \$93,000, but the projection is for \$53,000.

PAMZ members get a certificate of membership and are acknowledged in the annual report. PAMZ also profiles companies in the newsletter and is open to other ideas for recognition.

## **2. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **a) Technical Working Group (TWG)**

The TWG met January 15 and the next meeting is March 26. Capital items were ordered, and were \$3000 more than budgeted. Kevin reviewed the monitoring schedule for 2010, noting that the location for the McCoy station was finalized to support the Ozone Management Plan. It will be used for six months downwind of the zone (April to September, inclusive).

AENV and ERCB began a joint investigation in December near a residence north of Sundre in response to ambient air quality complaints, and PAMZ was asked to provide assistance by deploying its Martha Air Monitoring Station. The executive agreed to reassign the Martha station to that site (Jackson Creek) for January. Whether it goes back in six months for a second month of monitoring will depend on the results of the investigation.

In November, the Martha station was at Cheddarville where levels were at or near background. It then went to Harmattan for the month of December where there was strong correlation of NO<sub>2</sub> readings with the direction of the Harmattan Gas Plant. The levels of all measured compounds were well under any applicable air quality objectives. The station was installed at the Jackson Creek site on January 7.

The McCoy station was at Beiseker from October to December where levels were typical of previous monitoring in similar sized towns. Some H<sub>2</sub>S was observed with both SE and SW winds (the town sewage lagoons are SE). The station is now at the Gadsby Lake Community Centre on Milton Road, about 30 km east of Highway 2; this site was chosen in consultation with a local synergy group's representative (Larry Walton) and is representative of the Calumet area. The trailer was installed January 15 and will be on site to the end of March.

At Caroline, the PM<sub>2.5</sub> analyzer was down for four days in early January; All levels observed since the last board meeting were within historical normals. The Red Deer station exceeded the 24 hour PM<sub>2.5</sub> guidelines (30µg/m<sup>3</sup>) on Dec. 28 (42.5), Jan. 3 (30.9), Jan. 5 (30.3) and Jan. 6 (34.0). There were generally low temperatures, high relative humidity and wind speeds during this time, resulting in frequent fog and inversions.

For the passive sites, levels and patterns since the last meeting are similar to what's

been seen in previous years.

## **b) Ozone Management**

PAMZ is implementing all the short-term actions and starting the continuous actions in the Ozone Management Plan. Sue Arrison has been hired to help develop communications tools. A mailout will be done to all industries and municipalities in the next couple of weeks as part of a new recognition program – Action HERO (Action for Health and Environment by Reducing Ozone). The intent is to recognize businesses and municipalities that are doing things to reduce ozone precursors. A list will be published every year on Clean Air Day –June 3<sup>rd</sup> this year.

Before Christmas, PAMZ received two reports from Stantec: Ozone and Ozone Precursors Monitoring Gaps Assessment, and an Ozone Precursors Trends Study.

**The Ozone and Ozone Precursors Monitoring Gaps Assessment** was a review of the ozone monitoring program to identify gaps in monitoring of ozone precursors and what to do about it. They looked at eight sites in Alberta and analyzed the data trends: Caroline, Red Deer, Harlech, Fenn, Hightower, Steeper, Cold Lake South, and Esther. They classified each site according to what ozone regime it is in, using diurnal-curve space technique. The idea is that you should pick sites from various regimes to get a good representation. They found limited evidence of ozone concentrations being exacerbated by photochemistry, which is what PAMZ has seen to date.

Recommendations included:

- When using portable stations to monitor ozone, monitoring should be done for at least six months (April to the end of October).
- Re-establish an upwind, remote, high elevation site in the Harlech area to better monitor ozone precursors.
- Re-establish downwind site at Fenn.

The TWG discussed the recommendations and concluded that PAMZ finances allowed for either an upwind or downwind site right now, but not both. The decision was to have a downwind site to see if ozone buildup is occurring. A location decision will be made in March for the McCoy station.

Stantec also recommended to monitor VOCs and PAN (peroxyacetyl nitrate), a compound that is usually found in high population areas. The TWG will consider this, but VOC monitoring is very expensive. PAMZ approached AENV and asked them to consider monitoring VOCs and PAN at the Red Deer station. At a minimum, it might be possible to get a couple of VOC samples collected and analyzed to see which specific VOC compounds are present and decide on further monitoring after that.

This report was submitted to AENV as a draft and there could be changes. Once it is finalized it will be released.

**The Ozone Precursors Trends Study** used NPRI data to look at various sectors and trends in ozone precursors. The study tracked releases of ozone precursors (NO<sub>x</sub>, VOCs, CO) as reported to NPRI from 2002-2008 (the tracking started in 2002). NPRI does not account for emissions from transportation (on and off-road), residential and small commercial space heating, construction, agriculture, and biogenic sources. Not all industrial or commercial facilities in the PAMZ region are required to report to the NPRI.

Because 2002 was the first year of collection, that year's data are probably not representative so they were not used in the study.

VOC data should be treated cautiously, as it includes other compounds that are not ozone precursors (e.g., COS and CS<sub>2</sub>). In 2005, three facilities in PAMZ reported a combined very high VOC release, but nothing was released before or after and there were no comments on the releases in the NPRI reports, so the data were treated as anomalous and removed from the final analysis. Most VOC sources identified in the study were oil and gas related. The make-up of the sectors contributing releases hasn't change much, but there have been increases in the number of facilities reporting while the volumes being reported have fallen, based on NPRI data. For NOx, the volume trend is slightly upward over time, and CO is up slightly. PAMZ won't conduct this trend analysis every year, but may repeat in five years.

In summary, from 2003-2008:

- VOC emissions decreased by 23%
- NOx emissions increased by 12%
- CO emissions increased by 4%

The number of facilities reporting for all three parameters increased during 2003-2008:

- VOCs by 18%
- NOx by 12%
- CO by 4%

This report will also be available once AENV has signed off.

#### **c) Financial and Funding**

Bob reported on PAMZ bank balances, noting that as of January 8<sup>th</sup>, there was \$256,111 in the T-bills savings account and \$36,646 in the chequing account, for a sub-total of \$292,757. Of this, \$61,917 is allocated to the capital reserve, \$74,000 to the human health reserve fund, \$46,000 from AENV for air quality and health messaging and another \$25,000 are allocated to the website, leaving \$85,800. At least \$130,000 in revenue has been received and not yet deposited. \$13,984 remains in the airsheds account that PAMZ has managed. As soon as the AAC is incorporated as a not for profit organization, these funds will be transferred to them.

Kevin reviewed the general ledger account statement for 2009 year end and compared the actuals for the year to the amounts budgeted. PAMZ was generally under budget for 2009, but some things that were budgeted for last year will now be done in 2010.

#### **d) Communications Committee**

Most of the recent communications efforts have focused on actions related to the Ozone Management Plan. The website is being revamped and the contractor (Focus Design) has done a good job so far of using available tools and developing a good interactive way to use the data. The latest issue of the newsletter will be out by tomorrow. The committee is looking at revising the format of the newsletter when the re-branding is finished.

#### **e) Issues Response Group (IRG)**

The IRG has not met since the last board meeting and the next meeting is February 10 at the Johnstons to decide the location of the May public meeting.

Curran Chronik, manager of the Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority spoke briefly to the board about odour complaints it has received from a resident who lives about 3 km southeast of the landfill, which is 16 km west of Rocky Mountain House. 22% of the time in 2009, the wind was blowing from the landfill toward this individual's house; the highest percentage of time was in the hot summer months.

The regional waste authority takes waste from the village of Caroline, the town of Rocky Mountain House and Clearwater County, the latter two of which have been longstanding PAMZ members. Part of the landfill is leased out to a private company that takes mainly oilfield waste and contaminated soil. This operator is responsible and has managed its waste appropriately. AENV has received calls from the individual on its hotline and sent an inspector out to ensure the approval conditions were being met. The inspector advised that proper procedures seemed to be followed, and the problem arose only when wind was from the direction of the landfill. No complaints have been received from other residents. The resident was asked to call when an incident was underway. The Authority wondered if PAMZ could help by providing a monitoring station.

The board discussed the issue, noting the following points:

- Odours themselves are not considered a health hazard, but the constituents that produce odour could be.
- PAMZ could determine if the odours were hydrocarbons (methane or non-methane), but there is no air quality objective for total hydrocarbons. To identify specific odourous compounds would require the use of an onsite gas chromatograph, which is quite costly. The PAMZ station could determine if there were hydrocarbons present, and if so, how much in total and what direction they were coming from. The PAMZ station could also help identify if other sources are contributing to the odour.
- This request is something that PAMZ could consider, but the schedule for the Martha station would need to be adjusted.

By adjusting other locations, the trailer could go to this site in July and monitor in the Wilson Creek-Willesden area in 2011. The board felt it would be good for PAMZ to help out with this issue if possible, but did not want to change the IRG's plans without consultation.

**Action 58.1: The board agreed to defer the request from the Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority to the IRG for decision at its February meeting, and will accept their recommendation. Kevin will ensure that the request is added to the meeting agenda.**

### **3. REPORT ON CASA ACTIVITIES**

Kevin reported on three CASA project teams.

- The Operations Steering Committee (OSC) provides overall direction to the ambient air quality monitoring network and the CASA Data Warehouse (CDW). The 2009 operating budget was approved halfway through 2009, and the 2010 budget has not yet been approved. The OSC is trying to determine what its role will be under the new Ambient Monitoring Strategic Plan (AMSP). AENV has said it wants to use the CDW to collect data from all emitters and would thus like to operate it in-house.
- The PM and Ozone Committee monitors implementation of the PM and Ozone Framework. All Ozone Management Plans (OMPs) developed in 2008 were formally approved by AENV in 2009 and all have received some funds to help implement. A

full review of the framework will be done when short-term actions in the OMPs are done. The team is putting together a subgroup to review the technical aspects of the framework to ensure the science to calculate triggers is still valid and recommend any changes to the technical aspects. Stantec has come up with a different approach to understand ozone behavior in Alberta, so the team should also consider this approach.

- The AMSP project team completed a major revision of the strategic plan for ambient air monitoring across Alberta and was disbanded after its 26 consensus recommendations were approved by the CASA board in September 2009. An enhanced monitoring network responsive to emerging issues and growth will provide the foundation for the development of a world-class ambient air quality monitoring system. Two non-consensus recommendations on funding and implementation were also accepted by the CASA board, with a report expected from Alberta Environment in March 2011 with respect to options for a fair, equitable and long-term funding mechanism for the ambient monitoring system.

Wayne Ungstad advised that the Electricity Framework Review team is looking at peaking and non-peaking issues and will come back with recommendations to the CASA board in March.

CASA held the Martha Kostuch Legacy Workshop in early December, bringing together some 120 people who were interested in the use of consensus decision making processes. Proceedings from the workshop will be available after the CASA board meeting in March.

#### **4. ALBERTA AIRSHEDS COUNCIL (AAC) UPDATE**

Kevin reported that the AAC met January 12 in Edmonton.

- Bev Yee gave an excellent presentation on the Cumulative Effects Management System (CEMS). Airsheds and AENV will be meeting on CEMS as it relates to airsheds and considering how other strategies fit with CEMS. Potential dates are March 17, 18 and 22. To keep numbers manageable, only two people from each airshed will be asked to attend. The AAC also heard a presentation on the Land-use Framework. Two regional plans are underway and three more will start this year.

#### **Action 58.2: Kevin will request a presentation at the March Board Meeting from Bev Yee on GOA's Cumulative Effects Management Strategy.**

- The zones conference held in October was a success, although it did not break even. There are sufficient funds to operate the AAC for at least a couple of years and start to plan the next conference. The AAC is looking at various options to keep costs of future conferences down, such as holding the conference in conjunction with another event to share facility, planner, etc.
- AAC is waiting to hear about the status of its registration as a not for profit organization.
- The CASA board committee meets next week to discuss other options for improving the relationship between airsheds and CASA. AAC membership on the board is no longer being pursued as issues preventing this include the multi-stakeholder nature of airsheds and potential duplication in representation. A discussion paper has been prepared and distributed prior to the meeting.

Wayne advised that discussions are still ongoing with respect to a possible East Central Airshed Zone.

## 5. OTHER BUSINESS

### a) Planning Committee Update

Andy advised that the planning committee met December 22 to do further work on the objectives. Objectives have been developed in four categories: Air quality monitoring and assessment, air quality management, air quality communications, and PAMZ administration. Andy reviewed the draft objectives in the five-year plan under each of these categories. The next step is to develop a strategic plan to achieve the objectives. The committee would like feedback and comments from the board on the work to date.

The board thought the work was generally on the right track but noted that 23 objectives is a lot. The proposed dates will help to determine the priorities.

**Action 58.3: Kevin will distribute the draft objectives with a timeline for feedback so the committee can continue to refine the plan.**

### b) Other Events

- Environment Education Workshop on Feb. 23 at the Provincial Building in Red Deer, called: *From Information to Action: How to more effectively reach your audience*. For details and to register, email Phil Boehme at [phil.boehme@gov.ab.ca](mailto:phil.boehme@gov.ab.ca) or phone 403-340-7195.
- ACE 2010 Calgary Air & Waste Management Assoc. (AWMA) Annual Conference & Exhibition, June 22-25, Calgary Telus Convention Centre. Theme is "Energy and the Environment." Technical Program will explore a range of related issues including the future of fossil fuels, alternative energy solutions and greenhouse gas emissions management, innovation and technology and includes hundreds of exhibitors and several professional development courses. Info at [www.awma.org/ACE2010](http://www.awma.org/ACE2010).

## 6. LOCATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS AT FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

The next PAMZ board meeting is March 31 in Red Deer. The board agreed to invite Bev Yee (or another AENV representative if she is not available) to speak about cumulative effects management.

**Action 58.4: Kevin will try to secure the same location (Kinex Arena) for the March board meeting.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

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Dwayne Holland with Focus Design Group presented the work done to date on a new visual identity for PAMZ and brought the board up to date on the work to rebrand PAMZ and revamp the website. The board looked at two potential logos and selected one that will appear in all communications materials. The new look will be rolled out in a month or so.