



Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting
Date: January 25, 2012
Location: G.H. Dawe Centre Boardroom, Red Deer

In Attendance

Board Members and Alternates:

Jim Ainslie, Public
 Kelly Bauer, Government
 Rod Boshnick, Industry
 Andrea Brack, Industry
 Bob Bryant, Government
 Sam Denhaan, Public
 Brian Goliss, Industry
 Paul Harris, Government
 Amber Hines, Government
 Esther Johnston, Government
 Cliff Knutsen, Government
 Andy Lamb, Government
 Dan Richen, Government
 Leonard Standing on the Road, Public
 Wayne Ungstad, Public
 Reg Watson, Public
 Kevin Warren, Executive Director

Committee Representatives

Monica Rosevear, Communications

Meeting Support:

Kim Sanderson

Not Attending

Buck Buchanan, Government
 Dale Christian, Public
 Ken Dahl, Government
 Bonnie Denhaan, Public
 Cody Dziadek, Industry
 Barry Kinnaird, Industry
 Bill Knight, Public
 Jennifer Lutz, Government
 Alasdair Mackinnon, Government
 Jim McKinley, Government
 Kim Ng, Public
 Al Simcoe, Industry
 Brian Vanderzwan, Industry

ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

Item	Who	Deadline
66.1: In 2012, the TWG will revisit the density of the passive monitoring network, decide if a study is needed, and report back to the Board.	TWG	Sept. 19
67.1 The Executive will draft an attendance policy and bring back to board for further discussion	Executive	June 20
67.2: Kevin will follow up with CASA to find out more about an apparent new strategic direction.	Kevin Warren	March 28
67.3: Kevin will request five-year plans from other airsheds to see if there are opportunities for collaboration.	Kevin Warren	March 28

Brian Goliss, PAMZ past chair, convened the meeting at 3:05 pm. Those present introduced themselves.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1.1 Approve Agenda

Two items were added to the agenda:

- Under membership: attendance policy
- Under Air Monitoring Program: update on Red Deer PM_{2.5} study.

With these additions, the agenda was approved.

1.2 Minutes of November 23, 2011 Meeting

Leonard Standing on the Road advised that his affiliation should be changed from Government to Public. With this amendment, the minutes of the November 23, 2011 meeting were approved by consensus.

1.3 Report on Action Items

Item	Status
65.2: Bob Bryant will report to the board on the outcome of his meeting with the auditor to review the costs and get some assurance that things are in order so similar increases can be avoided next year.	Bob met with the auditing firm and was informed about the additional work that was done on last year's audit, over and above what the auditor was expecting to do when the quote was issued. The appropriate adjustments have been made to the PAMZ bookkeeping process so the cost for the 2011 audit should be closer to the quote.
66.1: In 2012, the TWG will revisit the density of the passive monitoring network, decide if a study is needed, and report back to the Board.	Carry forward. This item has a Sept. 19 due date.
66.2: Jennifer will get a list of all the Synergy presentations and forward to Kevin so the board can review for potential future speakers to PAMZ.	Kevin and the executive reviewed the proceedings and identified potential speakers of interest.
66.3: Jennifer will investigate the reason behind the miscommunications regarding cost of attending the Synergy conference.	Kevin reported that there was no miscommunication regarding the price and his original understanding was correct.

1.4 Memberships

The invoices to large member companies were issued the first week in January, as agreed to at the last PAMZ board meeting. PAMZ has learned that the Lone Pine plant is tentatively shutting down in June, which will affect the 2014 funding allocations. Invoices to municipalities and small member companies should go out on January 27.

At its last meeting, the executive discussed the need for an attendance policy for PAMZ to ensure quorum and more consistent representation at board meetings. Directors are encouraged to identify an alternate or at least to send someone to represent them if they are unable to attend. PAMZ has traditionally encouraged both directors and alternates to attend if they desire.

Action 67.1: The executive will draft an attendance policy that is consistent for all sectors and will bring to the board for discussion at a future meeting.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Technical Working Group (TWG)

Kevin reported that the TWG met Jan. 27 by videoconference from three locations; this approach was adopted for winter meetings and is working well. The focus was a presentation from the consultant on the Red Deer PM_{2.5} study, described below.

b) Air Monitoring Program

Monitoring Results

Since the November board meeting, no exceedances of any Alberta Ambient Air Quality Objectives (AAAQOs) or guidelines were noted at any of the four continuous monitoring stations. This is noteworthy since there were numerous PM_{2.5} exceedances at this time last year. Some replacement sensors and parts have been ordered for all wind monitoring systems; \$70,500 was budgeted for capital expenditures to replace equipment at the end of its life cycle, and this new equipment is being ordered.

Nothing unusual has been noted at the Caroline station since the last meeting. The new data acquisition and control system was installed and is now operating. The old system continues to run in parallel so data can be compared if necessary. The ozone analyzer failed and was replaced with a borrowed analyzer from Alberta Environment. A new analyzer will be installed early in 2012 and if Focus can rebuild the old one for less than \$2500, that will be done and it will be used as a spare. The old NO_x analyzer has been rebuilt as a spare.

At the Red Deer Riverside station, there have been occasional elevated H₂S readings in the last few months (<6 ppb); these did not exceed the AAAQO but were an odour nuisance. These readings are associated with the nearby sewage treatment facilities. All other parameters were within historical normals. The THC/CH₄ analyzer will be retrofitted to use nitrogen carrier gas in 2012, which will add a small operating expense. The current ultrasonic wind sensor will be replaced with a cup and vane system, which provides a visible indication of wind conditions.

The Martha portable was at the Blindman Industrial Park site from Nov. 3 to Dec. 7. Levels for most parameters were much lower than expected for an industrial park and lower than most of those observed at Red Deer Riverside. The contractor noted that there seemed to be a lot less activity in and around the station, compared to when it was there in June. The station was at the Evergreen site from Dec. 7 to Jan. 4 to assist in an Alberta Health Services investigation into hydrocarbon-type odours. No AAAQO exceedances were observed. The ERCB did see some correlation with venting activity and higher hydrocarbon levels when they compared PAMZ data and facility operating records in July. Alberta Health Services installed an indoor air quality sampler for a week during the December monitoring period. The PAMZ monitoring report will be available by February 15. The Martha station is now at Mirror where the issue has been idling of locomotives in rail yards. Many elevated NO₂ readings have been noted, especially during the cold weather, but there have been no AAAQO exceedances. More idling was reported in Bashaw during the time the station was at Mirror. The initial report on this monitoring was shared with the media and all levels of government were represented at an initial public meeting that led PAMZ to conduct the monitoring. The executive will consider how to share the results of this phase of the monitoring when it is completed. Noise and vibration are also part of the issue but are outside PAMZ's mandate. There were improvements (e.g., reduced idling) initially, but concerns have resurfaced, and the resident where the station is located has decided to move later this year.

The McCoy station has been at the West Sundre site since Oct. 5. Levels have been typical of a medium-sized town. The monitoring schedule had planned this station to be at Riverside Industrial Park in January to help with the PM_{2.5} study and identify potential future sites. However, a suitable location could not be found so the schedule was adjusted and the station was left in Sundre. The schedule has been adjusted so that the station will now move to Crossfield-Carstairs in February.

The levels and patterns with the passive program were consistent with historic normals for October and November. Station 19 was found to have been destroyed sometime prior to the November-December change-out and a new temporary site was set up slightly to the north to be used until the ground thaws and the original site can be restored. High NO₂ readings were seen in October at the Baseline Mountain site when a gasoline generator was installed at the site to replace a propane-powered one that does not perform well during cold weather.

Red Deer Riverside PM_{2.5} Study

Kevin presented an overview of the results to date for the Red Deer Riverside PM_{2.5} Study. Novus Environmental was hired as the consultant for the study and given three tasks:

- Analysis of existing monitoring data
- Local air quality modeling and assessment
- Site selection analysis

The first two tasks are completed and task three is underway. Kevin reviewed the findings to date. PAMZ had noted an increase in PM_{2.5} starting in May 2009 while other pollutant mean levels had not changed much. The change in the monitors used is one explanation for the higher levels, with a shift to FDMS TEOMs from conventional TEOMs; conventional TEOMs do not do a good job accounting for secondary particulate. Other stations that made this change noted similar patterns. Canada Wide Standards are all based on results obtained with conventional TEOMs, and the proposed new standards are going to be even stricter.

The second task was to do modeling related to road traffic and the civic yards. The City of Red Deer was very cooperative and efficient in providing data. Based on vehicle emissions, there was a 20% increase in Riverside Drive traffic after the yards went in, but other pollutants don't show the same increase as PM_{2.5}.

The consultant's conclusion is that the higher PM_{2.5} levels are due in part to relocation of the civic yards as well as to the different TEOM monitors.

The case for moving the station remains, as the current site has, in effect, become a fence-line industry monitoring site. Modeling and analysis related to task 3 are continuing. Potential sites will be identified and the McCoy station will be deployed to those locations on a trial basis from August to December 2012 to see what levels could be expected. The overall intent is to find a location that is more representative of the Red Deer urban area.

c) Ozone Management Plan (OMP)

Kevin reported that the committee is reviewing the report on municipal biomass burning bylaws and the report on agricultural BMPs to reduce ozone precursors. The meeting proposed for Jan. 20 was postponed and another date has not yet been set, but likely

will be in early February. The West Central stakeholders, Rimbey area stakeholders and SPOG synergy groups have all expressed interest in a half-day ozone prevention workshop.

d) Issues Response Group (IRG)

Kevin reported that the IRG will meet in early February to a) work through the new issues identification and response tracking form and process for addressing an air quality issue that has been raised in the Ferrier area, and b) plan the annual public issues identification meeting, which is usually held in May. A resident in the Ferrier area has complained to the ERCB about what appear to be intermittent SO₂ odours. This will be the first test of the IRG's new process, which aims to make a decision about PAMZ response within 90 days. The TWG will suggest to the IRG that the May public meeting be held in the Rocky Mountain House area due to the increased amount of development that is happening there.

e) Communications Committee

Monica Rosevear summarized the recent activities of the Communications Committee. The committee is using social media more extensively to reach out to a wider audience, particularly younger people. The Facebook page was, until recently, a group page, and there have been some advantages to shifting to an organization page as more detailed user statistics can be tracked. Kevin is planning a presentation to Sundre high school students at the West Sundre site. Information about the Martha Kostuch scholarship has gone to all universities and high schools in the area. If the number of applications continues to be low, PAMZ may need to broaden the criteria. From September to January the website saw 442 new visitors and 578 return visitors. Monica shared a variety of website statistics, noting that many people look at data from the Red Deer Riverside station. The committee plans to contact all individual ozone workshop participants to see if they have made progress on achieving their pledges; one of them may be profiled in the newsletter. Promotional items planned for 2012 will include memory sticks with a PAMZ presentation and action tattoos for kids; a 2013 calendar with photos from the photo contest is being considered.

Paul Harris offered to help the communications committee with social media activities. The committee may want to update the communications strategy to reflect more focus on social media.

f) Financial

Bob Bryant presented trial balances for PAMZ budget line items. Clearwater County will shortly have a new bookkeeper to work with Bob on PAMZ books. Bob is aiming to set up a meeting in February with the auditor, Kevin and the bookkeeper.

3. UPDATE ON CASA ACTIVITIES

Kevin presented a synopsis of recent CASA activities, based on a report provided by CASA. The following items are most relevant to PAMZ:

- A coordination workshop will be held May 29-30 in Red Deer.
- Work continues on the Data Quality Standard document, which will establish guidelines to bring consistency to ambient data collected under the Air Monitoring Directive.
- A CASA working group is considering if a CASA project team could make further contributions to air quality management issues related to CFOs.
- The Human and Animal Health team is being reconvened. PAMZ was involved with the

previous team and was invited to participate again. Jim Ainslie indicated an interest and Bonnie Denhaan will also be asked about her interest. Ila Johnston may be a corresponding member.

A board member advised he had heard in a CASA team meeting that there may be a new strategic direction for CASA, in which it will take a more proactive approach to air emissions.

Action 67.2: Kevin will follow up with CASA to find out more about this apparent new direction.

4. ALBERTA AIRSHEDS COUNCIL (AAC) UPDATE

Kevin advised that the AAC has not met since the November PAMZ board meeting.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Kevin presented the progress to date in implementing the Monitoring and Assessment components of the five year business plan. The executive reviewed the master table (copy attached) and objectives at its December meeting and reprioritized the objectives to reflect implementation progress.

The following objectives have been completed: 1.1, 1.4 and 4.4.

The following are ongoing: 1.2, 1.3, 2.7, and 2.5.

The following remain to be completed: 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.6, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, and 4.6.

These are spread out over the next three years and responsibility has been assigned to specific committees to oversee implementation and ensure the work gets done.

For objective 2.4, consideration is being given to changing the population of targeted municipalities from 10,000 to more than 5,000.

Action 67.3: Kevin will request five-year plans from other airsheds to see if there are opportunities for collaboration.

Two suggestions were made for the board to consider as it identifies areas for communications, outreach and other activities:

- Look for opportunities to support initiatives that measure performance related to environmental stewardship; e.g., electricity consumption. When people see their own numbers, they have a base for improving their performance, which can improve air quality.
- Encouraging idle-free zones is good, but it would be even better to help communities find ways to discourage single occupancy vehicles and support more active transportation to reduce long-term reliance on vehicles.

It's also always good to recognize good work and promote positive examples. Kevin noted that transportation planning is part of the longer term OMP.

The board meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm.

Lauren Maris, Environmental Program Specialist with the City of Red Deer, presented an overview of Red Deer's Environmental Master Plan (attached). She noted that PAMZ, through Kevin, had provided very good input to help develop targets for air quality. She described the components of the plan, summarized the actions in the seven key focus areas, and briefly noted the approach the City took to public engagement. The plan is available on the City's website at: www.reddeer.ca/EnvironmentalMasterPlan