



**Minutes:** Board of Directors Meeting  
**Date:** September 21, 2011  
**Location:** Pioneer Lodge, Red Deer

**In attendance**

Board Members and Alternates:

Bob Bryant, Government  
 Buck Buchanan, Government  
 Dale Christian, Public  
 Bonnie Denhaan, Public  
 Cody Dziadek, Industry  
 Brian Goliss, Industry  
 Amber Hines, Government  
 Andy Lamb, Government  
 Jennifer Lutz, Government  
 Alasdair Mackinnon, Government  
 Reg Watson, Public  
 Kevin Warren, Executive Director

**Absent with Regrets**

Jim Ainslie, Public  
 Rod Boshnick, Industry  
 Andrea Brack, Industry  
 Ken Dahl, Government  
 Esther Johnston, Government  
 Barry Kinnaird, Industry  
 Bill Knight, Public  
 Cliff Knutsen, Government  
 Kim Ng, Public  
 Dan Richen, Government  
 Al Simcoe, Industry  
 Leonard Standing on the Road, Government  
 Wayne Ungstad, Public  
 Brian Vanderzwan, Industry

Meeting Support:

Kim Sanderson

**ACTION ITEM SUMMARY**

Item	Who	Deadline
65.2: Kevin and Bob will meet 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 Bryant	October 31

Brian Goliss, PAMZ past chair, convened the meeting at 3:15 pm. Those present introduced themselves.

**1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**1.1 Approve Agenda**

The agenda was approved as circulated.

**1.2 Minutes of June 15, 2011 Meeting**

The minutes of the June 15, 2011 meeting were approved by consensus as circulated.

### 1.3 Report on Action Items

Item	Status
65.1: Kevin will obtain quotes for hats and report back to the Board.	Done. Kevin took advantage of a reduced price and ordered 100 hats.
65.2: Kevin and Bob will meet with the auditor to review the costs and get some assurance that things are in order so similar increases can be avoided next year.	Carry forward.

### 1.4 Memberships

Kevin advised that two large companies still owe a total of \$2200. Small companies have paid \$25,000. Kevin made a presentation to the Town of Sundre on September 12<sup>th</sup> to solicit continued participation in PAMZ and assistance in locating a monitoring site for the last quarter of 2011 for the McCoy station. He will be touring the town with the public works manager to try and locate a suitable site with power. Kevin will present to the Red Deer Environmental Advisory board on October 19, focusing on PM and wood burning.

Kevin reviewed the purchases made as part of the membership recognition program which was approved at the last meeting. Items will be assigned and distributed after today's meeting as appropriate. Items include pins, golf shirts, t-shirts and ball caps.

## 2. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### a) Technical Working Group (TWG)

#### Audit

Brian Goliss reported for the TWG, which met September 16. The monitoring stations were recently audited and the results are comparable to previous audits. Brian reviewed the results for each station; of note:

- Standard Operating Procedures will be adjusted to ensure more frequent cleaning of equipment at several stations.
- Two PM<sub>2.5</sub> analyzers failed the audit for different reasons and some data will need to be invalidated.
- A TRS analyzer failed and some data will need to be corrected.
- Ambient air temperatures were out by one degree C at both McCoy and Martha stations, and some site documentation was incomplete or could not be located.

The findings have been reviewed with Focus and a letter was sent to AENV describing the responses to the audit. PAMZ received an audit closure letter from AENV on September 8 based on the actions proposed by PAMZ and Focus.

#### Red Deer PM<sub>2.5</sub> update

At the last board meeting, Kevin reported that PM<sub>2.5</sub> values had jumped at the Red Deer site, thought to be due to two things: a) the new version of the TEOM that better accounts for the presence of VOCs so it gives higher readings, and b) the City of Red Deer has moved its yards closer to the monitoring station and there is more industrial activity in the area, so more PM is being recorded. This site is used to calculate the Air Quality Health Index for Red Deer but in fact it may now be more typical of an industrial site.

This is an issue because the current readings exceed the management trigger in the CASA PM and Ozone Management Framework, and thus a management plan would

need to be developed. The eventual goal is to relocate this site. The current Canada-wide Standards are being replaced by new standards, which will be more stringent. The CASA team is waiting to see what these new numerical values will be and will then consider what adjustments are needed to the framework. PAMZ is working with Novus Consultants to develop a proposal to do further data assessment, modeling and alternate site selection since it doesn't make sense to use data from this station to drive air quality management decisions for PAMZ, the City of Red Deer, and others with an interest. A proposal will be submitted to AENV by September 30, which will include work to clearly identify the sources and options; the City of Red Deer may be approached for assistance with the study or future monitoring. The budget for the first three parts of the study to be done in the 2011 Government of Alberta (GoA) fiscal year comes to about \$30,000. Funding for a fourth part of the study (modeling for new site) will be applied for in the 2012 GoA fiscal year. If funds are not available from AENV, PAMZ may need to hold off on the project and budget for this work in 2012.

#### 2012 Monitoring Contract

Sharon Whitely, who was responsible for the reporting tasks, has left Focus and will be working directly for PAMZ through her new company, Whiteley Enterprises Inc., on an interim basis for three months until Focus can train new personnel. The Focus contract will be amended accordingly and a new contract will be entered into with Whiteley Enterprises Inc. The Focus contract expires at the end of 2011 and Kevin has requested pricing for 2012 for the operations and management (O & M) component of the monitoring network and a proposal to take back the reporting tasks. The TWG is proposing to renew the O & M contract with Focus for 2012; at its November meeting, the TWG will review Focus's forthcoming proposal for the reporting before making a decision to remain with Whiteley Enterprises or switch back to Focus.

#### **b) Air Monitoring Program**

Kevin reviewed the locations and dates for the portable monitoring stations for 2011. The schedule was changed slightly over the summer, adding the Evergreen site in July as requested by Alberta Health Services (AHS). Monitoring began one month sooner at Carlos. The Sundre location scheduled for the fourth quarter will be finalized shortly.

Kevin reviewed the results of the program since the last board meeting.

At Caroline, all levels were within historical normals. There were a few incidents of extreme precipitation that overwhelmed the PM<sub>2.5</sub> analyzer and results were invalidated. The new data acquisition and control system should be installed this month.

The Red Deer station had one exceedance of the daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> objective on June 27 due to forest fire smoke from northern Alberta. Occasional elevated H<sub>2</sub>S readings (still below the AAAQO of 10 ppb) were also recorded; these were attributed to the Three Mile Bend Sewage Treatment facilities and warm temperatures.

The Martha station was at Carlos from June 8 to July 6; levels were at or near background, except for some elevated THC readings early in the morning due to resident activity with farm machinery. It was at the Evergreen site east of highway 766 from July 6 to August 3 in response to a request by AHS and the ERCB to address a resident's odour complaints. Levels of most compounds were found to be at or near background, with the exception of elevated THC (mainly methane), which were observed during periods of low wind speed (usually evenings and mornings). The ERCB agreed to

check for fugitive emissions later this month. Kevin also learned that AHS has not yet done any indoor air quality testing to complement the PAMZ monitoring, and he is following up to learn the status of this sampling. This station was at North Innisfail from August 3 to Sept. 7; levels of all substances were quite low given the location in a large town. There were no episodes of elevated acute THC levels, as seen in February.

The McCoy station was at Dogpound from May 3 to July 6, where levels of all compounds were at or near background. There was some delay moving the station to the Horn Hill site due to wet ground at the old and new sites. PAMZ is monitoring near the proposed Bio-Energy Facility at the Horn Hill Regional Landfill to gather benchmark data in case the facility goes ahead. The plan is to then move this station to a site in or near Sundre for the last quarter of 2011.

Passive results over the summer showed typical levels, although ozone was lower than usual in July due to cool, wet weather.

Kevin advised that a master's student with U of A professor Warren Kindzierski has proposed a project to assess the precision, accuracy, and uncertainty of passive samplers. The student will look at data collected by various airsheds from sites that have duplicate or triplicate samples as well as co-located data from sites that have both continuous and passive sampling. The report will be shared with all airshed organizations that participate. The PAMZ TWG agreed to provide PAMZ's data for the study and Kevin is waiting to hear from the student.

The TWG considered the IRG recommendations for the 2012 monitoring schedule. A final schedule will be presented for approval at the November board meeting.

The following locations were proposed for the Martha station, in order of priority:

1. North side of highway 587, west of the Red Deer river (drilling and flaring)
2. Red Deer Edgar Industrial Park (new site on east side)
3. Bluffton area (oil and gas)
4. Delburne (follow up to monitoring done two years ago)
5. Mirror (strategic monitoring related to train yards)
6. Secondary highway (cargo emissions)

The following locations were proposed for the McCoy station:

Jan-Mar	Red Deer Riverside Industrial Park (possibly > 1 location)
Apr-Jun	Crossfield-Carstairs
July-Sep	Candidate New Red Deer Site
Oct-Dec	Lacombe

Note: the Red Deer Riverside Site was removed from the original list of recommended locations for the Martha Station after the TWG decided to use the McCoy station for this site instead.

### **c) Ozone Management Plan (OMP)**

This group has not met in a while. Sue Arrison continues to work on the literature review of best management practices to reduce ozone precursors in the agriculture industry, and on the review of municipal burning bylaws. She has developed some recommendations that could be incorporated to existing bylaws so more information is available to help make decisions about when to burn.

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

The IRG met August 11 to look at input from the PAMZ public meeting in Lacombe and at complaints from the NRCB, ERCB and AENV. The IRG developed recommendations for the TWG to consider for the 2012 portable monitoring schedule, as noted above.

The IRG proposes to add two teleconference meetings per year to the issues identification process. This would enable more timely review of complaints and issues identified and provide a chance to modify the monitoring schedule if needed. This aligns with the changes proposed in the PAMZ five-year strategic plan. Kevin presented an outline of the process to the board. The IRG has also developed a tracking form, available on the website, which IRG members can use as new issues arise. The term of the current chair is up in February.

#### **e) Communications Committee**

Kevin reported that the Communications Committee will meet September 30. The fall newsletter will be ready for distribution in the next few days. There were eight finalists for the Martha Kostuch scholarship, which was awarded to Colby Morris who is taking environmental science at the University of Lethbridge. PAMZ will have a booth at the upcoming Synergy conference October 24-26.

#### **f) Financial**

Bob Bryant presented the current financial statements, noting that some adjustments are needed in the documentation; this will be addressed when the bookkeeper returns from holidays.

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

Kevin advised that the CASA PM and Ozone team met in July to hear the results of the 2008-2010 assessment. The team will meet shortly to review the draft guidance document that has been developed for achievement determination for the new Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards. This document would replace a similar document that now exists for the Canada-wide Standards. Kevin has not received an update on CASA activities from the secretariat. He provided a short summary of the four goals that emerged from CASA's strategic planning retreat in June:

- Goal 1: Strategic Advice
- Goal 2: Supporting Air Quality Management
- Goal 3: Information and Knowledge
- Goal 4: Communication and Outreach

More details are available on the CASA website at:

<http://www.industrymailout.com/Industry/LandingPage.aspx?id=782344&p=1>

PAMZ board members should be on the list to receive the Clean Air Bulletin, and can sign up at: <http://www.industrymailout.com/Industry/Subscribe.aspx?m=2991>.

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

Kevin advised that the fall meeting of the AAC was cancelled, but a teleconference is scheduled for next week. There is some uncertainty about who will assume the second co-chair position; for now, Mike Bisaga will continue as one co-chair.

**5. OTHER BUSINESS**

A board member asked about the status of the recommendations from the Alberta Environmental Monitoring Panel. Andy Lamb noted that AENV is considering the recommendations, the main one being the establishment of a new independent environmental monitoring commission that would monitor air, water, land and biodiversity. No decision is expected until after the new premier is in place.

**6. DATES, LOCATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS AT FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS**

The next meeting is November 23, 2011.

The board meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

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Cory Doll with Alberta Environment presented an overview of a recent consultant's report that looked at the quantitative and qualitative value of airshed zones and WPACs, and how to develop resiliency in funding these entities. Examples and case studies of various funding options were provided.