



**Environmental Management Commission  
Meeting Minutes – November 9, 2011**

Meeting Location: Mid-America Regional Council – 600 Broadway

Commissioners present: Carol Adams, Jensen Adams, Tom Brink, Lance Conley, Molly Davies, Elizabeth Fischer, Jim Hansen, Ken Kramme, Robin Martinez, Chuck Moore, Jack Schrimsher, Tom Wyrsh

Staff: Dennis Murphey, Andy Savastino, Jerry Shechter – OEQ, Matt Gigliotti – Law Dept., Scott Cahail – Water Services Department; Marilyn Sanders – City Clerk's Office

Guests: Jan Kramme

Carol Adams, Co-Chair, opened the meeting at 4:05 pm; a quorum was present

- A. Welcome and Introductions  
The Chair welcomed returning and newly appointed commissioners, staff and guests to the EMC meeting. Everyone introduced themselves.
- B. Oath of Office – Marilyn Sanders, City Clerk's Office administered the oath of office to the assembled commissioners. Being sworn in, a quorum was present. Maria Coppock asked that she be excused from attending the meeting. She has MS and must wear a liquid-cooled body suit and that suit has a broken part. She fully expects to attend the next meeting.
- C. Minutes of September 14, 2011 – Tom Wyrsh made a motion, seconded by Jack Schrimsher, to approve the minutes of September 14, 2011. The motion passed.
- D. Review of EMC Background, Initiatives, Accomplishments, Presentation to Mayor and City Council, and List of issues to Stimulate Thinking and for the Commissioners to get a good understanding of the effectiveness and impact of the EMC – Carol Adams, current EMC Co-Chair
  1. A CD was distributed that contains a wide range of informational documents about the EMC
  2. Carol Adams noted there has never been a more favorable environment supporting the potential to make a difference. Jack Schrimsher noted that Kansas City is not well enough known nationally for its efforts to achieve sustainability although this is changing. And we appear to be even less well known locally.
  3. Dennis Murphey will provide information that has been provided to the Mayor and City Council and staff. He explained what we mean when we talk about sustainability – a balancing of social equity, environmental well-being, and economic vitality. He also noted how many other cities now turn to KC as a leader in the move toward sustainability.
  4. On November 11, 2011, Dennis Murphey will make a presentation to the annual meeting of the National League of Cities on sustainability in the KC region. Mayor Pro-Tem Cindy Circo will make a presentation about cities institutionalizing sustainability and EMC Co-Chair Bob Berkebile will be the keynote speaker...
- E. Office of Environmental Quality – Dennis Murphey
  1. The Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ) operates in two divisions. The first is Environmental Compliance which makes sure that Kansas City, a \$1.3 billion operation, is in compliance with environmental regulations. The second is Sustainability and Climate Protection which is charged with implementing the City's Climate Protection Plan.
    - a. Andy Savastino, Environmental Compliance Manager, OEQ – Environmental Compliance Division has four employees who:
      - (1) inspect city properties and facilities for compliance.
      - (2) coordinate monthly meetings of the Environmental Coordinating Managers comprised of staff from each City department and oversee the Environmental Management System (EMS). As part of the

EMS, standards are established each year for each department against which progress/impact is measured and best management practices are defined and implemented annually. This process has been in place since 1996.

- (3) facilitate training of city staff on a wide range of environmental topics including those requiring certifications
  - (4) consulting and oversight for technical and hazardous materials abatement activities and hazardous waste management
  - (5) oversee and coordinate internal recycling
  - (6) conduct regulatory inspections for hazardous waste, indoor health and air quality, etc.
- b. Matt Gigliotti is the City's Environmental Attorney and is a good resource.
2. The City's Green Solutions Team, established by Administrative Regulation (AR) 5-5, is comprised of department heads and is chaired by Dennis Murphey. There are four green teams currently meeting – Resource Management, Education and Outreach, Green Infrastructure, and Regulation & Policy. Chuck Moore asked about rain garden program status. Scott Cahail responded that the program did a good job promoting rain gardens but the resources have dried up so there is now less impact.
  3. Dennis Murphey – Other than compliance, there is a focus on implementing the Climate Protection Plan and partnerships throughout the region. Kansas City is a pioneer with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) having signed a consent decree that promotes green solutions. The Green Solutions administrative regulation (AR 5-5) grew out of the Wet Weather Panel's recommendation to embrace green solutions to reduce water volumes flowing into the water system by capturing water in place as a first step before building concrete and steel. Subsequently, Municipal Court has gone paperless and City Planning & Development is in process of going paperless for development submissions. City Council now expects staff to address a triple bottom line approach. This was reinforced by City Council adding a question to each ordinance/resolution request – "How will this contribute to a sustainable Kansas City?" – That must be answered in a way other than "yes" or "no".
  4. Jerry Shechter, Sustainability Coordinator, OEQ – The City has received two large energy efficiency grants from the US Department of Energy. The smaller of the two is a grant the amount of which was determined by formula resulting in a grant of \$4,823,200. The second was awarded following a competitive process in the amount of \$20 million. While the competitive grant (called EnergyWorks KC) will be detailed at a later meeting, the formula grant was detailed at this meeting. Program elements include:
    - (1) Blue River Athletic Field Trail – Parks & Recreation - alternative transportation and connecting other major trail segments that eventually connect Olathe, Ks to the Riverfront Heritage Trail.
    - (2) Modification of the Development/Zoning Code, and resultant Area Plans – City Planning & Development - to achieve greater transportation efficiency
    - (3) Upgrade of the energy conservation codes– City Planning & Development - from IECC 2006 to either IECC 2009 or IECC 2012. IECC (International Energy Conservation Code) 2009 results in buildings approximately 12%-14% more energy efficient than IECC 2006; IECC 2012 results in buildings approximately 30% more energy efficient than IECC 2006;
    - (4) Energy Conservation Project 1 – General Services/Facilities Management – Upgrading Wolf Garage, City Hall and Health Department facilities including such amenities as: LED lights, photovoltaics and wind generators for electricity in Wolf Garage, variable frequency motor drives, solar domestic hot water on City Hall and Health Department, etc. Sustainability education for all city employees.
    - (5) PC Power Management – IT – Software to shut down PC systems evenings, weekends and holidays.
    - (6) Traffic Signal Conversion from incandescent lights to LED – Public Works
    - (7) Traffic Signal Synchronization Center – Capital Improvements
    - (8) REECS – Regional Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy – Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) – Based on a policy directive in the Climate Protection Plan - extending what we are doing to regional implementation and including a partnership of 11 regional cities in the contract with MARC.
- F. EMC Retreat – Carol Adams – What EMC does is driven by its Commissioners.
- There was a general discussion about when each Commissioner might be able to meet and what might be their focus of interest
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| Robin Martinez -  | Saturdays are good; water conservation  |
| Tom Brink –       | Saturdays are good; energy efficiency, smart phones, etc  |
| Tom Wyrsh -       | Saturdays are good; trails; environmental management system   |
| Jack Schrimsher - | Saturdays are good; building codes; pervious pavement; City public relations about progress toward sustainability |
| Jim Hansen -      | Saturdays are good; Development Code; energy code; LEED   |
| Chuck Moore -     | Saturdays are good; energy efficiency; trails   |

Lance Conley - Saturdays are good; trails; healthy environments  
Molly Davies - Saturdays are good; environmental health; water conservation; education  
Jensen Adams - Saturdays are good; affordable housing; transportation; meet at Project Living Proof?  
Elizabeth Fischer - Saturdays are good; moving environmental from fringe to mainstream; pedestrian transportation; how KC fits into the larger region  
Carol Adams - Saturdays are good; first half of January with a backup snow date; See the EMC Presentation to City Council from July, 2011  
A suggestion was made to consider securing Liberty memorial for the meeting  
Matt Gigliotti cautioned the Commissioners to consider the open meetings law and to hold the meeting at a venue that is accessible.

The Commissioners were asked to consider if they would like a tour of city facilities and if they might like to meet with various department heads.

G. Liaison Updates – Carol Adams explained the EMC has had “delegates” to the Air Quality Forum and to the Solid Waste Management District. Each of these positions is now vacant.

H. Old Business – None

I. New Business - None

J. Remarks from Visitors – None

K. Announcements

1. Jerry Shechter noted that MARC annually holds an awards ceremony called “Sustainable Success Stories” with the next awards being given out on December 2, 2011 at the Kauffman Foundation. Two of the awardees are: Metropolitan Energy Center – Project Living Proof, and UMKC – Facilities Management

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2011 at MARC at 4:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm