



**Environmental Management Commission
Meeting Minutes – September 14, 2011**

Meeting Location: Mid-America Regional Council – 600 Broadway

Commissioners present: Carol Adams, Jensen Adams, Bob Berkebile, Molly Davies, Marty Kraft, Jack Schrimsher

Staff: Dennis Murphey, Andy Savastino, Jerry Shechter – OEQ, Matt Gigliotti – Law Dept.,

Guests: Becky Weber, Lynn Slugentz, Bob Asten and Alex Owutaka – US EPA Region VII; Aaron Schmidt from M-DNR; and Jim Hansen

Carol Adams, Co-Chair, opened the meeting at 4:15 pm; a quorum was present

A. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed commissioners, staff and guests to the EMC meeting. Everyone introduced themselves.

B. Minutes of June 8, 2011 and May 11, 2011 – Jensen Adams made a motion, seconded by Jack Schrimsher, to approve the minutes of June 8, 2011. The motion passed.

C. Use of Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) at Bannister Federal Complex – Becky Weber, Lynn Slugentz, Bob Asten and Alex Owutaka

The choice has been made to use RCRA rather than Superfund to address site cleanup at the Bannister Federal Complex. RCRA has been chosen as it is a quicker approach with greater public transparency, there is a RCRA permit already in place, and RCRA addresses environmental as well as economic where Superfund does not address economic issues. The coverage of the permit has to be expanded to take in the entire site but that is a relatively easy process. Monday, 9/19/11, there will be a public meeting on the permit issue. EPA and M-DNR have a memorandum of agreement (MOA) in place detailing relative responsibilities for different activities.

Lyn provided an update status report on the hazardous waste permit. The proposed solution is to address the entire site under a single RCRA permit which allows for one set of regulations and clear areas of liability. Public notice has gone out. There will be a single summary report which will be the Description of Current Conditions. New risk assessment will be done based on the current conditions plus potential future site uses and occupancies. PCB contamination is a focus. Goal – To identify areas on site where more work may be needed. Public comment will be due in November, 2011 and new language for the revised permit is to be drafted by Spring, 2012. EPA anticipates this part of the process will extend to Fall, 2012.

Aaron Schmitz from M-DNR discussed the map provided in the handout – the extent of ground water contamination based on 2010 data. The testing of the site has included vapor intrusion into buildings including the day care facility.

Carol Adams asked about workers that may have been harmed and how that will be addressed. EPA noted that this current process is not to address past or current exposures but possible future exposures.

After additional discussion, Carol Adams and Bob Berkebile thanked the EPA and M-DNR representatives for their presentation.

D. Office of Environmental Quality – Jerry Shechter

1. USDN Innovation Opportunity grant award to KC, Columbia and St. Louis, through KC, to collaborate with University of Missouri Extension to survey best practices and policies from cities around the US to promote urban agriculture, local food production and to prepare a guidebook to share with all USDN members.

2. Jay Hodges, Sr. Advisor to Mayor James, and Dennis Murphey attended the Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy on Creating, Leading, and Managing Change. The Academy, in Washington, DC, was conducted by the Institute for Sustainable Communities. The workshop was attended by teams from 25 cities across the US and Canada and provided an opportunity to explore ways that sustainability staff in local governments can promote change in their organizations to make sustainability a part of their corporate culture.
3. KC, Mo Administrative Regulation (AR) 5-5, Green Solutions and Sustainability, was revised to expressly identify sustainability as a priority for all City departments. The City has reconstituted that Green Solutions Steering Committee and the 4 Green Teams/team leaders:
 - Education & Outreach – Andy Savastino, OEQ
 - Regulation & Policy – Forest Decker, Parks & Recreation
 - Green Infrastructure – Travis Kiefer, Parks & Recreation
 - Resource Management – John Franklin, Municipal Court
4. International City Managers Association (ICMA) shot a five-minute video in Kansas City that will be featured at the ICMA annual meeting next week. The video included brief remarks by Mayor Sly James, Mayor Pro Tem Cindy Circo, Councilwoman Jan Marcason, City Manager Troy Schulte, and Chief Environmental Officer Dennis Murphey.
5. Regional Energy Efficiency & Conservation Strategy (REECS) – an activity/process collaboratively funded by the metro area cities who were EECBG formula grant recipients in a single contract with MARC
 - a. MARC held a workshop for local code officials, the Greater KC Home Builders Association, and others re a comparison of energy code standards – IECC (International Energy Conservation Codes) 2006-2009-2012 standards for energy efficiency requirements in buildings.
 - b. MARC published a request for proposals for an experienced firm to perform a regional survey about energy efficiency awareness and implementation and has subsequently signed an agreement. Survey questions have been drafted and are being reviewed.
6. EnergyWorks KC (EWKC) – EWKC is the KC, Mo program funded using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) dollars through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block (competitive) Grant (EECBG) Better Buildings Neighborhood Program.
 - a. As part of EWKC, MARC held its first meeting of the local advisory committee who is working with MARC and its contractor assessing the options for creating one or more Clean Energy Development Boards to implement commercial PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) initiatives in the metro area.
 - b. Original EWKC financing initiative has been reprogrammed due to poor response to several requests for proposals. DOE recently approved the reprogramming and final planning is in process to provide rebates, a loan loss reserve program (LLR), a revolving loan program (RLF), and interest rate buy-downs (IRBD). All marketing collateral is being refocused. The City is planning contractor training focused on improving marketing and sales capability.

E. Liaison Updates

1. Air Quality Forum – Carol Adams – Implementation of the new federal ozone standard has been deferred leaving in place the current, less stringent standard of 75 ppb. Even at that level, KC will probably be found to be in non-attainment and will need to go to SIP by 2013. The new, more stringent standard may be in effect by that time. The recommendation is to advocate for more aggressive national standards. It was also recognized that much of the pollutants come in on winds from the west/southwest.

F. Old Business – None

G. New Business

1. Carol Adams – The group studying City finances has begun meeting. In the recent past, the EMC has made some substantive comments/recommendations to the City with regard to budgeting and these should not be lost. They include:
 - a. Energy conservation and utility tax receipts
 - b. Resource recovery as an enterprise department
 - c. Conservation-based water/sewer rates
 The EMC should at least reiterate these positions to the City by communicating with the new Mayor and City Council. Marty Kraft made a motion, seconded by Molly Davies, authorizing the co-chairs to draft a letter communicating these issues to the Mayor with copy to the City Council and City Manager. The motion passed.
2. Jerry Shechter - The 2011 HUD Sustainable Housing Conference is scheduled for September 27-28, 2011 at the Downtown Marriott. Registration can be made via the MARC website.

3. Marty Kraft – There is a grant opportunity needing an letter of interest to be submitted for implementation of a bio-char project. The letter of intent is due September 19, 2011 so there may not be time to do anything. Marty will send information to Jerry Shechter to review.

H. Remarks and Announcements – None

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2011 at MARC at 4:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm