



**Environmental Management Commission
Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2013**

Meeting Location: Mid-America Regional Council

Commissioners present: Jensen Adams, Tom Brink, Lance Conley, Carolyn Davies, Elizabeth Fischer, Jim Hansen, Marty Kraft, Ken Kramme, Sal Madge, Robin Martinez, Jason Parson

Staff: Dennis Murphey and Jerry Shechter – OEQ, Matt Gigliotti – Law Dept, Scott Cahail – Water Services

Guests: Lisa McDaniel – MARC; Allen Norman

At the request of the Co-chairs, Dennis Murphey chaired the meeting; the meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm; a quorum was present

- A. Welcome and Introductions - The Chair welcomed commissioners and guests.
- B. Minutes – Jim Hansen made a motion, seconded by Jensen Adams, to approve the minutes of the meeting of January, 2013. The motion was approved.
- C. Solid Waste Management (SWM) District – Lisa McDaniel, MARC
 1. There are 20 SWM districts around Missouri which are funded by landfill tipping fees. MARC has used the funds, in part, to make grants, since the early 1990's, in the immediate 5-county region. Many of the SWMD's receive too little to pay for anything other than minimal management costs.
 2. A bill has been presented in the Missouri Senate – SB13 – that would pull funding from the SWMD's and pay for central operation by Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). Local control of funds would be lost. And, because there would be a reduced need for administrative expenses to be covered, the tipping fees would be reduced. Tipping fees currently total approximately \$3 million per year. The bill has passed out of committee and is being worked toward the Senate floor for a vote.
 3. SB13 is based on the concept that sufficient recycling is being done and the SWMD agencies (the "middle-man" agencies) like MARC are no longer needed.
 4. Districts in KC, St. Louis, and Springfield are active in grant making with a high percentage of funds passed through to sub-grantees. Rural SWMD's get much less and use a higher percentage for administrative expenses.
 5. Any replacement agencies would need enabling legislation from the State.
 6. If the middle agencies, like MARC, are eliminated, there would still be a possibility to apply for grants, however, priorities will be as follows:
 - (a) Sheltered workshops
 - (b) Recycling services providers
 - (c) other
 7. The bill is in process of modification and MARC does not know the sense of the House on this issue.
 8. Historically, the EMC has held the position on the SWMD as one of KCMO's four allotted positions – along with Michael Shaw, Marlene Leonce, and Dennis Murphey.
 9. In response to a question as to whether or not legislation would allow for MDNR to outsource management, Lisa noted there are no funds for MDNR to learn about solid waste management.
- D. Waste to Energy – Deferred to March meeting
- E. Solid Waste Management Eco-Center - Deferred to March meeting
- F. Proposed City Budget – Dennis Murphey
 1. City Manager's Budget has been sent the Mayor – who will send it, plus any suggestions for changes, to City Council on February 14, 2013. Public hearings are being held now. The budget will be formally introduced to

the Council on February 28, 2013 with discussions to be in early March. On March 28, 2013, the budget will heard at the Council legislative session for adoption.

2. Carol Adams attended a public hearing on February 9, 2013. In her absence, she provided a written summary of that hearing and some suggestions to the EMC..
 - (a) Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory update was originally planned for 2012 to develop data through 2010. The process was deferred due to the budget revenue problem. Staff has proposed to do the update in 2013-2014 to update through 2012 to check progress toward achieving goals established in the Climate Protection Plan. An updated inventory is expected to cost about \$80,000. However, the amount is not in the City Manager's budget recommendation.
 - (b) The Climate Protection Steering Committee (CPSC) has sent a letter to the Mayor, City Council and City Manager asking for consideration to include the amount in the budget. Carol Adams has suggested that the EMC develop and send a letter in support as well. The Commissioners reviewed the points in the drafted set of summary comments provided by Ms. Adams. Jensen Adams suggested the EMC should at least affirm the CPSC letter. Jensen Adams made a motion, seconded by Carolyn Davies, authorizing the Co-Chairs to develop and send a letter to the Mayor, City Council and City Manager, affirming the CPSC letter and its intent. The motion was approved.
 - (c) The next public budget hearing is scheduled for February 23, 2013 at the South Patrol Division building.
- G. Update on Sustainable and Beneficial Uses of Vacant Lots – Robin Martinez
1. All land previously held by Land Trust and by the City has been transferred to the newly established Land Bank.
 2. The Land Bank is being administered by Dave Park – the new Executive Director. Robin has provided Dave a connection in the City of Lenexa which has done some of the things that Kansas City, MO might do. It is expected the Land Bank will, with input from the EMC, begin working on mid-term and long-term policy.
- H. Office of Environmental Quality Report – Dennis Murphey
1. Missouri Green Sales Tax Holiday – This “holiday” has been authorized by the State of Missouri for each April 19-April 25 annually. The law provides for vendors, in the State of Missouri, to sell Energy Star rated® appliances with no state sales taxes charged. The law also allows other Missouri jurisdictions to opt-in annually, which Kansas City has normally done. The law requires that each jurisdiction declare its intent annually at least 45 days prior to the holiday. City Ordinance No. 130098, sponsored by CW Circo and CW Marcason, has been submitted to City Council to opt-in for 2013. The ordinance should be in Finance, Governance and Ethics Committee on Wednesday, February 20, 2013 at 8:30 am. Marty Kraft made a motion, seconded by Jason Parson, to endorse the opt-in by the City. The motion passed.
 2. A replacement for Chuck Moore, who recently resigned his position as EMC Commissioner, should be approved shortly by the Mayor.
 3. Solar panels – The City is one signature away from an agreement to install solar panels, on the rooftops of 40 City buildings. KCP&L got a tariff approved by the Public Service Commission (PSC) that would allow for a second solar services agreement for another 40 rooftops. A preliminary review of the draft agreement with KCP&L is being completed.
 4. On February 28, 2103, Dennis Murphey will present make a presentation to the City Council at its Business Session which will be an update on activities implemented since the Climate Protection Plan was adopted.
 5. The City's Annual Environmental Report and Sustainable Activities should be ready for distribution next week.
 - Jensen Adams asked about the status of Climate Protection planning by other jurisdictions in the region. Only a couple have actually adopted plans.
 - Jensen Adams asked about what is happening to sustainability staff as funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) runs out. Dennis noted that this has been a topic of interest by the members of the Heartland Sustainability Directors Network. The network was established, in part, to try to help set up support systems.
 - Dennis Murphey noted that state legislation is being submitted to legislatures in Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Oklahoma, and Nebraska proposing an “anti-sustainability” position.
- I. Urban Acupuncture - Deferred to March meeting
- J. Liaison Updates
1. Air Quality Forum – Dennis Murphey reported –
 - (a) There was a presentation by Missouri and Kansas that reduced funding is causing reduced activities.

- (b) Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) – With regard to the Sunflower plant area around DeSoto, KS, the Supreme Court has heard arguments but has yet to render a decision re KDHE's issuance of a construction permit for the facility.
 - (c) US-EPA – Sequestration may be a reality that will impose an 8% across the board cut in funding for the fiscal year. However, because half the fiscal year is gone, the impact may be closer to 14%-15% for the balance of this fiscal year.
- K. Old Business – (1) There was discussion about the status of the Bannister federal complex regarding how the area may be classified for development. (2) As noted in minutes of previous EMC meeting, there have been discussions about potential development in the 1st and 2nd Creek areas north of the river. It was asked that this issue be placed on the agenda possibly for next month.
- L. New Business – (1) Jerry Shechter reported that he had spoken, in City Hall, with Ashok Gupta of Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) which is opening an office in the Kansas City region. (2) Dennis Noted that Ashley Hand, previously a contractor working with MARC on their Solar Rooftop Challenge grant, has been appointed the City's new Innovations Officer in the Mayor's Office.
- M. Visitor Remarks - None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for

March 13, 2013
4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Mid-America Regional Council
600 Broadway – 2nd Floor