

TO: Western North Carolina Regional Air Quality Agency Board of Directors
FROM: Betsy Brown, Air Quality Supervisor
SUBJECT: January 8, 2018
DATE: March 2, 2018

Please find attached a copy of the **MINUTES** from the January 8, 2018 Board Meeting. The next meeting of the WNCRAQA Board is scheduled **Monday, March 12, 2018**, in the meeting room at the Buncombe County Permit Office at 30 Valley Street, Asheville, N.C. 28801.

The Western North Carolina Regional Air Quality Agency Board of Directors met on Monday, January 8, 2018, in the meeting room at the Buncombe County Permit Office located at 30 Valley Street, Asheville, N.C.

The attendance of the Board members was as follows:

Members Present:

*Britt Lovin
Dean Kahl
Karl Koon
Joel Storrow*

Members Absent:

Vonna Cloninger

Staff Present: *David Brigman, Director; Ashley Featherstone, Air Quality Permitting Program Manager; Kevin Lance, Field Services Program Manager; Betsy Brown, AQ Supervisor; Mike Matthews, Senior AQ Specialist; James Raiford, Senior AQ Specialist*

Others Present: *Vijay Kapoor, City Council Liaison; Mike Plemmons, CIBO; Brandon Freeman, County Attorney*

Mr. Lovin called the meeting of the Western North Carolina Regional Air Quality Agency Board of Directors to order on January 8, 2018 at approximately 3:59 pm.

The order of business was as follows:

I. Public Comment Protocol Announcement

Mr. Lovin started the meeting by reading the announcement about the public comment protocol.

II. Adjustment and approval of agenda

Mr. Koon made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Storrow seconded. The motion passed, 4-0.

III. Consent Agenda:

A. Approval of minutes from November 13, 2017.

Mr. Storrow made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dr. Kahl seconded. Motion passed, 4-0.

IV. Director's Report:

A. Monitoring Update- On December 22 the Agency set two new PM 2.5 monitors on the top of the Board of Education building. The technology utilized by the equipment that was replaced is the FRM or federal reference method. The monitors replaced are over 10 years old. The new monitors are up and doing well. The analysis happens in Raleigh, and it takes about a month for us to get the data.

- B. WNC Pallet Update-** After the last meeting, WNC Pallet paid the last payment for the 2016 annual permit fee. Since they have sold off most of the pallet-making equipment, it appears that the facility may not need to have a permit. It looks like they are mainly out of the pallet making business. We are waiting for final information. David Brigman and Betsy Brown inspected the facility and they are down to just a few pieces of equipment. They are focusing on their firewood supply business, which involves cutting and splitting.
- C. Volkswagen Settlement Update-** Ashley Featherstone. There is a hand out from the state's website in the board packet. There has been a lot of interest in the Volkswagen, VW, settlement because there is quite a bit of money going out to the states in order to address the impact of the NOx emissions that resulted from the defeat devices on some of their vehicles. Mr. Koon asked about this at our last meeting. In December, Governor Roy Cooper, announced The Division of Environmental Quality, the Division of Air Quality, would be handling the funds for North Carolina. NC was taking public comment for suggestions of types of projects they should consider and various aspects of the program. We have applied and received this type of grant money before that was used here in Buncombe County for school bus and fire engine retrofits. It is mostly about reducing NOx emissions from diesel engines. There are different project possibilities for Western North Carolina. The Land of Sky Clean Cities Coalition is talking to groups and there may be a joint proposal from several groups in WNC. She doesn't have any specifics about the projects. Ms. Featherstone is currently serving on the Mobile Source Reduction Grant Committee which handles the Diesel Reduction Grants once a year for NC. The DAQ is just finishing the public comment period. There may be an advisory based group that handles the applications. Ms. Featherstone does not know if she will be a part of that. VW cheated intentionally to pass NOx inspections; then by-pass them for function. It appears that all the projects will be vehicle based. School bus retrofits and port equipment retrofits are included in the list of possible project types on the website. Mr. Britt Lovin asked whether the money being allotted to each state was based on the numbers of vehicles per county, and if certain areas with more VWs might get more funds. Ms. Featherstone said that out of \$1.9 billion allocated, NC was being allotted \$92 million. That is based on the number of vehicles. There are a lot of VWs in Buncombe County. There is talk of trying to get more funds routed to certain areas in the state, but that is still under consideration. This grant focuses on NOx whereas the committee Ms. Featherstone is on, the Mobile Source Emission Reduction Grant Committee which gives out grant money once a year, is more generally focused than just on just NOx.
- D. Sewage Sludge Incinerator (SSI) Delegation Request Update-** Ashley Featherstone. The Agency asked for delegation of the federal rule for SSI. We did not have enforcement authority nor did NC. We have the SSI at MSD in our jurisdiction. No state plan was submitted to the EPA. There are certain rules related to incinerators about how that authority has to be delegated. We did get a draft Memorandum of Agreement from the EPA which laid out the agreement where they give us the authority. The state also asked for delegation. NC and WNCRAQA did make some comments, nothing major, on training requirements and a few other things. Since the last meeting we did receive a final draft where the EPA incorporated the comments. We are waiting on the state to review and sign their agreement before we sign and

return our agreement to EPA. When the EPA signs delegated authority will be effective. . One thing this means is that MSD will not have to send reports to EPA and us, just to us. We hope to have delegation by the end of this month.

E. Facility Permit Modifications

Facility Name	Type of Facility	Facility Classification	Location	Changes from Existing Permit
Delkote Machine Finishing	Wood & Cement Siding Pre-Finishing Facility	Small	Westside Drive, Asheville	Facility is moving their coating operation to their Bingham Road location.

Mr. Koon moved to approve both permit modifications. Mr. Storrow seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

V. New Business:

A. Legal Counsel Report.

Brandon Freeman said that the legal department has nothing to report.

VI. Other Business:

A. Advisory Committee Report

Dr. Kahl reported that the committee has not met recently.

B. Calendar

1. The next regular scheduled meeting is March 12, 2018

2. 2018 Meetings Calendar

A list of proposed 2018 Board meeting dates was included in the packet.

Mr. Koon moved to approve the 2018 meeting calendar. Mr. Storrow seconded.

The motion passed 4-0.

C. Announcements

City Councilman Vijay Kapoor attended the meeting. He volunteered for the position of liaison from the City Council to WNCRAQA. He lives near the Duke plant and became involved during the Duke Energy Progress plant permit renewal comment period. His children go to school at Estes which is close to the plant.

VII. Public Comment

None

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. Storrow made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Kahl seconded. The motion passed, 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm.