

TO: Western North Carolina Regional Air Quality Agency Board of Directors  
FROM: Betsy Brown, Air Quality Supervisor  
SUBJECT: September 17, 2018  
DATE: November 2, 2018

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Please find attached a copy of the **MINUTES** from the **September 17, 2018** Board Meeting. The next meeting of the WNCRAQA Board is scheduled **Tuesday, November 13, 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, September 17, 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*  
*Vonna Cloninger (by phone)*  
*Karl Koon*  
*Joel Storrow*

**Members Absent:**

*Dean Kahl*

**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:** Mike Plemmons, CIBO

Mr. Lovin called the meeting of the Western North Carolina Regional Air Quality Agency Board of Directors to order on September 17, 2018 at 4:01 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. Mr. Storrow seconded. The motion passed 4-0

**III. Consent Agenda:**

**A. Approval of minutes from June 26, 2018**

Ms. Cloninger made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Storrow seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

**IV. Director's Report:**

**A. Agency Status Update**

Not much has changed since the last meeting. Mr. Brigman has a call in to Eric Hardy, Interim Finance Director and Director of Performance Management. We have not heard back from him as to where the indirect charges will fall. As we move forward, we will let the board know. We are trying to get indirect numbers in line. Mr. Wood, Interim County Manager, is looking at insurance and benefits for Buncombe County employees. The focus now is not on the agency shutting down. There is a county budget shortfall projected in the future; whatever the county does affects our budget.

Mr. Lovin said Mr. Brigman and he met with Mr. Wood. Mr. Wood had already met with all of the department Directors. When they got to the meeting, they were not sure what to expect. The only people present were Mr. Lovin, Mr. Brigman and Mr. Wood. Mr. Lovin was impressed with Mr. Wood: the time he gave us, and his grasp of the Agency's issues. Mr. Lovin and Mr. Brigman told staff that Mr. Wood is a businessman. He supports controlling indirect costs and keeping local control of the air quality program. They talked about the Agency's building and the Agency

being moved multiple times. Mr. Wood said he would take into account the realistic and fair market value of the building and increases of indirect costs. This was Mr. Lovin's third meeting with a County Manager, and for the first time Mr. Lovin walked away with a most compelling positive feeling. Mr. Wood understood the interlocal agreement and the need for a local air agency. It was the first time we had heard a county manager state that the agency was needed. The message in the past was that the Agency was not needed.

Mr. Brigman noted that one thing discussed was the monetary value of the building that the agency built. Do we want to be compensated for the monetary value when that amount can be used up over time? An agreement with the county, to offset indirect costs and provide us with space for space from now on, would continue to hold value for the Agency. Mr. Brigman's preference would be to have an agreement of space for space with maintenance included. Those at 49 Mt Carmel have good space, and air quality should have something similar. Mr. Storrow asked about the 49 Mt Carmel building. It is 5400 square feet, 20 offices, lab, boardroom, kitchen, restrooms and extra bath with shower on 3.5 acres of leased property from the school board. This is a 65-year lease to the County for use by WNCRAQA. If we had the entire building where we are now (we are in half of it now), we could move the lab and files to our office location. Mr. Wood mentioned that the county has many spaces, and it might be easier to accomplish a space for space agreement than a buyout of the building. We have details to work out, but Mr. Wood is working with us rather than against us. It was a very positive meeting.

**B. New Facility Permit**

<b>Facility Name</b>	<b>Type of Facility</b>	<b>Facility Classification</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Blythe Development Co	Portable Crusher	Small	116 Pond Road, Asheville	Expedited permit had been requested and granted.

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

**V. New Business:**

**A. Legal Counsel Report**

No legal counsel was present.

**VI. Other Business:**

**A. Advisory Committee Report**

The committee has not met.

**B. Calendar**

The next regular scheduled meeting is Tuesday, November 13, 2018.

**C. Announcements**

**VII. Public Comment**

None

**VIII. Executive Session**

Mr. Koon moved pursuant to N.C. General Statue 143-318.11(a)(6) that the Board go into Executive Session at 4:20 PM to discuss a personnel issue. N.C. General Statue 143-318.11(a)(6) covers closed sessions dealing with employee issues.

Mr. Koon made the motion to go into closed session. Mr. Storrow seconded. Motion passed 4-0

There was no voting in executive session. The discussion concerned the Director and other staff. There were no decisions made. Ms. Cloninger had to leave the meeting at the end of the executive session.

**IX. Adjournment**

Mr. Koon made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Storrow seconded. The motion passed 3-0. Adjournment was at 4:58 pm.