



**Environmental Management Commission
Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2009**

Meeting Location: Mid-America Regional Council, 2nd Floor, Westview Meeting Room

Commissioners present: Carol Adams, Jimmy Adegoke, Amy Bhesania, Dustin Jensen, Marty Kraft, Rachel Norton, Richard Rocha, Jack Schrimsher, Jim van Eman

Staff: Dennis Murphey, Jerry Shechter – OEQ; Scott Cahail and Debra Smith – Water Services Department; Matt Gigliotti - Law

Guests: Mike Hoey; Mary Beth Ogle; Ron McLinden – RTA; Caroline Davies and Chris Green - UMKC; Kelly Thompson; Kevin Chafin and Sadie Gardner - BTG;

Carol Adams, Co-Chair, opened the meeting at 4:10 pm; a quorum was present

A. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed all Commissioners, staff and guests to the September meeting of the EMC. Everyone introduced themselves.

B. Minutes of the meeting of August, 2009 were discussed. Jack Schrimsher made a motion, seconded by Jimmy Adegoke, to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed.

C. EMC Letter to Council Strategic Planning Session

In August, 2007, City Council set medium and long term priorities with the number 1 long term priority being that KC will become a certifiable green city. EMC has drafted a letter to provide input to the Council's next strategic planning session. This is doubly critical given the projected budget shortfall. Council aides have been contacted and will forward the letter to Council. Carol Adams reported there was a committee meeting to establish the framework and the gist of the communication. The EMC was presented with a transmittal letter and the proposed white paper. There were several comments about the white paper including a proposal to highlight that work needs to be done on the internal culture of City Hall to really move ahead. After review and discussion Marty Kraft made a motion, seconded by Jack Schrimsher, to accept the transmittal letter as presented, to approve the white paper as amended and to authorize the co-chairs to sign and deliver the letter and white paper. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

D. Office of Environmental Quality – Report by Dennis Murphey

1. The City has received its award notice from the US Department of Energy (DOE) for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program effective August 17, 2009. KCMO is among the first 72 of over 2300 applicants to have received its award and is one of about 20 that got full funding.
2. An internal discussion has been started regarding potential application for EECBG competitive grants (about \$400 million to be made available nationally).
3. There will be an open house for the new Green Impact Zone office space at 4600 Paseo which will feature several high level staff from the White House. The open house will be followed by a community forum that afternoon.
4. Shadowcliff session August 24, 2009 will focus on sustainable solid waste management – the journey to “0” waste. This will be an opportunity to explore systems thinking across

disciplines. Those attending will include Michael Shaw, Bernardo Garcia, Johnson County, Bridging The Gap, and others.

5. Upcoming Activities
 - a. The Tour of Missouri bike race has started and will terminate in KC on Sunday
 - b. A Climate Change Symposium will be hosted at Linda Hall Library on 10/16/09
6. Kansas City Power & Light (KCPL) and Missouri Gas Energy (MGE) have announced a new collaborative effort to help home owners and business owners pay for energy audits and measures to address reducing energy use except appliances.
7. Metropolitan Energy Center (MEC) has received an alternative fuels grant from the US-DOE, in the amount of nearly \$15 million, for the Clean Cities Coalition. This will allow purchase of a number of CNG vehicles and electric vehicles as well as installation of fueling and charging stations around the metropolitan area. The portion of the grant coming to KC is \$4 million. UMKC will also benefit from the grant allowing them to install an electric charging station which the engineering students will design and build.
8. Marty Kraft brought up the issue of bio-char – which is a residue in soil remaining after many years which may be a way to sequester carbon.
9. Dennis Murphey gave credit to the KC Chamber of Commerce for proposing a policy statement for the Chamber Board in support of federal climate legislation.

E. Liaison Updates

1. Air Quality Forum – Carol Adams
 - a. Progress on update of the Ozone Reduction Plan was discussed
 - b. There has been a lot of progress in retrofitting on and off road diesel equipment. There has been good response from 19 school districts in retrofitting 646 school buses.
 - c. There is an existing problem to be addressed with railroad engines especially at switch yards
 - d. There is controversy about the Gardner multi-modal facility regarding truck traffic and particulates. Johnson County has asked for a cancer study. This is the same issue as was addressed at Richards-Gebauer
 - e. Warehouse operations are being studied focusing on fork-lift idling and fuel use
 - f. Ozone Plan – Transportation planning, for the first time, links land use and transportation
 - g. EPA has proposed regulations regarding the start of the ozone season that have it starting in March in Missouri and in April in Kansas and Illinois. This makes it very hard to plan properly. Jimmy Adegoke will offer comments.

F. EMC Project Reports

1. Marty Kraft – Indicated that there are two interpretations of the current code that effect the operation of urban farms/agriculture. The issue is the ability to both raise the food/livestock and to sell it from the same property. Code revisions need to be addressed to clarify this issue.
2. Compliance – Rachel Norton and Richard Rocha – The committee members met on September 3, 2009, with staff of the Household Hazardous Waste facility to observe the operations. The were joined by OEQ staff Andy Savastino and Matt Gigliotti. It was reported that the operation is being run well.

G. Old Business - None

H. New Business

1. Membership – Taylor Haynes has resigned due to a schedule conflict with school classes. In addition, there are a couple of expiring terms.
2. The Chamber of Commerce will hold a combined meeting of the Energy and Environment committees. Dennis will provide information to Jerry to distribute to the EMC. The Chamber will host a reception at Boulevard Brewery. Information about the reception will also be distributed.

I. Visitor Remarks – None

J. Announcements

1. MARC's 13th Annual Regional Assembly is scheduled for 9/16/09. Dennis Murphey is one of the regional leadership honorees this year.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for

Date: Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Time: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Place: MARC – 2nd Floor, Westview Room

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm