



**Environmental Management Commission  
Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2015**

Meeting Location: Mid-America Regional Council, Westview Room

Commissioners present: Jensen Adams, Bob Berkebile, Molly Davies, Julie Davis, Rachel Guthrie, Jim Hansen, Julie Koppen, Robin Martinez

Commissioners Absent: Carol Adams, Tom Brink, Marty Kraft, Jack Schrimsher

Staff: Dennis Murphey, Andy Savastino, Jerry Shechter – Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ); Scott Cahail – Water Services

Guests: None

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm; a quorum was present

- A. Welcome and Introductions - The Chair welcomed commissioners, staff, and guests.
- B. Minutes – Julie Koppen noted that item C-2, in the minutes, should read December 18, 2014 rather than 2015. Julie Koppen made a motion, seconded by Robin Martinez, to approve minutes of the meeting of December 2014 as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. Legal Brief - None. However, there was discussion about the upcoming city elections. Dennis Murphey indicated some of the restrictions and allowances for City employees and suggested the EMC request that Matt Gigliotti provide guidance for the Commissioners.
- D. 2013 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Update and Roadmap – Dennis Murphey  
Discussion of the Roadmap was deferred because additional information from KCP&L, regarding emissions factor (EF) based on fuel mix, is being integrated into the inventory that could have an impact on the Roadmap. The EF used in the baseline year of 2000 was based on the ICLEI defaults in their software. It has recently been determined that the actual EF in 2000 was different, by a factor of approximately 30%. This means that the actual emissions in 2000/2005 were higher than originally presented and that the achievements realized, as represented by data for 2013, have been greater than shown in the draft of the Inventory Update.  
  
Dennis provided a powerpoint presentation including graphs that have yet to be fully adjusted. The net results, however, are:
  - a. Prior to this adjustment communitywide emissions were shown as still growing but at a slower rate; municipal operations were determined to be about 10% reduction toward the 2020 target of 30% GHG reduction.
  - b. After this adjustment communitywide emissions appear to have been reduced about 4%; municipal operations appear to be reduced by about 26%.
  - c. For municipal operations, The Brendle Group (consultant) used the ICLEI Local Government Operations Protocol with their own Inventory Management System (IMS). For communitywide emissions, they used the US Community Protocol with their own IMS.
- E. Vacant Lots Update – Robin Martinez
  1. The Task Force presented their findings and recommendations at the City Council Business Session on December 18, 2014. The presentation was well received and there were a number of good comments and questions.
  2. Various City staff have asked for copies of the report.
  3. The question now remains what City Council and the City Manager are going to do with the recommendations. Robin believes the single most critical recommendation is to identify a vacant lots coordinator who can integrate what is currently being done.
  4. Robin thanked the EMC for the opportunity for the learning experience. Bob Berkebile, on behalf of the EMC, thanked Robin for a very nice job. He asked that Robin keep the EMC updated as appropriate.

F. Liaison Updates

1. Air Quality

- a. Dennis provided the Air Quality Forum (AQF) the same powerpoint presentation as he did for the EMC. The difference is that, at the AQF, Jasmin Moore, Johnson County Sustainability Manager, presented their inventory update as well.
- b. MARC, in conjunction with KCMO, Johnson County and Bridging The Gap, submitted a proposal to the US Department of Energy to be designated as a Climate Action Champion. Our proposal was chosen, as one of 16, for participation in the program focused on making the region more resilient. It was suggested that Tom Jacobs be asked to make a presentation at a future EMC meeting.
- c. EPA's Section 111-d rules will be issued this coming summer for both new and existing power plants. In addition, EPA will issue its federal implementation plan.

2. LEED – Jim Hansen - The LEED Committee met in December 2014

- a. A major part of the meeting was a presentation on the International Code Council (ICC) Green Construction Codes (GCC) – a prescriptive methodology which is an alternative to LEED. The GCC include the International Energy Conservation Codes (IECC). For the GCC as well as for implementation of the newly adopted energy codes, there is an issue of enforcement. There is currently no third party certification of achievement.
- b. There was an update on streetcar construction
- c. There was discussion of nuisance codes especially with regard to urban plantings and weeds
- d. The committee has begun discussing administrative regulations

3. City Energy Project – Dennis Murphey

- a. The City Energy Project Advisory Committee (CEPAC) met in December 2014.
- b. A draft benchmarking and reporting ordinance was, for the first time, presented to the committee and there was significant pushback. There was a follow-up meeting at which time it was made clear that the pushback is with regard to anything being made mandatory including benchmarking and public disclosure. The primary arguments appear to be that (1) the data to be disclosed is proprietary, and (2) this would be the first step onto a slippery slope to further mandates later including mandatory energy efficiency improvements. Two national building management firms, which have local offices, have submitted strong letters of support for benchmarking in Atlanta.
- c. The next meeting of the CEPAC is scheduled for Friday, January 30, 2015 at the Kauffman Foundation Conference Center. Meetings are open to the public.
- d. The Mayor's Energy Challenge, announced June 30, 2014, targeted 200 buildings to participate in the Challenge to benchmark using EPA's online Portfolio Manager. At the close of the challenge period, there were 175 participants.

G. Energy Reporting and Benchmarking Ordinance – Dennis Murphey – See above discussion of the City Energy Project.

H. Office of Environmental Quality – Dennis Murphey

1. Andy Savastino has completed the Annual Environmental and Sustainability Report. Many departments submitted their responses late and, as a result, the City Manager has committed to help get reports submitted in a more timely fashion next year.
2. The second annual Green Neighborhood recognition program has resulted in awards being given to two neighborhoods – Historic Manheim Park and Westside. They will be honored on January 16, 2015 by City Council at the Legislative Session at 3:00 pm.

I. Old Business – Membership – The EMC has lost five members. The Mayor's Office is beginning to look at filling these positions but currently has no online applications pending. The Mayor's Office has a focus on maintaining and increasing diversity on several levels and has asked for recommendations from the EMC. The EMC was reminded that applicants must be residents of KCMO. Rachel Guthrie suggested Brittany Barrientos, Attorney, as a possible candidate.

J. New Business – None

K. Visitors' Remarks - None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm

The next monthly meeting is

February 11, 2015 at 4:00 pm  
Mid-America Regional Council  
600 Broadway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor - Westview Room  
Kansas City, MO