



**Environmental Management Commission
Meeting Minutes – November 9, 2016**

Meeting Location: MARC, Westview Room, 2nd Floor, 600 Broadway, KCMO

Commissioners present: Carol Adams, Bob Berkebile, Rachel Guthrie, Jim Hansen, Julie Koppen, Marty Kraft, Robin Martinez, DJ Pierre, Ben Proffer

Commissioners Absent: Jensen Adams, Caroline (Molly) Davies, Gloria Ortiz Fisher, Kimberly Hill, Seft Hunter, Jack Schrimsher, Emily Truebner

Staff: Dennis Murphey, Jerry Shechter – OEQ; Matt Gigliotti

Guests: None

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

- A. Welcome and Introductions – Co-chair Carol Adams welcomed commissioners, staff, and guests who introduced themselves.
- B. Minutes – A motion was made by Julie Koppen, seconded by DJ Pierre, to approve the minutes of the meetings of September and October, 2016; the motion passed.
- C. Dakota Access Pipeline – Carol Adams and Robin Martinez
There was a second hearing, at the Neighborhoods and Public Safety Committee, about a proposed resolution (#160804) regarding opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline and support for the efforts of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. There were about 25 people in the audience for the first hearing two weeks ago and nearly 100 for the second hearing this week. After significant discussion, the committee members approved the resolution to be sent to the full council on 11.10.16, with a recommendation of "Advance and Pass". Robin was asked to provide a list of the cities which have already adopted a similar ordinance or resolution.
- D. Retreat Priorities – No Reports
- E. Liaison Reports
 1. Air Quality – No report
 2. LEED – No report
 3. City Energy Project – No report
 4. Solid Waste Planning – No report.
 5. Climate Protection Steering Planning – No report
 6. Vacant Lots – Carol Adams, Robin Martinez and Dennis Murphey met with Alecia Cates, MARC, about vacant lot planning activity. She agreed to provide the EMC updates. Jerry Shechter was asked to add her name to the EMC meeting notice list.
 7. Health Commission – No report
 8. Water Cost of Service Task Force – Carol Adams – The task force has been having only general discussions so far. One issue has been charging blocks, incentives for use reduction, etc. Carol introduced the need for different ways of thinking about the issues when addressing the concept of resiliency.
- F. Office of Environmental Quality – Dennis Murphey gave a brief overview of several items:
 1. Jerry Shechter updated the Commissioners on the City's response to the American Council on and Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) 2017 survey of cities. We responded for the 2015 report and realized a ranking of 27th out of 51 cities. We have now submitted our response for the 2017 survey and expect to get initial response for our review in January 2017.

2. The City's STAR application was submitted and staff has received review comments. There were a significant number of points reduced from our submission and we are assembling a response in hopes of recovering many of those points. Staff will make a presentation to the City Council at Business Session on December 22, 2016. Dennis suggested asking Aaron Shroyer to present STAR to the EMC at its meeting in January 2017.
3. Kansas City Industrial Council (KCIC) held its Annual Sustainability Awards event. The Water Services Department received a gold award for its Overflow Control Plan University. The City also received a gold award for its solar PV installations.
4. A work group of the Climate Action Champions (CAC) group – KCMO, MARC, Johnson County and BTG – is collaborating to develop a program to achieve the tree planting goals detailed in the Climate Protection Plan. Several City Council members and the City Manager are supportive. The focus is to find a way to stop the loss of trees and then to realize a net gain. BTG has a contract with the Parks Department to plant smaller trees which have a better survival record and are easier to transport and plant. There is a proposal to add \$900,000 to the tree budget next year and then more later. Part of the plan is to include tree planting and maintenance in the proposed general obligation bond in the Spring of 2017 as part of the streets and sidewalks program. Staff has been asked to draft and administrative regulation for the City Manager to include trees in infrastructure projects. BTG is looking at non-City sources of funding. And, the CAC is considering both a tree summit in the Spring and assembling a stakeholder group.
5. OEQ is losing a staff person. JC Martel, who was hired only 6 months ago, has accepted an offer from Hallmark.

G. Legal Brief – Matt Gigliotti – Discussion included

1. HB1713 – Clean Water Commission
2. Right to Work issues
3. Leadership transition at DNR
4. Sales and Use taxes and their limitations

H. Old Business – Julie Koppen and Carol Adams - There was general discussion about the difference between the City staff presentation of the Solar PV permitting process and real world experience. The question is how best to communicate realized processing problems to the City.

I. New Business

1. Marty Kraft – Has a new charcoal maker that can be made available to others.
2. Carol Adams shared a New York Times opinion about the environment and climate change.

J. Visitor Remarks - None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm

The next EMC meeting is:

December 14, 2016 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
 MARC
 600 Broadway, 2nd Floor - Westview Meeting Room