

Advisory Council Minutes

February 27, 2025

Members Present:

Ron Edgar, Chemistry
John Dietzman, Environmental
Tony Masiello, Member at Large (Zoom)
Ray Byrne, Public Health (Zoom)
Elena Wolf, Industry
Doug Bleeker, Fire Protection (Zoom)
Jana McDonald, Air Pollution Control (Zoom)

Staff Present:

April Westby, Executive Director
Derek Aubrey, Compliance Section Manager

The meeting was called to order at 8 a.m.

1. Introductions

2. Approval of the January 23, 2025, Minutes

- a. John moved to approve the January 2025 minutes, Jana 2nd. Minutes approved.

3. Executive Directors Report

- a. The state Auditor has finalized our fiscal audit covering FY 22 and 23. We received the final letter and had the final exit conference. There were no major findings.
- b. We presented our 2025 Clean Air Award to Alsco Uniforms at the annual CTR awards luncheon on February 12th.
- c. I have attended multiple meetings with the Department of Ecology to determine how our agency might be affected by their rulemaking efforts for a new state regulation to address Air Quality in Overburdened Communities under the Climate Commitment Act. We are working to identify all the registered sources that fall within the Overburdened Community boundary.
- d. We are participating in an Air Quality Exchange with a group from Uzbekistan on February 27th.
- e. I have been participating in weekly legislative update calls
- f. We are reaching out to Mt. Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park to discuss a potential request for a variance to burn the slash piles from clearing trails on the back side of the mountain.

- g. 2026 FY budget work has started.
- h. The Department of Ecology made an error on our Core Grant and accidentally gave us too much money. They are now requesting \$22,000 to be returned to them.
- i. We received an additional \$63,000 from the Department of Ecology to go towards the Woodstove Change Out program.

4. Legislative Updates

- a. April gave an update on possible legislative changes including commercial aggregate labeling for asbestos, a woodstove certification bill, the SEPA review process will now include an environmental justice piece, making certain environmental crimes a felony instead of a misdemeanor, and Senate Bill 5703 which would make the Waste to Energy plant exempt from the state's carbon tax under the Climate Commitment Act.

5. Restricted Burn Area and Burn Program Update

- a. Derek gave an update on our outdoor burning programs. Discussion ensued.

6. March 6, 2025, Board Meeting

- a. Ron will be unavailable to attend the Board of Directors meeting.

7. March 27, 2025, Advisory Council Meeting

- a. No new requests or concerns for the next Advisory Council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 a.m.

The next Advisory Council Meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2025.

Advisory Council Member

April Westby, Executive Director