



Advisory Council Minutes

March 27, 2025

Members Present:

Ron Edgar, Chemistry
John Dietzman, Environmental
Tony Masiello, Member at Large
Hal Ophus, Business Community (Zoom)
Jackie Etter, Agriculture
Elena Wolf, Industry (Zoom)
Doug Bleeker, Fire Protection (Zoom)
Jana McDonald, Air Pollution Control (Zoom)

Staff Present:

April Westby, Executive Director
Michelle Zernick, Finance & HR Manager
Derek Aubrey, Compliance Section Manager

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

1. Introductions:

2. Approval of the February 27, 2025, Minutes:

- a. Tony moved to approve the February 2025 minutes, John 2nd. Minutes approved.

3. Executive Directors Report

- a. We have received a request for a variance from Highline Grain. The Board did issue that for a one year, renewable term.
- b. Derek has been in contact with Mt. Spokane Ski and Snowboard park regarding their variance application. They will probably be submitting that application around May 2025.
- c. The Agency did get reimbursement funds from the federal IRA grant that we were awarded. This covers the new monitor, to be located at Ridgeline High School in Liberty Lake, and the five anemometer wind sensors that will be co-located at our other monitoring sites.
- d. We have been in rulemaking for the periodic fee review regulation revisions. This would make the fees associated with our programs able to be reviewed as part of our budget process.
- e. Western States Air Resources Council spring business meeting will be held at the Davenport Hotel on April 8 and 9.
- f. We are trying to get as many wood stoves changed out as possible through our Wood Stove Changeout Program. We are unsure if there will be funding for this program next year.

- g. The Agency is developing a digital survey to go out to our registered sources after an inspection or after a permit is issued. We're hoping to get some feedback on what we are doing well and what we could improve.
- h. New NOCs are still high. Joe Southwell has been hired part-time to work on Air Operating Permits.

4. WTE Updates and Ecology Life Cycle Assessment of Spokane Waste Management

- a. April gave a presentation on the City of Spokane's Waste-to-Energy-Facility. Advisory Council members had questions regarding the maintenance of the boilers, what type of waste was accepted at the facility, and the Life Cycle Analysis that was conducted in 2023. Presentation is attached.

5. FY 26 Budget Overview

- a. Michelle gave a brief overview of the FY26 draft budget. The final budget for FY26 will be presented to the Board for adoption on June 5, 2025. Tony asked about increasing the amount moved from the project reserve fund to the general fund from \$75,000 to \$100,000. April discussed the unfilled staff positions that will probably remain unfilled due to budget constraints. Presentation is attached.

6. Board Meeting

- a. Ron will attend the next Board meeting representing the Advisory Council, on April 3, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 a.m.

The next Advisory Council Meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2025.

Advisory Council Member

April Westby, Executive Director