



1610 S. Technology Blvd., Suite 101
Spokane, WA 99224

SpokaneCleanAir.org

SPOKANE REGIONAL CLEAN AIR AGENCY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 5, 2023 9:30 a.m.
Spokane Clean Air in Person and Remotely

BOARD MEMBERS:

Al French, County Commissioner (Chair)
Jim Simon, City of Spokane Representative
Tom Brattebo, Member at Large
Kevin Freeman, Mayor of Millwood, Small
Cities & Towns Representative (VC) Remote
Rod Higgins, City of Spokane Valley

STAFF MEMBERS:

Scott Windsor, Executive Director
April Westby, PE, Supervisory Engineer
Lori Rodriguez, Compliance Section Manager
Michelle Zernick, Finance & HR Section Manager
Mark Rowe, Monitoring Section Manager
Lisa Woodard, Communication/Outreach Sect. Mgr.
Margee Chambers, Rule Writer/SIP Planner, Remote
Mary Kataoka, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michelle Fossum, Legal Counsel
Ron Edgar, Advisory Council

PUBLIC PRESENT:

WORK SESSION: 9:30 a.m.

1. Margee gave a quick overview of the RCW number change Regulation I updates with a project overview and public involvement planning.

BOARD MEETING: 9:38 a.m.

1. **Advisory Council Report** – Ron Edgar gave a brief overview of the consolidated November and December advisory council meetings. Ron was selected as the vice chair of the Advisory Council. The executive director's reports were covered for the last two months. Updates on the by-laws were given. Scott spoke on the Northwest Air Director's meeting he attended. There was a session on what the Advisory Council would like to see happen in 2023. The Council wanted some information on the WTE plant and how it is going and what direction we might be taking and the green space projects.

2. **Executive Director's Report** – Spokane's Municipal Waste Combustor plan continues to make its way through EPA approval. The Agency had its Holiday party on December 19th. The November Advisory Council meeting took place on December 8th. This meeting combined their November and December meetings. I participated in numerous webinars concerning the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and the potential for grant funding at the local level. Agency staff paid close attention to the NWS forecast concerning the recent cold spell. Air quality stayed good for the most part. The agency had an online discussion with representatives of State Parks, Department of Ecology and Mt. Spokane Ski Park vendor concerning a potential request for a variance. The Agency is waiting to hear back from the state

auditor's office concerning the audit. Changes to the Marijuana Registration program are now open for public comment. EPA is going to release their recommendations on PM_{2.5} potential changes tomorrow or next Friday. If they tighten up the PM_{2.5} standards from 12 mcg per cubic meter to 10 or even 8, Spokane would be fine, but it would still have to be watched. Platinum awards were given by the CTR to SRCAA, Gonzaga University, and Spokane Regional Health District for the jobs that they do for the CTR.

3. **Public Comment** – There were no public comments.

ACTION ITEMS/POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS:

4. **Consent Agenda – Action Item:**

- a. Approval of the December 1, 2022 Board Minutes
- b. Approval of Vouchers for December, 2022, numbered 13004 thru 13023 with Claims totaling \$82,533.46 and Payroll numbered 13002 and 13003 and EFTs totaling \$82,630.85 – for a Grand Total of \$165,164.31

Rod Higgins moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Tom Brattebo seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **Executive Session(s)** – There was no executive session.

NON-ACTION ITEMS:

6. **Activity Reports** – November

- a. Lisa gave an overview of the following activities: Website/social, Clean Air calendar/ Annual Report, wood heating season, wood stove changeout grant, and Prevent Nonattainment (PNA) grant.
- b. Lori gave a brief overview of the inspector's work. Complaints have been down for the month and all the appeals have been taken care of for November.
- c. April gave a brief overview of the permitting activities. There were only two applications received. The annual registration forms, reports and invoices were worked on and will be mailed out to approximately 600 facilities tomorrow.
- d. Mark gave a brief overview of the air monitoring activities. There was stagnant most of the month and there was a Stage I burn ban from the morning of the 19th to the 22nd because there was a potential for the PM_{2.5} to rise above the federal air quality standards.
- e. Michelle went over the General Fund: local assessments for the first quarter are going out today, fines and penalties are at \$149,000, administration salaries have decreased due to less IT issues, and enforcement salaries and benefits are higher than expected for this time of year, but looking at the fines and penalties revenue, it is to be expected. AOP: Salaries and benefits are on budget this year and the invoices went out in November and are almost all paid. Asbestos: It is a bit below budget in terms of revenue and expenses, this usually slows down this time of year and picks back up in the spring. Registration: Invoices are being mailed out Friday and the budgeted revenue is \$540,000, expenses are below budget as of now, but inspectors have been completing a high number of inspections this winter and this will increase expenses for December. This program will most likely need an additional fee increase in FY24, that is still to be determined. NOC: Revenue is below budget as of November, but spring is a busy time of

year for PSP's and NOCs, the expenses are below budget as well. Marijuana: This budgeted program will not receive the budgeted revenue due to program changes in program, as instructed by the Board. We are pretty much on track for where we should be and are monitoring it closely to see what changes we need to make for FY24. Some discussion ensued about the meeting in March focusing on cutting back on the budget and looking at what is needed to get SRCAA financially secure for the following year. Staff will work on being able to present a workable draft in March and then present again in April with any changes or adjustments that might need to be made with the final in May or June as normal.

7. **Board Concerns** – There will be a quorum for the February 2, 2023, board meeting. Add the election of the Chair and Vice Chair on the February board meeting agenda.

Next Board Meeting – 9:30 a.m., Thursday, February 2, 2023.

8. **Adjournment** – The board meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

COMMISSIONER AL FRENCH, CHAIR

SCOTT WINDSOR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR