

SRCAA Advisory Council Minutes

January 25, 2024

Members Present:

Ron Edgar, Chemistry
John Dietzman, Environmental (Zoom)
Brent Downy, Industry (Zoom)
Jackie Etter, Agriculture
Raymond Byrne, Environmental Public Health
Janna McDonald, Air Pollution Control (Zoom)
Doug Bleeker, Fire Protection (Zoom)

Staff Present:

Scott Windsor, Executive Director

Guests

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

1. Introductions:

- a. Introductions of Advisory Council members and staff.

2. Approval of the September and November 2023, Minutes:

- a. Ray motioned to approve the November 2023 minutes, Jackie 2nd. Minutes approved.

3. Vice Chair

- a. Ron opened the nominations for Vice Chair for 2024. Ray nominated Ron to continue the position. Motion passed.

4. Executive Directors Report for November and December 2023:

- a. November 2023: The EPA Region 10 Air Directors meeting was held in Seattle on November 6 and 7. I attended in person. Topics included smoke management, Low-cost sensors, regional haze, and NAAQS. Two nominations were received for the Small Towns and Cities representative on the Board of Directors. Ballots were mailed out and we received 7 ballots. Mayor Chris Grover of the City of Cheney was elected and will begin his term 1/1/2024. The Department of Ecology held two open houses here in Spokane on Nov. 8th and 9th. The first was at the Central Library in Spokane, and the second at the Hive on East Sprague. These concerned the Overburdened community's initiative contained in the state CCA. One Advisory Council position expires at the end of the year. The position, Member at Large was advertised as being open in the Spokesman Review and our website. A total of one letter was received expressing interest. Mr. Tony Masiello, our current Member at Large, has indicated a willingness to serve another term. Mr. Masiello has been and will be a valuable member of the AC. As of 11/21/2023, the Agency has issued over 194 NOI's representing 249 structures associated with the area

wildfires. The current rate of positive testing is running around 23%. Once NOI's have been issued, the materials may be disposed of at a local facility. The term for Board membership for the City of Spokane Valley is up at the end of the year. Spokane Valley will appoint a Board member after the start of the New Year.

- b. December 2023: The Agency has worked to provide a suitable resolution to provide funding to wildfire cleanup efforts to avoid the burning of tree debris. Two nominations were received for the Small Towns and Cities representative on the Board of Directors. Ballots have been mailed out and we received 7 ballots. Mayor Chris Grover of the City of Cheney was elected and will begin his 4-year term 1/1/2024. The Agency has continued to identify grant opportunities as they arise. The Advisory Council did not meet in December due to holidays. The Agency has received fewer NOI's (Wildfire related) this last month. The term for Board membership for the City of Spokane Valley expired at the end of the year. Spokane Valley will appoint a Board member after the start of the New Year. The Department of Ecology released its "Improving Air Quality in Overburdened Communities Highly Impacted by Air Pollution 2023 Report" on December 27th. We are evaluating the contents and findings currently.
- 5. Overburdened Communities**
 - a. Scott gave a update, discussion ensued.
 - 6. Wildfire Status**
 - a. The Board of Directors released funds to be managed by DEM for the chipping of wildfire organics. Discussion ensued.
 - 7. State Legislative Bills.**
 - a. Scott gave an overview of the upcoming bills going to the state legislature. Discussion ensued.
 - 8. Open Discussion – Current Topics:**
 - a. Advisory Council members discussed the upcoming Board of Directors meeting and the date of the next Advisory Council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

The next Advisory Council Meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2024.

Advisory Council Member

Scott Windsor, Executive Director