

## ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD

### Regular Meeting Agenda

July 9, 2015

7:00 PM

Municipal Building Training Room

#### A. Call to Order

1. Introduction of EQAB Members and recognition and visitors
2. Approval of the agenda
3. Approval of minutes from the June 4, 2015 regular meeting

#### B. High School Representatives Report

#### C. Unfinished Business

1. Climate Action Plan, working group report:
  - o Main issues related to data compilation and GHG estimation
  - o Update on new CAP progress report: format, frequency and purpose of report, revised recommendations, etc.
  - o Input for City of Oak Ridge sustainability webpage updates
2. Three Bends Recommendation for Manhattan Project National Historical Park

#### D. Reports and Other Communications

1. City Staff Report: Costs of city recycling program, City Council activities
2. KACB
3. DOE, SSAB, ORRCA: review of recent activities

#### E. New Business

#### F. Adjournment

KACB = Keep Anderson County Beautiful

DOE = U.S Department of Energy

SSAB = Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (DOE)

ORRCA = Oak Ridge Reservation Communities Alliance

GHG = Greenhouse Gas

## Environmental Quality Advisory Board

### Regular Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2015 - DRAFT

**A. Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the Environmental Quality Advisory Board (EQAB) was held at the Municipal Training Room. The meeting convened at 7:00 PM with Robert Kennedy, vice-chairman, presiding.

1. Members in attendance: Bruce Applegate (Staff Liaison), Gray Dean, Rhonda Bogard, Marisol Bonnet, Joe Wood, Robert Kennedy, Pat Imperato, Donna Kriedlebaugh, Emma Milloway, and Paige Russell

Members Absent: Steve Kenworthy

Non-member guests: Ellen Smith (City Council) and Kathy Olsen (LWV)

2. Approval of Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda by Mr. Wood and seconded by Ms. Bogard passed.
3. Approval of the May 7, 2015: A motion to approve meeting minutes by Mr. Wood and seconded by Ms. Kriedelbaugh passed

**B. High School Representatives Report:** It was noted that EQAB needs to have another student representative appointed. Ms. Bonnet had a recommendation to suggest to Mr. Kenworthy. School is not currently in session so there was nothing to report.

**C. Unfinished Business: Climate Action Plan (CAP) :** Mr. Applegate and Mr. Kennedy met to discuss the data used in the software on which the CAP calculations were based. Mr. Applegate is working with the City's IT Dept. to secure space on the server to store the data. Mr. Applegate is checking data on the energy use by the Parks and Rec Department for a possible error prior to 2013. Current data shows a slight reduction in current energy usage.

Mr. Wood asked if there would be a new model and if EQAB thought this was acceptable. The City paid a one time fee for the use of the ICLEI model. Chattanooga used the ICLEI model at one time but then moved away from using the model and eventually disbanded the sustainability group.

The CAP for the City of Oak Ridge was approved in 2010. The City's Public Works Dept. is tracking its use of green energy. Members need to be selected to develop a working group to evaluate and select new greenhouse gas emissions model for the CAP progress tracking. Mr. Applegate is working on this and requested guidelines on setting goals. Mr. Wood stated that identifying trends was important and that metrics should be kept simple. Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Bonnet and Ms. Kriedelbaugh volunteered to assist Mr. Applegate.

**D. Reports and Other Communications**

1. KACB: Ms. Imperato reported on the amount of materials collected at the Earth Day Festival's specialty recycling program, including 6,019 pounds of electronics, 3,013 pounds of paper for shredding and over 4,000 pairs of shoes.
2. The League of Women Voters received a DOE grant to working with Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Preservation and the Unitarian Universalist Church to engage more citizens to work with their Rainbow Camp and their Citizens Academy youth on environmental issues.
3. Mr. Dean's letter on the Three Rivers Bend is ready to be sent out. The siting for the park has not yet been done.
4. Ms. Imperato suggested contacting Mr. Ben Preston at ORNL to come speak at a future EQAB meeting to discuss the work he is doing with the City of Knoxville on their Climate Action Plan. Ms. Imperato will contact Mr. Preston about his availability.
5. There was discussion about progress on the National Park Service's Manhattan Project site. There are no readily available answers.

#### E. New Business

1. Melton Lake Sewage Discharge: There was discussion about a letter to the editor (in the Oak Ridger) regarding a sign that was hidden in shoreline brush at Melton Lake warning people of contaminated fish in the lake. Mr. Watson answered that it was probably an old sign and that the current fish were not contaminated. Ms. Smith commented that the signs were probably from 1982.

Ms. Bogard was asked to follow up on this with Mr. Gary Cinder, head of the City's Public Works Dept. Ms. Bogard said it was important to do water quality testing to inform residents about the quality of the lake water and East Fork Poplar Creek. Ms. Bogard said accurate signs need to reflect current research. Signs need to be appropriate and accurate.

2. Mr. Wood reported on the update on the Rails to Trails Project. He spoke with Mr. Jon Hetrick, director of the City's Parks and Recreation Department who said that the CSX land currently in rails would cost about \$1.5 million to acquire which would be a painfully slow process. There was discussion about EQAB possibly recommending that the rail line be incorporated into the Manhattan Project. There was no resolution.
3. Ms. Russell asked if the recycling fee covered rear-yard pick-up for all residents. Ms. Smith explained that residents currently receiving rear-yard pick-up have had it historically at no additional cost.

#### F. Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 PM

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ORRCA = Oak Ridge Reservation communities Alliance

Cities-LEAP= Cities Leading through Energy Analysis and Planning

Respectfully Submitted,  
Patricia Imperato