

Meeting Minutes
Air Quality Committee
Meeting of May 21, 2015

A meeting of the Air Quality Committee was held on Thursday, May 21, 2015 in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Welcome and Introductions

Mayor JoAnn Seghini, AQC Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. Mayor Seghini welcomed committee members and guests.

AQC Members and Alternates Present:

Mark Allen	Mayor, Washington Terrace
Daryl Ballantyne	Council Member, Morgan County
Kip Billings	WFRC
Bryce Bird	Utah Division of Air Quality
Karen Cronin	Mayor, Perry City
Carmen Freeman	Mayor, Herriman
Andrew Gruber	WFRC
Randy Lewis	Mayor, Bountiful
JoAnn Seghini, Chair	Mayor, Midvale

AQC Representatives and Others Present:

Elden Bingham	UDOT
Milton Braselton	Sugar House Community Council
Michelle Bjorklund	WFRC
Steve Call	Federal Highway Administration
Ned Hacker	WFRC
Susan Hardy	MAG
Ben Hoyle	Salt Lake Chamber
Sam Klemm	WFRC
GJ LaBonty	UTA
Linda Johnson	LWV-SL & Breathe Utah
Daniel Mendoza	GCSC, University of Utah
Caroline Saouma	University of Utah
Greg Westfall	Perry City

Approval of Meeting Summary

Mayor Carmen Freeman moved that the meeting minutes for March 19, 2015 be approved. The motion was seconded by Mayor Mark Allen and the minutes were unanimously approved.

WFRC 2040 RTP Conformity

Kip Billings shared a PowerPoint presentation about air quality conformity. If air pollution exceeds federal health standards then there are consequences of a conformity lapse and transportation funding restrictions, meaning no freeway expansion, major arterial expansion, light rail or commuter rail expansion, or major bus fleet expansion. The regulatory exercise requires projections out to the last year of the transportation plan (2040), and requires a demonstration that vehicle emissions are below the defined budget.

DAQ Update

Bryce Bird announced that Alan Matheson has been selected by the Governor to be Executive Director of the Utah Division of Air Quality. The appointment will be confirmed by the Senate in June.

The PM₁₀ SIP has many issues, the current approved plan was approved in 1995. The DAQ attempted to update the plan in 2005, but the EPA did not accept the revision so it was withdrawn. This summer the new PM₁₀ maintenance SIP will develop and establish new transportation conformity budgets and new emission limitations for all the sources of air pollution in the valley. The new plan will build upon the work done for PM_{2.5} and will update the emissions controls that were already adopted in the PM_{2.5} plan. New plans will be proposed in September 2015 to go out for public comment prior to submitting them for approval in December 2015.

The EPA is revising the ozone standard, the new standard will be finalized on October 1, 2015. The deadline will be 2020 to develop the SIP for that standard.

Proactive Air Quality Strategies

Ben Hoyle from the Salt Lake Chamber was present in place of Ryan Evans. The Clear the Air Challenge encourages people to drive down their miles to reduce air pollution. The challenge utilizes an online tracker where users can log their trips. In 2014 there were over 6800 participants and over two million miles were saved. The majority of participants used public transit and the second most used method was active transportation. UCAIR will be a partner this year and help in promoting the challenge.

HESTIA Greenhouse Gas Emissions Study

Daniel Mendoza from the University of Utah Global Change and Sustainability Center shared a PowerPoint presentation on the HESTIA Study. The study group includes collaborators from the University of Utah and Arizona State University. The study objective is to create a highly-resolved emissions inventory for carbon dioxide (CO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of nitrogen (NO_x), particle matter (PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀) sulfur oxides (So_x), and lead (Pb) for Salt Lake County. Some of the motivations for study on the Salt Lake Valley:

- Urban population will nearly double in the next 20-30 years
- Topography of the Salt Lake Valley is conducive to pollutant accumulation

- Understudied intermountain region
- Known health risks associated with personal exposure

The following are conclusions to date from the study:

- Substantial hourly variability found in all sectors and large seasonal variability in nonpoint sector due to heating demands
- Large spatial gradients of emissions associated with concentrated sources: point and on road sources
- Study pollutants show distinct spatial and temporal structures even within the same sector
- Observed association between low income and high minority population and large point sources
- Concentration measurements reflect differences in local urbanization and energy consumption demands
- CO₂ emission components vary across urban areas of similar typology

Public Comment

Linda Johnson of Breathe Utah commented that she attended the Economic Development Subcommittee of the Legislature and that the air quality presentation was of very high quality. Each speaker had a slideshow of their facts that was very informative. Bryce Bird commented that these slideshows would be available on the Legislative website.

Other Business

There was no other business

Next Meeting: August 20, 2015 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.