

## **Air Quality Advisory Council Minutes--April 01, 2008**

Members/Alternates Present: Jason Boeckel, Dan Cottrell, Bill Flanery, John Garberson, Jan Hoem, Dick Shimer, Sue Spanke

Members/Alternates Absent: Katie Evans (excused), Tova Sardot (excused), Garon Smith (excused), Steve Stoll (excused), Beth Berlin, Patricia Hogan  
Staff Present: Erik Englebert

Others Present: Guy Hanson (Axemen)

1. John Garberson called the meeting to order.
2. Absences were recognized.
3. Agenda was approved with no changes.
4. Item 11 in the minutes from March 04, 2008 was amended to note that John had brought in one article, not two. Minutes were approved with this change.
5. Public comment on non-agenda items--none.
6. Article presentation by Jan.
  - a. Jan presented an article dealing with the Maryland Ozone Air Quality Index (AQI). She noted that the index is updated daily to inform citizens of the air quality. The council had a brief discussion of ozone effects. It was noted that while atmospheric ozone was good, ground level ozone posed a health and environmental hazard. Jan presented a second article dealing with the relationship between air pollution in health in poor areas in New York. The article looked at toxin levels of pregnant women, and discussed health impacts of PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution.
  - b. Dan will present an article at the May meeting.
7. Discussion of ideas for a Chimenea Public Service Announcement (PSA)
  - a. Council members were tasked at the March meeting with developing ideas for the creation of a chimenea PSA that the Department could distribute to the media to inform citizens that such devices unless used for cooking are restricted within Missoula. Jan and John presented a draft press release. Some other ideas discussed included: adding humor to the release, try to get a local television station to put together a story on this, distribute information to retailers, and tie the media release to the American Lung Association anniversary.
8. Update on Missoula PM<sub>2.5</sub> designation & staff recommendation
  - a. Erik said that staff had begun to create updates to Chapter 9 of the Missoula County Air Pollution Control Regulations dealing with solid fuel burning devices. Erik said that per the Council's request, staff had drafted regulations to deal with outdoor wood boilers.
  - b. There was much spirited discussion about ideas for draft regulations. Some of the ideas included: increasing chimney height requirements, making sure that the emissions standards for Missoula County are in alignment with the US EPA, add a provision to the draft regulations to ensure that devices are kept a set distance from property lines, and adding language to ensure that siting criteria and emissions levels would need to be met for future and pre-existing devices.
  - c. Erik stressed that these were merely ideas for draft regulations, and it was likely that the regulations would continue to evolve during future staff discussions.

9. Staff Report
  - a. Erik said that the Board had voted to accept the Council and Staff recommendation that Missoula ask EPA to use air data from 2005-2007 and not be designated as a non-attainment area for PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and instead focus efforts on ways to reduce fine particulate pollution within the area.
  - b. Erik said that the department is receiving 2 continuous, federal reference method PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors from the MT DEQ that will be installed at Boyd Park. Erik also said that the department is going to purchase another PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitor that will be installed in Frenchtown.
  - c. Erik said that the department is working with the University of Montana to conduct another wood use survey; the last survey was conducted in the late 1990's.
10. Additional Public Comment--none
11. Announcements
  - a. Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 6, 2008.
12. John adjourned the meeting.