

**Air Quality Advisory Council
Minutes – September 2, 2008**

Members/Alternates Present: Beth Berlin, Jason Boeckel, Dan Cottrell, Katie Evans, Bill Flanery, John Garberson, Jan Hoem, Dick Shimer, Steve Stoll, Patricia Hogan, Sue Spanke, Tova Sardot, Garon Smith,

Staff Present: Mamie Colburn

Public Present: David Evans, Guy Hanson, Leif Griffin, Students from University of Montana

1. John Garberson called the meeting to order.

2. All members were present.

3. Agenda approved with one change - boiler display will be first.

4. August minutes were approved.

5. No public comment on non agenda items.

6. Boiler Display; Guy Hanson from the Axmen. The group went outside to look at a outdoor wood boiler, model E-Classic 2300 from Central Boiler. Mr. Hanson described the features of the boiler and its' improvements compared to older models. He said that the boiler has an emissions rating of 6.4 grams per hour with a 10,000 BTU heat output. The group asked questions about the utility of such a device and Mr. Hanson answered by saying that the boiler is useful in heating large square footage areas where you would need three or more wood stoves. He thanked the council for listening.

7. Journal article; Patricia Hogan. Review of Proposed Complete Streets Policies.

- Complete streets policies mandate that transportation agencies change their practices to take into account the safety, interests, and convenience of users of all ages and abilities including drivers, bikes, pedestrians, and transit riders.
- There have been 2 bills debated in congress on complete streets. These would require complete streets on federally funded roads. The legislation would also train professionals and update manuals
- Places with complete streets policies: CA; VA; MA; Boulder, CO; Seattle, WA; Salt Lake, UT; Columbus, OH; Moses Lake, WA.
- Locally the Franklin to the Fort, Bike Walk Alliance, City of Missoula Bike Pedestrian Board, and the Associated Students of the University of Montana have all adopted or drafted complete streets policies. Franklin to the Fort's policy is the most inclusive. The Council discussed possible action regarding complete streets including asking the health board sign onto one of these groups proposals.

8. Staff: Draft Proposal to the Health Board regarding the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Mamie presented a draft letter that was written by the Healthy Built Environment Group commenting on the LRTP. One of the main items in the letter was a recommendation that the city/county adopt a Complete Streets policy. The Council discussed the letter and remarked that the letter was not specific enough to air quality concerns. Mamie explained that the letter was written from a Healthy Built Environment perspective. All of the goals of the letter will support air quality but also address broader concerns of the health department.

The council recommended that additional information on air quality be included in the letter and that roundabouts be recommended as a solution to transportation related air quality issues in Missoula. The council was generally supportive of the letter though some felt it was beyond the scope of the council. Mamie will take these comments back to the Healthy Built Environment Group. When more specific information about air quality issues comes up in the LRTP she will email this information on to the council.

9. Staff Report.

- There was a significant wildfire smoke event on August 19, 2008. The PM-10 levels were above were 150-200 micrograms per meter cubed between 4 am and 4 pm. But we don't anticipate that 24 hour PM 2.5 standard was violated.
- Staff met with members of the Seeley Lake Community Council in June to discuss ways to reduce PM 2.5. In August the Seeley Lake Community Council wrote the department a letter requesting additional support in getting a real time monitor so that they can initiate a community alert system when air is impaired. They also have created an Air Quality Committee to work on the issues including seeking funding to support community education and small scale woodstove change outs.
- The EPA wrote a letter to Governor Schweitzer recommending that Missoula county be in attainment status for the 2006, 24-hour, PM 2.5 standard.

10. Public Comment. A resident of Frenchtown stood up to speak about wood fired boilers. He lives next door to one and is negatively impacted by the smoke from the boiler especially during inversions. He also feels that voluntary standards don't cut it. We live in a free enterprise system where government's role is to make sure that the public isn't damaged. He had 2000 sq ft. house that he heated with one stove and doesn't see how an outdoor wood boiler would be needed for most houses. He stated that we need protection from these kinds of things and hopes the council will work towards protecting other from these devices. He stated that he appreciates the work of the council and being allowed to make comments.

11. Announcements. John- Today in history the Ford vehicle assembly line was created. Next meeting is Tuesday October 7, 2008.

12. Meeting was adjourned.