

UTAH AIR QUALITY BOARD MEETING
November 4, 2009 – 1:30 p.m.
168 North 1950 West, Room 101
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

FINAL MINUTES

I. Call-to-Order

Ernie Wessman called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Board members present: Nan Bunker, Joel Elstein, Kathy Van Dame, Ernie Wessman, Steve Sands, Brent Bradford, Kerry Kelly, Craig Petersen, and Amanda Smith

Excused: Darrell Smith and Robert Paine

Executive Secretary: Cheryl Heying

II. Date of the Next Air Quality Board Meeting: December 2, 2009

III. Approval of the Minutes for September 2, 2009, and October 7, 2009, Board Meetings.

- Kathy Van Dame moved to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2009, and October 7, 2009, Board meetings as submitted to the Board. Joel Elstein seconded. The Board approved in favor with Amanda Smith absent.

IV. Informational Items.

Amanda Smith enters meeting.

A. Current Air Permitting Issues. Presented by Regg Olsen.

Regg Olsen, Permitting Branch Manager at DAQ, stated that there are three sections of the Permitting Branch that write permits, Operating Permits, Minor New Source Review, and Major New Source Review sections. There are two types of permits written in Utah, the approval order which is based on Title I of the Clean Air Act (CAA) and the operating permit which is based on Title V of CAA.

Staffing changes and transition to a new data system are challenges that the Permitting Branch has been dealing with. In addition, current ongoing issues are the oil and gas industry, aggregate sources such as sand and gravel operations, Title V permits, greater public involvement, and dealing with new rules and new standards.

As of November 2nd, all new approval orders issued will be posted on the DAQ web site. Dealing with EPA reviews, reconsiderations, and rescissions of policies and guidance are new and developing issues. There is also a new flexible permitting rule which is effective November 5, 2009, the PM2.5 standard

and nonattainment designations, and the Green House Gas tailoring rule which may be finalized in March 2010.

The Permitting Branch provides enforceable permits to sources, provides consistency as appropriate, provides professional service to all customers, conducts thorough case-by-case review of applications, provides an open and public process within parameters of rules, and provides timely support to public and sources.

B. Recommendation to the Governor for Designations Under the Revised Lead Standards. Presented by Bruce Allen.

Bruce Allen, Environmental Scientist at DAQ, stated that the original lead standard was established 30 years ago in October 1978. Both the primary and secondary standards were set at 1.5 micrograms per cubic meter of air sampled. The EPA feels that the new standard of 0.15 micrograms per cubic meter will provide more protection to public health and to public welfare.

Over 25 years of lead monitoring at various sites and various time periods, Utah has never had a violation of the lead standard at any of the monitoring sites. With the approval of EPA, the DAQ stopped monitoring for lead in September 2005 because the measured levels of lead were so low. Three of the longest running monitoring sites in the network were, the former air monitoring center site in Salt Lake City (1981-1999), the Salt Lake Valley Health Department site (1982-1994), and the Magna site (1987-2005).

There are three designation options, attainment, nonattainment, and unclassifiable. In Governor Herbert's letter to EPA he recommends that all areas of Utah be designated unclassifiable because Utah stopped monitoring for lead in 2005 so there is not current monitoring data to show attainment. Before EPA can make its final designations for the state, at least one year of quality assured and complete data must be collected by the air monitoring center.

The timetable for the new lead standard is that source oriented monitoring begins January 1, 2010, at the Magna site. The expanded lead monitoring network for the core based statistical area sites must be operational by January 1, 2011. EPA will make its final designations by October 2011 with an effective date of January 1, 2012. If an area is designated nonattainment, then DAQ must submit a state implementation plan to EPA within 18 months. Five years after designation the state must be in complete attainment.

Board members had questions as to how the EPA would make a designation by October 2011 and how the three year period for the form of the new standard relates to a year worth of monitoring, if the DAQ had not collected a year of data prior to that date. It was explained that traditionally the EPA will designate an area as unclassifiable until the required data is gathered and they can change that designation once the data is gathered.

C. Air Toxics. Presented by Robert Ford.

D. Compliance. Presented by Jay Morris and Harold Burge.

E. Monitoring. Presented by Kevin Hart.

Kevin Hart, Environmental Scientist at DAQ, updated the Board on the monitoring graphs. It was stated that although there were about five exceedances for ozone over the summer, we did not go over any of the eight hour standard with any of the fourth high values. Also, as the summer ozone season ends, the winter wood burn season started on November 1st. The DAQ is now switching on the program to alert people of winter air pollution conditions.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Minutes approved: December 2, 2009