



West Central Airshed Society  
P.O. Box 7421, Drayton Valley, Alberta T7A 1S6

---

## **WCAS Board Of Directors General Meeting Notes**

**January 09, 2003**

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Main Conference Room  
140 Penn West Building, 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue West  
Drayton Valley, AB

---

### **Attendance:**

**Cecil Andersen**, Pembina Agriculture Protection Association

**Greg Gabert**, Penn West Petroleum

**Rick Phaneuf**, Alberta Environment

**Dwayne Kruger**, LARGA

**Jim Bolton**, TransAlta

**Robert Raimondo**, EPCOR

**Mike Woods**, Weyerhaeuser

**Mary Griffiths**, Pembina Institute for Appropriate Development

**John Whaley**, Leduc County

**Al Watson**, Cardinal River Coal Ltd.

**Larry Paslawski**, Alberta Energy and Utilities Board

### **WCAS Team:**

Bob Scotten

Barb Johnson

---

## General Discussion

Bob Scotten welcomed the Board members.

Bob presented members with a copy of correspondence received from Weyerhaeuser dated November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2002 concerning membership contributions to the West Central Airshed Society. (see *Attachment A*). Bob then provided a brief overview of the request as outlined in the letter. It was noted that Weyerhaeuser, while continuing to support the objectives of the airshed, did not wish to contribute to the program in accordance with the funding formula as set out by the Society. Discussion then followed regarding the ramifications of this proposition. Bob stated that acceptance of the Weyerhaeuser proposal to not contribute in accord would create a precedence for other contributing members that could conceivably jeopardize the economic stability of the Society.

Mike Woods provided a historical account of activities that led to Weyerhaeuser's current position in respect to their monitoring needs. Mike stated that the initial focus related to the public need to quantify impact of emissions in the Drayton Valley community as inspired by the Pembina Institute. It was noted that independent contractors conducted a number of studies to identify maximum and minimum points of impingement as well as meteorological information. On this basis Weyerhaeuser strategically placed the stations as they exist today. The parameters that are being monitored were as set out in government approvals. Mike explains as a result the Weyerhaeuser Company feels that they are doubly contributing in a financial sense. This scenario also supplicates the question of the demonstrative value of the gathered data in a regional context.

In response to these questions, discussion began with the role that the Society could provide for the overall benefit of both parties. Bob discussed the possibility of the Society taking over the operations of the stations to incorporate into the West Central network. The obvious advantage would be an economic benefit to Weyerhaeuser since the Society operates in the capacity of a non-profit organization. Bob presented Mike with a proposal for the operations of the stations and ballpark figures were cited indicating a potential fifty thousand dollar savings per year for Weyerhaeuser. The next issue addressed was the regulatory approval specifications of which Weyerhaeuser is presently bound. Rick Phaneuf made members aware that monitoring is not a voluntary option for industry, however, the format or mechanism in which the monitoring is performed is unrestricted. It was noted that the Society is and continues to be fully supported by Alberta Environment. In this context, the Society has the ability to make changes with the involvement of such bodies as the EUB and Alberta Environment that have voices in open discussion and consensus decision-making in the interests of the region. Finally, the Society could provide a very positive public image for the Weyerhaeuser Company. It was thought that public perception of the company would be tarnished should they wish to separate from the airshed program. It was also noted that public appreciation has been expressed because of the third party independence that results from the activities of the Society on behalf of the industrial members. Board members further indicated the great accomplishments that Bob has done to improve, promote, educate and make visual the work and successes of the airshed and its supporting members to the public.

In addition, Bob spoke to concerns regarding the duplication of some of the existing monitoring that are being carried out within the west central zone. It was explained that the WCAS has engaged the services of Dr. Warren Kindzierski with the intention of evaluating the network. The evaluation will take into consideration such items as the type of analysis, frequency of sampling, and placement of stations to get the best value from the program that will also meet the needs of the public, regional and provincial governments.

In summation, the Board expressed their appreciation of the position of Weyerhaeuser in light of the economical challenges facing the forestry sector. However, it was made clear that deviation from the funding formula would not be acceptable to the Society. Mike agreed to discuss with Weyerhaeuser executive the WCAS position. Bob offered to assist Mike in communications with senior management in support of the discussions to date. Mike had hoped to have this issue resolved by the end of January. On a final note, Bob stated that the WCAS forum is an effective vehicle that offers flexibility to make meaningful changes in the interests of all parties.

Next General Meeting Date: February 27, 2003 at 9:00 am at the Penn West Building, Drayton Valley, Alberta.



Weyerhaeuser  
11553 - 154 Street  
Edmonton, AB,  
T5M 3K7  
Phone: (780) 453-9533

Thursday November 28, 2002

To Bob Scotton,  
West Central Air Shed (WCAS)

**Re: Weyerhaeuser Contributions to the West Central Air Shed**

Dear Mr. Scotton,

I'd like to start by thanking you for addressing the concerns expressed by Weyerhaeuser in our letter to the WCAS, dated April 6, 2002. However, after significant internal discussion, and due in part to the very challenging economic conditions our industry currently faces, we have decided to no longer participate in the pollution unit and charges portion of the WCAS program.

Weyerhaeuser still firmly believes the WCAS runs an important and valuable program and we are therefore committed to the following continued support:

- A total cash contribution to the air shed of \$5000/year, and
- The continued contribution of Mike Wood's time and skills to the air shed board

Weyerhaeuser will continue to monitor air quality using our equipment in Drayton Valley and Edson, and, as always, the WCAS is welcome to use this data as part of its program. We look forward to a continued strong working relationship with WCAS to ensure air shed objectives are met.

Regards,

Tazim Merali, P.Eng  
Engineer  
Engineered Panels Business