



WCAS General Meeting Meeting Notes

February 11, 2004

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

Main Conference Room
Penn West Building, 50th Avenue West
Drayton Valley, AB

In Attendance:

Cecil Andersen, Pembina Agriculture Protection Association
Greg Gabert, Penn West Petroleum
Amanda Parker, Weldwood Canada
Jim Bolton, TransAlta
Larry Williams, Alberta Environment
Mary Griffiths, Pembina Institute for Appropriate Development
Larry Paslawski, AEUB
Rick Phaneuf, Alberta Environment
Robert Raimondo, EPCOR
Ron Sekura, Brazeau County
John Whaley, Leduc County

WCAS:

Barb Johnson
Bob Scotten

Absent With Regrets:

Audrey Kelto, LARGA
Mike Woods, Weyerhaeuser

Action Items

Action Item 1: Bob to coordinate a meeting with Airshed executive directors concerning future funding strategies.

Action Item 2: Bob to coordinate a meeting with Elaine Ryl and Cecil Andersen to discuss the future activities of the WCAS agriculture program.

Action Item 3: Bob to provide the Technical Committee with more definitive costs regarding the construction of the mobile unit. In addition, Bob agreed to investigate possible opportunities or commitments of cost sharing with members who may ultimately benefit from the operation of the mobile unit.

Action Item 4: Amanda Parker of Weldwood to provide Bob with a list of Hinton synergy groups that would be interested in attending a WCAS presentation.

Action Item 5: Barb to prepare protocols concerning alarming, handling of complaints, and the reporting of exceedences and provide an odor complaints list for consideration of the Technical Committee.

Ongoing Action Items

Ongoing Item #1: Barb to track and schedule the EPCOR/TransAlta Genesee/Wabamun air monitoring expansion project.

Ongoing Item #2: Bob to seek candidates for Board representation of the Gas Transmission sector.

Ongoing Item #3: Bob to investigate opportunities for radio media coverage once the new WCAS station operations in Edson, Drayton Valley, and Hinton areas are complete.

Ongoing Item #4: Robert Raimondo, Jim Bolton, and Bob Scotten to work on the construction of a document of resolution for the WCAS bylaws concerning the engagement of WCAS as a contractor for the operation and maintenance of ambient air stations that are otherwise competitively serviced by independent contractors.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Bob Scotten called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members were welcomed and introductions were made.

2. Other Business – Additions to the Agenda

There were a number of additions to the agenda that included the topics of formaldehyde monitoring, Coal Bed Methane Information Sessions, a request for a support letter in favor of Weldwood of Canada Limited's nomination for an Emerald Award from the Alberta Foundation for Environmental Excellence, and the formal approval of grant funds for the proposed University of Alberta project concerning ozone research.

3. Approval of December 4, 2003 Draft Minutes

The minutes of the December 4, 2003 were approved by consensus.

4. Review of the October 29, 2003 Action Items

Action Item 1: Bob to arrange the Board presentation of the final agriculture report with Dr. Sagar Krupa. **Complete.** Bob indicated that Dr. Krupa would be available on the 17th of March, to present the conclusions of the agricultural program regarding crop response to air quality in the West Central region of Alberta. Bob reported that this event was coordinated with Dr. Krupa's presentation to the Clean Air Strategic Alliance (CASA) in Calgary scheduled for March 18, 2004. Bob informed members that he would be in attendance for both presentations.

Ongoing Item 1: Barb to track and schedule the EPCOR/TransAlta Genesee/Wabamun air monitoring expansion project. **Ongoing.**

Ongoing Item #2: Bob to seek candidates for Board representation of the Gas Transmission sector. **Ongoing.**

Ongoing Item #3: Bob to investigate opportunities for radio media coverage once the new WCAS station operations in Edson, Drayton Valley, and Hinton areas are complete. **Ongoing.**

Ongoing Item #4: Robert Raimondo, Jim Bolton, and Bob Scotten to work on the construction of a document of resolution for the WCAS bylaws. The resolution concerns WCAS's legal engagement of third party contracts that may be considered competitive with other contractors for the operation and maintenance of ambient air stations. **Ongoing.**

5. Financial Report

Greg Gabert provided a summary of the financial status of the Society as at December 31, 2003 as compared to the anticipated 2004 yearly budgeted figures. It was noted that revenue estimation for the 2004-year had decreased based on overall collection of accounts resulting over the past year. Greg reported that uncollected receivables amounted to approximately \$40K in 2003. (Attachment A) It was noted the Parkland Airshed Management Zone (PAMZ) had indicated that they would not be providing funding as a participating member in the future. Discussions ensued concerning the financial support available to the airshed zones. Greg explained that declining memberships and reduced emissions used for billing purposes have significantly affected funding. Bob suggested that a meeting take place with other airshed executive directors to discuss the future of the airshed programs with the intent of further voicing a united concern at a higher political level to possibly engage the government in financially assisting the environmental programs. Further discussions concerning memberships also indicated that additional website development could enhance the perspective of membership for participants. Bob indicated that there would be much communicational activities in the upcoming year to raise the general awareness of the Society within the public and the industry.

Expenditures compared over the 2004 budget emphasized the changing activities of the Society that included the purchasing of equipment rather than leasing, the funding of a graduate student in a research project with the University of Alberta, the possible construction of a mobile station unit, and the restructuring of activities in the agriculture program. It was noted that the forecasted budget for the agriculture program had uncertainty associated with the scale of activities that would be undertaken in light of the completion of the project report. It was decided that a meeting would be set up with the agriculture operations manager, Elaine Ryl, to further discuss the future of the agriculture program. Bob agreed to coordinate this meeting with Cecil Andersen. It was also decided that an additional meeting to address the needs of the power companies bio-monitoring program and commonalities of the WCAS agriculture agenda would also need to occur in the upcoming months.

A lengthy discussion began concerning the go ahead of the construction of a mobile station unit. It was determined that a need does exist to have such a unit available in meeting the expectations of the public, synergy groups, and industry members. It was noted that the services of such a unit would lend credibility and flexibility to the air-monitoring program and that the unit could be viewed as a promotional tool to the Society. It was agreed that demand on the unit would prompt the devising of a process that must clearly define protocols concerning the prioritizing and rationalizing of unit placement. In conclusion, it was agreed that this issue would be further discussed within the Technical Committee and recommendations brought forward to the Board. Bob was asked to provide the committee with more definitive costs regarding the mobile unit and to investigate any opportunities or possible commitments of cost sharing with those who may ultimately benefit from the operation of the mobile trailer unit.

On a final note, Barb indicated that Larry Paslawski of the Alberta Utilities and Energy Board, had provided the Society with emission inventory for the purpose of 2004 membership invoicing. Barb reported that invoicing has begun and that the timing is in line with last years billing distribution.

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Action Item 3: Bob to provide the Technical Committee with more definitive costs regarding the construction of the mobile unit. In addition, Bob to investigate possible opportunities or commitments of cost sharing with members who may ultimately benefit from the operation of the unit.

6. Updates and Reports

6.1 Zone Managers Report

- 6.1.1 *Agricultural Report Update.* Bob reported that Dr. Krupa had agreed to present the final agriculture report in Drayton Valley, March 17, 2004. Bob indicated that invitations would be extended to town councilors, land owners, and the general public. Bob asked members to provide names of any persons that may be interested in attending the agriculture presentation.
- 6.1.2 *Weldwood of Canada Update.* It was reported that the Weldwood station was fully operational throughout the month of December. Bob indicated that now that the operational take over has been successful; a presentation had been planned for the Hinton area. Amanda Parker of Weldwood indicated that she could provide Bob with a list of synergy groups that would be interested in attending the session.
- 6.1.3 *Weyerhaeuser Update.* Bob reported that discussions with Mike Woods of Weyerhaeuser indicate that arrangements concerning the operation of the two Weyerhaeuser stations are anticipated to commence over the summer months. It was reported that the membership fees from the Edson division were paid in full and that partial payment of dues from the Drayton Valley plant had been received by the Society.
- 6.1.4 *TransAlta/EPCOR Update.* Bob reported that the contractual agreement between the Society and the utility companies had been completed and that preparation for the installation of the trailer units has begun. It was reported that the Genesee station setup was planned but delayed due to weather conditions. Bob explained that some negotiations concerning power transfer across the private land is being worked on with the landowners in the case of the Meadows station. It was further reported that two trailer units have been completely outfitted and a third well on its way. Bob reports that despite a few minor setbacks, it is still anticipated that all the stations would be operational by the end of March 2004.
- 6.1.5 *Communication Update.* Bob indicated that current communicational activities include the promotional advertising with respect to the Agriculture report, the advertising and planning of community presentations of the Weldwood station in Hinton, and the coordinating of the next WCAS Newsletter to be finished by May 2004.
- 6.1.6 *Analytical Laboratory Update.* It was reported that the Alberta Research Council (ARC) was awarded the WCAS contract for laboratory analysis. The ARC is an accredited agency that has been involved with chemical analysis for airshed's in the province of Alberta. Bob indicated, however, that Maxxam Analytics Inc. is still handling the analysis for the passive program.

Action Item 4: Amanda Parker of Weldwood to provide Bob with a list of local synergy groups that would be interested in attending a WCAS presentation.

7. Air Monitoring Update

Barb Johnson reported that the operational uptime for the months of November, December and January were 98.1%, 99.7%, and 99.4% respectively. It was reported that no exceedence of Alberta Guidelines occurred during the months of November and December. Barb indicated that January was the first month of reporting for the Weldwood station and that an exceedence for TRS (total reduced sulfur) occurred at the plant due to a venting incident during this month. The one-hour guideline set by Alberta Environment for TRS is 10 ppb and the reported exceedence reading was recorded at 14 ppb.

Discussions began concerning protocols that are followed in the event of a complaint, an exceedence and the reporting of exceedences. Barb explained she reported to Alberta Environment any exceedence over Alberta guidelines and operational uptimes less than 90% on monitoring equipment. However, in the case of Weldwood of Canada, the communication with Alberta Environment was reported to be undertaken by personnel of Weldwood with respect to exceedence violations. Barb indicated that Weldwood requested this arrangement. Jim Bolton of TransAlta suggested that with the addition of the power stations to the WCAS network, a need for protocols concerning alarming, handling of complaints, and reporting undertaken by the Society would need to be clearly defined. Barb agreed to provide the technical committee with protocols for the dealing of the aforementioned issues. In addition, it was suggested that an odor complaint list be compiled. Barb agreed to this task.

On a final note, Bob indicated that the updated Air Monitoring Directive (AMD) has specifics that clearly define the reporting mechanism that shall be undertaken in the air monitoring industry. Bob explained that the new AMD is to be released in the near future.

Action Item 5: Barb to prepare protocols concerning alarming, handling of complaints, and the reporting of exceedences and provide an odor complaints list for consideration of the Technical Committee.

8. Other Business

Formaldehyde Monitoring. Mary Griffiths requested permission to provide the Town of Drayton Valley with a formal response regarding the sampling of formaldehyde at the Weyerhaeuser plant in Drayton Valley. Mary indicated that measurements obtained from the plant do not show a need for the six-day sampling schedule program that is currently conducted by Weyerhaeuser. Mary suggested that the monitoring of formaldehyde could be conducted over a twenty-four hour period on a random basis every thirty days to address any future concerns of the public. Rick Phaneuf of Alberta Environment indicated that to the best of his knowledge there were no concerns on the provincial governmental level. In conclusion, it was agreed that Mary would draft a letter to the Town of Drayton Valley regarding the formaldehyde monitoring conducted at the Weyerhaeuser facility.

Weldwood of Canada – Emerald Award Nomination. Terry Nilson of Weldwood of Canada Limited contacted the WCAS seeking a letter of support regarding the company's candidacy for the prestigious Emerald Award with the Alberta Emerald Foundation for Environmental Excellence. A copy of the nomination form was circulated to members. The nomination document described the Weldwood Hinton Division's efforts in both the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions and fossil fuel usage by conducting a pilot project involving log- chip trucking. The Board agreed to provide a letter of support in recognition of the companies efforts.

Coal Bed Methane. Mary Griffiths informed the Board that a number of public information sessions are planned concerning Coal Bed Methane operations. Mary suggested that, along with other synergy groups, WCAS could take advantage of the meetings to promote and add awareness to the work and efforts of the Society. Mary agreed to keep Bob informed of the activities of the synergy groups. Cecil

Andersen agreed to speak to the Pembina Agriculture Protection Association (PAPA) concerning their interests.

University of Alberta Grant. Dr. Warren Kindzierski prepared a project proposal that was distributed to Board members. The document outlined the research project objectives as it relates to factors affecting ambient ozone concentrations in the West Central Airshed Zone in Alberta. Board members agreed to support the project.

9. Next Meeting Date

An agricultural/technical meeting was set for 11:00 a.m. on March 17, 2004 following the agriculture presentation in the main conference room at the Penn West Building, Drayton Valley. The next general meeting was scheduled to follow the technical meeting beginning at 1:00 p.m., the afternoon of March 17, 2004.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Attachment A

**West Central Airshed Society
Delinquent Customers As at 12/31/03**

	Invoice Amount
Acclaim Energy Inc.	535.00
Altana Exploration Company	535.00
Baytex Energy Ltd.	535.00
Bonterra Energy Corp	535.00
Boundary Creek Resources	535.00
Bushmills Energy Corporation	535.00
Calcrude Oils Limited	535.00
Cequel Energy Inc.	1,055.23
Coastal Resources Limited	535.00
Constar Resources Ltd	535.00
Contour Energy Ltd.	535.00
Devlan Exploration Inc.	535.00
Domcan Boundary Corp	535.00
Eclipse Resources Ltd.	789.73
Hunt Oil Company of Canada	706.92
Ish Energy Ltd.	535.00
Kaiser Energy Limited	535.00
Ketch Energy Ltd.	1,184.60
Lario Oil & Gas Co.	867.49
Lexoil Inc.	789.73
Midcoast Canada Operating	787.92
Morrision Petroleum	394.87
Nal Resources Ltd.	535.00
Omers Resources Limited	789.73
Outlook Energy Corp	535.00
PCC Energy Corp.	535.00
Pengrowth Corporation	1,163.18
Provident Energy Ltd.	789.73
RegCo Petroleums Ltd.	535.00
Samson Canada Ltd.	1,184.60
ShiningBank Energy Ltd.	9,402.69
Sunfire Energy Corporation	535.00
Taurus Exploration Ltd.	535.00
Tom Brown Resources	9,778.78
Town of Hinton	2,342.81
Ultima Ventures Corp.	535.00
Vintage Petroleum	789.73
	<u>\$ 44,052.74</u>
Less GST	2,881.95
Total Non- Collection	<u>\$ 41,170.79</u>