



WCAS General Meeting Meeting Notes March 17, 2004

1:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

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

In Attendance:

Cecil Andersen	Pembina Agriculture Protection Association
Larry Paslawski	AEUB
Gwen Wood	AEUB
Rick Phaneuf	AENV
Jim Bolton	TransAlta
Greg Gabert	Penn West Petroleum
Steven Probert	Capital Health
John Whaley	County of Leduc
Robert Raimondo	EPCOR

WCAS:

Bob Scotten
Barb Johnson

Absent with Regrets:

Mike Woods	Weyerhaeuser
Mary Griffiths	Pembina Institute of Appropriate Development

Action Items

Action Item 1: Bob to speak to Weyerhaeuser concerning the issue of Drayton Valley's formaldehyde monitoring application to Alberta Environment.

Ongoing Action Items

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

Cecil Andersen called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

2. Approval of February 11, 2004 Draft Minutes

The minutes of the February 11, 2004 were approved by consensus.

3. Review of the February 11, 2004 Action Items

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

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

Action Item 3: Bob to provide 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. **Complete.** Bob Scotten reported that the cost for an 8' x 12' single axle trailer outfitted with racks and manifolds would be \$24K. Bob indicated that National Trailer Mfg Ltd. could assemble the unit in approximately ten weeks if the unit was approved at this time. The Board supported the construction of the station but agreed that before the trailer unit is deployed for operation that a Technical committee meeting would need to be held to discuss protocols concerning the priorities of the 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. **Complete.**

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. **Complete.**

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

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 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. **Ongoing.**

4. Financial Report

Greg Gabert provided a summary of Revenue & Expenses as at February 29, 2004 for Board review. It was reported that invoicing for 2004 Membership fees were complete and that figures were in line with anticipated revenue and costs.

5. Updates and Reports

5.1 Zone Managers Report

- 5.1.1 *Weyerhaeuser Update.* Bob reported that discussions are still continuing with Weyerhaeuser concerning the operation of their monitoring stations. In addition, Rick Phaneuf of Alberta Environment indicated that the Drayton Valley mill has not yet applied to the provincial government to have their formaldehyde monitoring reviewed. Bob indicated that he would speak to Mike Woods/Brian Gilliland concerning this issue.
- 5.1.2 *TransAlta/EPCOR Update.* Bob reported that the construction of the EPCOR/TransAlta stations and sites are proceeding well. Bob indicated that in addition to the Genesee station that is on line, the Wagner and Meadows stations are expected to be operational within this week. Bob reported that telephone service is still needed at the Wagner site and that data collection at this time could be conducted by cellular communications. It was also indicated that the Power station should be functional within the next two weeks.

Concern was voiced regarding the live reporting of mercury monitoring at the Genesee station. It was noted that correspondence received by the federal government discouraged live Internet reporting of the mercury data due to the nature of the analyzer performance. It was explained that this particular analyzer performs by periodic injections of mercury that would cause spiking of data results before correction. It was noted that public perception of the live data would be misleading to those unfamiliar with the operational characteristics of this analyzer. The non-reporting of the data, however, would contradict arrangements previously agreed to by the Alberta government and utility companies. It was suggested that the WCAS post monthly reports that have been quality assured on the website instead of the live data. It was reported that Alberta Environment is reviewing the approval terms regarding the posting of live mercury data.

- 5.1.3 *Communication Update.* Bob indicated that current communicational activities include a presentation at the April 14th PANRAC meeting and a scheduled presentation in Hinton with respect to synergy groups in the area.

Bob reported that some work has begun on the upcoming Newsletter; however, priority has been given to the 2003 WCAS Annual Report. Bob asked for support from industry representatives regarding the obtaining of testimonials from various industry members. The testimonials would support the value in the benefits that the companies experience as participating members.

- 5.1.4 *WACEHEAP (Wabamun and Area Community Exposure and Health Effects Program) Update.* Steven Probert was introduced as the project operations manager for the steering committee. Steven reported that an exposure study is underway and that a passive network is planned to for the Wabamun area in conjunction with three WCAS air-monitoring stations. The exposure study also includes a questionnaire that will be used to determine baseline health quality. It was noted that an office for the committee has been established in the city of Spruce Grove.

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6. Air Monitoring Update

Barb Johnson reported that the operational uptime for the month of February was 99.5%. It was reported that no exceedence of Alberta Guidelines occurred during this month.

7. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was set for 9:00 a.m. April 21, 2004 in the main conference room, Penn West Building.

The WCAS Annual General Meeting date was set for 1:00 p.m. Wednesday June 9, 2004.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.