

**QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2012**

DATE: April 16, 2012
LOCATION: 215 N. Mason Conference Room 1-A
TIME: 5:30 – 8:30 pm

For Reference Greg McMaster, Chair - 484-3348
Ben Manvel, Council Liaison - 217-1932
Lucinda Smith, Staff Liaison - 224-6085

Present: Scott Groen, Nancy York, Denny Georg, Michael Lynn, Rich Fisher, John Schroeer, Greg McMaster, Hugh Mackay

Absent: Dave Dietrich

Staff present – Lucinda Smith, Alexis Hmielak, Tom Vosburg, Steve Catanach

Guests: Stacy Baumgarn (replacing Greg Behm as representative from Energy Board)

Call meeting to order:
Greg McMaster called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

Introduction of Guests: Stacy Baumgarn

Agenda Review - none

Public Comments: - none

Review and Approval of March 19, 2012 minutes

Nancy York made a change to her comment about electric charging stations. Greg McMaster pointed out that Greg Behm from the Energy Board needed to be marked present.

<p>John Schroeer moved and Rich Fisher seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Michael Lynn and Dennis Georg abstained because they were not present at the meeting. Minutes were approved as amended 6 – 0 - 2</p>
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Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

- Tom Vosburg, Policy and Project Analyst in Utilities, and Steve Catanach, Light and Power Operations Manager presented information on a small pilot project that Fort Collins Utilities is proposing that would install publically-available electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in the City of Fort Collins. Staff liaison Lucinda Smith asked Tom to present to the AQAB because the board is interested in alternative fuel vehicles.
- To put things into perspective, Tom Vosburg stated it is appropriate for the City of Fort Collins to be involved in such a project because the City supports air quality improvement and City Plan

specifically directs the City to evaluate alternative fuel vehicles to help improve air quality. As a result, Utilities is putting together several projects as an Electrical Vehicles Community Readiness Initiative.

- These initiatives take a look at wide variety of things to support vehicles such as impact on the electric grid and revising parking policies and zoning ordinances.
- Communities around the US are working to get charging stations on the ground. The question is what role should local government and private entities have.
- Fort Collins Utilities has put together a small electric vehicle (EV) initiative and a website <http://www.fcgov.com/utilities/residential/conserves/EVs> with FAQs on EVs and how and where to charge them.
- They are also working with the City Building Department regarding the permitting process to build charging stations.
- There are 3 types of EV charging stations.
 - Level 1 – 120 volt = 8-14 hours charging time (usually comes with the vehicle)
 - Level 2 – 240 volt = 4-8 hours charging time
 - Level 3 – 480 volt DC fast charge = 30-60 minutes charging time
- There are 3 models of public versus private charging stations:
 - Private charging would be for in-home and business fleet use and would be the predominant method of charging.
 - Customer charging would be provided by a business for use by its customers such as Walgreens or visitors such as hotels.
 - Public charging would be open to the general public. It is an emerging model with no clear best practices established yet. The Department of Energy maintains a database of them and lists approximately 2,400 installation sites of public charging stations nationally.
- Current status of EV charging in Fort Collins:
 - It is unknown how many EVs are currently in Fort Collins, including conversions and new vehicles.
 - The City has Level 1 and Level 2 charging stations for the City's fleet.
 - New Belgium has some for their fleet but also has some for public use.
 - Utilities Service Center has two level 2 stations for the City fleet.
 - CSU is implementing some charging stations as well.
 - There are no dedicated general public charging stations right now
- Public charging station issues:
 - City operated vs. privately provided?
 - Paid by Fort Collins Utilities or General Fund?
 - On or off street parking?
 - Have reserved spots for EVs that are charging in the parking garage?
 - Parking ordinance revisions and enforcement practices?
 - EV charging fees?
- The proposed Charging Station Program will be a BFO offer for next budget cycle and will include:
 - Install 4-6 public-use Level 2 charging stations; location to be determined.
 - Model a "mature" EV public charging program with parking policies, fees, standard signage, public information and customer support.
 - Create a platform for potential future research projects.
 - Establish a Utility Services/Parking Services Partnership

Discussion

- To answer Hugh Mackay, Tom Vosburg stated they will follow up on checking vehicle registrations to find out how many EV vehicles there are in Fort Collins.

- Nancy York wanted to know who is the target audience for the fueling stations. Tom Vosburg stated people will not be able to rely having a charging station at their work or at a park and ride, so the City is researching putting charging stations in the parking garage to reduce range anxiety.
 - Nancy York pointed out a 4 – 8 hour charge would not be practical in a parking garage.
 - Tom stated the average charge time is 2 hours so people are “topping off” and not depleting vehicles
- Tom Vosburg stated the cost of a charging station would cost from \$3,000-\$4,000, depending where it is going to be installed and how much trenching would be necessary to bring in electricity.
- To answer Dennis Georg, Tom stated they do not have data on the life of the charging station and how much it would cost to maintain it annually.
- Dennis Georg was concerned there could be capacity burn out of higher voltage charging for emerging EV technology. He urged Utilities to run an experiment by having a level 3 charging station and seeing how long it lasts. Dennis also stated he felt there would be more of Level 3 EVs in the next few years and to not spend much time on Level 2.
 - Steve Catanach pointed out that most homes aren’t equipped for a 480 volt charger.
- Michael Lynn suggested the City not get involved with EV charging stations and let supply and demand take care of it. He did not understand why government is getting involved and was concerned that technology would outpace the actions of the government.
- Tom Vosburg stated the City does want the private sector to also provide EV charging stations and that is where it eventually needs to be. He felt the role of a municipal utility was to support research and development. The question is, does the City have a responsibility to support or provide a bridge to this technology?
- Steve Catanach stated Utilities is supporting community values from the Climate Action Plan. They are looking to develop a practical business model that is not out there yet. Often it is the role of government to help the public
- Dennis Georg stated the City should provide guidance on best practices and things to avoid, but treat the EV charging stations like an experiment. He also encouraged them to have a website that tells the public about what the City is learning. People should understand they will need to pay depreciation and maintenance on chargers. Scott Groen stated he thought the Downtown Business Association should also be involved in this experiment.
- John Schroeer suggested having various parking rates and times for EVs that are charging in the parking garage.
- To answer Stacy Baumgarn, Steve Catanach stated there would be meters to measure how frequently the charging stations are used and they would also take credit cards. Stacy also asked what incentives do hotels and retail businesses have to install stations themselves and would the City partner with them. Steve Catanach stated there could be a demand/response ability to shift their charging to later at night for lower rates.
- Nancy York stated she felt the City should limit their experimentation to City vehicles only. Instead of investing in public EV charging stations the City should invest in creating a mass transit system that works for everyone rather than support the class of citizen that can afford an electric vehicle.
- To answer Greg McMaster how the AQAB could weigh in on the EV charging project, Tom Vosburg stated the AQAB could weigh in when the BFO offers are made. He could return to the AQAB and present at that time if the AQAB so desired.
- Lucinda Smith stated board members can also comment as citizens in June and in the fall. There will also be two public open houses for public input.
- Alexis will email the Powerpoint to the board.

BFO Air Quality Programs

Lucinda Smith discussed the Environmental Health Request for Results items that are almost completed and that incorporated AQAB input on air quality. Lucinda asked for feedback from the board on the Environmental Health Request for Results to know if they are going in the right direction.

- Lucinda Smith also asked for input on the air quality component of the BFO core and enhancement offers, including whether emissions from oil and gas wells are adequately addressed in the offer. Lucinda pointed out City Council discussed the fact that air quality impacts from oil and gas wells in Weld County are outside the control of the City. Council suggested BFO offers include things the City can address such as improve problem air days first, instead of focusing on having all good days.
 - Rich Fischer pointed out there is no mention of a SIP in the BFO offer and suggested offers need to specify what needs to be done to bring us back into ozone compliance. Lucinda stated the language of the offer was designed to show the reality of our air quality rather than compliance. The offer also needs to be understood by the public and the actions need to be measured and tracked. This goal was made to reflect Council's conversation. However, it can be changed back to "achieve all good air quality days" if the AQAB so chooses. Lucinda Smith pointed out the Council's overarching goal is to continually improve air quality.
 - John Schroeer suggested improving the average of the non compliant ozone days.
 - Dennis Georg stated the more measurable goal of eliminating bad air quality days is not a strong goal. He suggested the City should strive to achieve a higher standard of air quality over all. This may force the City into more proactive engagement with the state and region to deal with external air quality pollutants that are impacting us.
- Rich Fisher suggested the City's goal should be to have healthy air at a minimum, and then strive for better air. He also suggested using visibility as a metric because most people understand it. Lucinda stated a visibility metric could be added with its own goal.
- Regarding measured reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), Lucinda stated the City does measure the pollutant emissions benefit of the lawnmower rebate program, radon improvement reductions and air pollutant reductions from all the Utilities programs. The measurable goal was determined to be 2% per year. This will be a learning process for the City because some areas of the City organization do not track air pollutant reductions.
- Another part of the offer is purchasing strategies

I. Contained within Current levels of Funding

- The Environmental current levels of funding will be requesting \$80,000. Offers above that are enhancement offers.
- AQ Policy and Planning
 - Participate in Ozone SIP planning process
 - Participate on City interdepartmental oil and gas planning team
 - Staff study to evaluate status of fugitive dust; Is it an air quality problem? If so, what is needed to address it?
 - Evaluate and recommend internal process improvements that support low and zero-emitting modes of transportation (i.e., application of LOS policy, use of street-oversizing fees, etc.)
 - Natural Gas Franchise Fee exploration (pending City leadership support)
- Data
 - Environmental data management and analysis, especially GHG-related data
- Programs to Improve AQ

- Healthy Sustainable Homes
 - Chiminea and outdoor burning campaign (NEW)
 - Continue Green Driver Training beyond 2012 pilot
 - Ozone awareness and incentives
 - Radon
 - Zero interest loans for wood stove removal/upgrade and radon mitigation
 - Monitoring
 - Continue City support for fine particle monitor
- II. Enhancement Offer Ideas (above current levels of funding)**
- Expanded Support for Healthy Sustainable Homes
 - Expanded unified carbon accounting system funding
 - Grants writer (at Service Area level)
 - Climate Adaptation planning

Discussion

- Dennis Georg suggested the City should do modeling to understand the tipping point of the City's growth and its impact to air quality. He also suggested, in order to better sell these offers, they should not use the words "climate change", but "environmental change" because the word "climate" has too much baggage. Rich Fisher suggested "global change" because that includes social, economic and energy. Lucinda stated City Plan says the City will adapt to the changing climate.
- Dennis also suggested the City put a process in place to be able to participate at the state level in future decisions. Lucinda stated the City of Fort Collins is a member of the Western Adaptation Alliance of 10 cities in the west who are sharing with each other their efforts towards climate adaptation.
- Dennis Georg suggested the City needs to establish an air quality baseline to compare to the future, and a monitoring strategy for what the future may bring. This would be an enhancement offer.
- John Schroerer stated he felt oil and gas drilling is the greatest threat to Fort Collins' air quality.
- Scott Groen stated monitoring of oil drilling in Weld County needs to increase to keep pace with the expansion of this industry. He suggested there needs to be two monitoring sites on the east side of Fort Collins to monitor emissions from oil and gas drilling. He also wanted to know if the state of Colorado is going to do anything to protect Larimer County from Weld County.
 - Rich Fisher stated there are not enough monitoring inspectors for the oil and gas industry in Weld County. He suggested working with monitoring experts at CSU and in the federal sector to supplement them.
 - Lucinda stated there is a staff recommendation to establish an oil and gas drilling moratorium for 6 – 10 months and establish a permitting process to protect the community's interest. She will forward these memos to the AQAB.
 - Rich Fisher suggested connecting climate risk assessment to oil and gas drilling.
- Greg McMaster asked if the AQAB wanted to create an offer about planning for the future. Lucinda stated this recommendation does not need to fit into the BFO process. It could help raise awareness of the issue and fit into a Council consideration of a moratorium on oil and gas drilling. City staff is also working on this and there could be duplication of effort here.
 - Rich Fisher stated the AQAB could look at what other communities have done to address oil and gas drilling and create a position paper on it. He and Dave Dietrich have already met to discuss it. They could make bullet items, but it needs a deeper discussion about what can be done about it.
- Stacy Baumgarn stated a group of citizens created a position paper about the proposed CSU stadium.

- To answer Greg McMaster who asked how the rest of the board can help Rich and Dave to write this white paper, Rich Fisher stated the AQAB should present conditions that should concern the City. This could be an informational packet about what kind of city does Fort Collins want to be and a strategy of how to get there. Rich Fisher and Dave Dietrich will draft a paper and then send to the board for comments.
 - Lucinda suggested the City's air quality policies could be the framework from which to identify risk while staying neutral. She will also find out when Council might consider an oil and gas drilling moratorium.

Election of Officers

Per Air Quality Advisory Board By-laws, Board members w nominate then elect a Chair and a Vice Chair to serve for a one year term, starting at the close of the April 16, 2012 meeting.

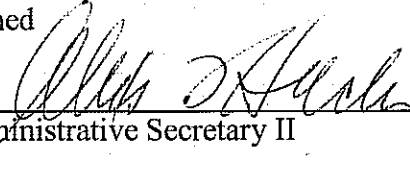
Dennis Georg moved and John Schroeer seconded a motion to nominate Greg McMaster as Air Quality Advisory Board Chair.
 Motion passed unanimously – Greg McMaster was elected as Chair of the AQAB

Dennis Georg moved and John Schroeer seconded a motion to nominate Dave Dietrich as Air Quality Advisory Board Vice Chair.
 Motion passed unanimously – Dave Dietrich was elected as Vice Chair of the AQAB

Adjourn

John Schroeer moved and Scott Groen seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.
 Greg McMaster adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Approved by the Board on May 21, 2012

Signed 
 Administrative Secretary II

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 Date / /