



**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
GRANITE REEF SENIOR CENTER - ROOM 8  
1700 N. GRANITE REEF ROAD  
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2008**

**SUMMARIZED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Brian Munson, Chair  
Michele Cohen, Vice Chair  
Bill Gill, Board Member  
Ron Hand, Board Member  
Jimmy Leung, Board Member  
James McCay, Board Member  
James Mulloy, Board Member (arrived at 6:13 p.m.)

**STAFF:** Larry Person, Environmental Coordinator  
Chuck Skidmore, Energy Management Engineer  
Anthony Floyd, Green Building Manager  
Vic Valliere, Planning Services  
Beth Miller  
Joey Miller

**ALSO:** Bill Sheaffer, EAC Member

**Call to Order**

Chair Munson called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m.

**Roll Call**

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above, noting the presence of a quorum.

**Public Comment**

None.

1). **Approval of Minutes**

- February 20, 2008 Regular Meeting

Mr. Person explained that due to an error in the posted agenda, the previous approval of the February 20, 2008 minutes could not be considered a legal action, and requested the minutes be re-approved.

**BOARD MEMBER LEUNG MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 20, 2008 REGULAR MEETING. BOARD MEMBER MCCAY SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). BOARD MEMBER MULLOY WAS NOT PRESENT.**

- March 19, 2008 Regular Meeting

Board Member McCay corrected the name of the Arizona Association of Environmental Education, on page 4. He also requested inclusion of Rick Heffernon's name on page 8, as the representative from ASU's Morrison Institute.

**BOARD MEMBER LEUNG MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 19, 2008 REGULAR MEETING AS AMENDED. BOARD MEMBER MCCAY SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). BOARD MEMBER MULLOY WAS NOT PRESENT.**

2). **Energy Plan and Environmental Office Update**

- Update and Discussion and possible action supporting a staff recommendation to create an Office of Environmental Initiatives.

Mr. Valliere noted that the GBAC and the EAC voted unanimously to support the recommendation to move forward on the Office of Environmental Initiatives. The proposal will be presented as part of the City Council's budget review process on April 17.

Mr. Valliere presented an update of his proposal to reorganize the City structure to create the new office. He identified four primary goals for the project:

- Any changes should have a positive impact on Scottsdale's present and future.
- It results in a net-zero cost effect on the proposed FY08/09 budget.
- Avoids creating an additional layer of bureaucracy.
- Unites all stakeholders' interest for the good of the community.

Currently, it is difficult to determine how much the City is spending on energy costs annually. Data is collected and bills paid by many different departments. No one source exists to keep track of the total. Overall, the City is estimated to spend just over \$18 million on energy, 78% of which is for electricity.

In response to Mr. Person's inquiry, Mr. Valliere said the natural gas and fuel portions of the estimate are fairly accurate; it is the electricity numbers that he has doubts about.

Mr. Valliere noted that the majority of the electricity is used to supply the city's water needs. Scottsdale can realize an energy cost savings of 3% or 4% by simply educating employees. The City's fuel consumption has remained flat, but costs have soared per gallon to the point where \$2.7 million is currently spent on fuel. That trend is not likely to reverse. The only thing the City can control is consumption.

A comparative analysis shows that leading cities such as Seattle, WA; Portland, OR; and Tucson use a centralized approach to energy management. Since 2001, Scottsdale has used a decentralized approach. A centralized Office of Environmental Initiatives would provide a higher level of technical and environmental support, and create a consistent citywide approach. It would function at a strategic level, as a support mechanism and a think tank. Implementation would be the responsibility of departments and employees.

Mr. Valliere reviewed a flow chart illustrating the proposed organizational structure of the office. The Chief Environmental Officer would report directly to Frank Gray, and would serve at an equal level to Connie Padian and Michael Clack. Positions are being re-assigned to the Planning Department from areas throughout the existing City structure. This would result in a zero cost effect to the base budget.

In a reactive role, EQAB would present initiatives to Council. Upon approval, Council would give direction to the City Manager. The environmental team would work with each department, do research, conduct feasibility studies, and participate in public outreach efforts. Having completed this process, it would draft a policy recommendation that would work back up the chain through the City Manager, for eventual Council approval.

In a proactive role, the environmental team would be responsible for looking at technology options and making recommendations to improve the City. Mr. Valliere requested that EQAB consider endorsing his proposal.

Mr. Valliere, in response to Board Member McCay, explained that staff, through the City Manager, has the authority to create a new division as a restructuring decision, whereas a Council ordinance would be necessary to create a new department.

In response to Board Member Leung, Mr. Valliere explained that Council still has to approve the Planning Department's budget. Even though the changes will not cost any more money than last year, the positions are being used differently, and Council can decide not to allow those changes.

Board Member Hand inquired about the nature of the Chief Environmental Officer and Energy Management Coordinator positions. Mr. Valliere said he is currently working on creating job descriptions. He felt the Chief Environmental Officer should not be an expert in any one field, should be a strong leader and communicator, and have the ability and charisma to unite different interest groups. The Energy Management Coordinator should also be charismatic, and possess an expertise in energy.

Mr. Valliere, in response to Board Member Leung, said one of the first things the office should do is recommend to Council adoption of the energy plan update. One of the plan's recommendations is the concept of re-investing savings back into the office. The

office would also offer the benefit of being able to evaluate the pros and cons of every initiative for Council.

Vice Chair Cohen noted that the Director would not be a peer of the General Managers, yet would be expected to collaborate with them. She asked whether they would be inclined listen to that person's authority. Mr. Valliere responded that he felt Frank Gray would be the best person to work within the proposed structure and establish the office. Ha acknowledged that the last thing the City wants is another layer of bureaucracy to work through.

- Presentation, Discussion and possible action on a recommendation from the Energy Advisory Committee supporting the staff recommendation to create an office of Environmental Initiatives.

Board Member Leung said the EAC voted to recommend EQAB's adoption of Mr. Valliere's proposal. Vice Chair Cohen noted that the GBAC voted similarly.

Chair Munson presented a memorandum addressed to Mayor/Council that would constitute EQAB's support for the proposal. He asked the Board to discuss it.

**BOARD MEMBER LEUNG MOVED THAT THE EQAB FORWARD THE MEMORANDUM TO THE MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL AND THE CITY MANAGER. BOARD MEMBER HAND SECONDED.**

Mr. Person clarified that the memorandum in question refers to the staff presentation given by Mr. Valliere. In it, EQAB expresses its support of the recommendation to create the Office of Environmental Initiatives and provide the resources in the budget process, with the understanding that it would result in reassignments of existing staff and staff positions, and not create new ones. By supporting initiatives within the existing departments instead of creating a new one, this proposal eliminates the perception that the City of Scottsdale is adding bureaucracy in a flat economy.

Board Member Leung said he would not support the idea that the initial structure necessarily has to be a permanent one. Chair Munson responded that the memo recognizes the proposal as a good starting point.

**THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).**

3). **Water 101 Presentation by the Water Resources Department**

- Presentation and Discussion on the basic water outreach program to citizens.

Ms. Miller is responsible for long-range water supply planning for the City of Scottsdale. The goal of the Arizona Groundwater Management Act of 1980 was to eliminate over drafting of groundwater in Phoenix, Tucson and the areas in between. Water conservation requirements were set for all users in the active management areas. Cities also have to prove that there is 100 years' worth of water available for all citizens to use.

Ms. Miller discussed a map of the City's water facilities. Historically, 75% of Scottsdale's supply consisted of groundwater. Currently, Scottsdale's supply is diversified, with more

Salt River Project (SRP) and Central Arizona Project (CAP) water. The City now has a water resources acquisition development fee, which is used to buy those renewable supplies. Ground water pumping has been severely reduced. Effluent produced at the Water Campus is either directly used by golf courses or is recharged for future recovery.

Scottsdale is partnering with the City of Phoenix on efforts to recharge the aquifer, and currently has the largest conservation staff in the Valley. Currently, State law prohibits potable use of reclaimed effluent. The City instead treats it highly, and then deposits it in the aquifer to filter it even further. Eventually it is pumped back out and used indirectly.

The City is exploring ways to disperse recharge throughout the aquifer to have a more even impact on water levels. Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) technology is being used on two wells, and every future well will be built with the dual purpose of recharging and pumping. This method of recharging is more cost effective than standard methods. It mitigates land subsidence, and continues the ability of the wells to produce.

The State sets a gallons per capita per day water conservation requirement. That method of calculating makes it hard for Scottsdale to meet the requirements, because of the high water use in the resort sector. The Arizona Department of Water Resources has another program available that requires the City to implement certain programs. If the City does not have a conservation program, it would lose its ability to approve any more subdivision plots until a 100-year supply is regained.

Scottsdale's main conservation program is incentive based. It features a media campaign, a number of rebate programs to encourage people to install water efficient fixtures and landscaping, irrigation audits, landscaping workshops, and an extensive education program in the schools. The incentive program also encourages people to remove existing turf.

In response to Vice Chair Cohen, Ms. Miller said the City is looking into instituting a program for ultra-low flow toilets and possibly high-efficiency washing machines.

In response to Board Member Leung, Ms. Miller said gray water systems are a bit tricky for uneducated homeowners to maintain. Board Member Gill said the WAC is analyzing gray water to see what opportunities are available, and will make a report to EQAB with the results.

Ms. Miller said a third tier was introduced in the rate structure that could be utilized as part of a drought situation. The drought plan sets targets for water use reduction and provides financial incentives to meet them, rather than making it mandatory, initially.

Board Member Leung inquired what would happen if the City suddenly lost the ability to pump water in a catastrophe. Ms. Miller responded that the City has an emergency response plan in place, which includes security procedures, emergency assistance agreements, and ensures that every key facility has multiple generators for backup capability. The Department plays through different potential scenarios to test responses to crises.

In response to Board Member Gill, Ms. Miller said there has not been any more activity on the Department of Water Resources' assured water supply application. It has asked the City not to file the application yet, because it is still working out what information they

will require. The DWS has assured Scottsdale that it is not going to revoke the City's designation because of the delay.

Vice Chair Cohen inquired about traces of pharmaceuticals reportedly being found in water supplies nationally. Board Member Gill said the WAC would be looking into the situation in the near future.

4). **Air Quality**

- Update and Discussion on the city's communication effort to citizens and possible EQAB roles.

Mr. Person presented the draft of a utility bill insert communicating the impacts of new dust control regulations to citizens, and alerting them to possible upcoming ordinances. It also provides information on State and County dust control efforts.

- Discussion and possible action to forward recommendations to Council related to possible amendments to city's 5 ordinances.

Mr. Person updated the Board on new amendments to the recently passed dust control text amendments. They are being introduced in an effort to mitigate unintended consequences of the County regulations. Livestock activity areas will not be regulated by the City ordinance, but will continue to be regulated by Maricopa County. Unpaved driveways that track dust onto unpaved roads do not have to abide by the regulations. The amendment process should take eight to ten weeks. The changes affect ordinances that were not scheduled to be enforced until October of 2009.

Mr. Person explained to Vice Chair Cohen that the City and the County were responding to a State mandated deadline of March 31. Due to the meeting calendars of the two bodies, the County decision came shortly after the City's decision. Vice Chair Cohen expressed concern that the original set of ordinances upset citizens for no reason.

5). **EQAB 2008/2009 Work Plan and Strategy Discussion**

- Discussion and possible action to revise EQAB's work plan in response to Mayor Manross' State of the City address statements of strategic environmental priorities.
- Discussion and possible action to revise EQAB's committees' work plans in response to the Mayor's environmental priorities as stated in her 2008 State of the City address.

Chair Munson distributed a page of Mayor Manross' State of the City address relating to EQAB's work plan, and invited the Board to discuss it.

Vice Chair Cohen was impressed by the Mayor's strategic goal to make the entire southern part of the City sustainable as a community. She applauded the Mayor for setting the bar high and suggested EQAB determine how to push this forward.

Board Member Gill speculated that the southern area was targeted specifically because it is tracked as a revitalization area. Vice Chair Cohen felt the Mayor's point was to consider going green when revitalizing any portion of the city.

Mr. Person said the Mayor recognizes that the number of jobs in southern Scottsdale exceeds the number of residents there who work at those jobs. This results in an unsustainable design for a community. The emphasis in the past has been on buildings, whereas she is talking about the entire community and connectivity as an element of its revitalization effort. There may be no other example of this kind of initiative in the United States. EQAB has never really had those kind of challenges presented to it before.

Vice Chair Cohen suggested a joint work-study session with the Planning and Transportation Departments to discuss this issue in depth.

Chair Munson said a number of things are converging at once, and this suggests that the time has come for a strategy retreat. Board Member Leung suggested the Mayor be invited to expand upon her comments before the retreat.

6). **Adopt-a-Road Litter Pick-up Project**

- Discussion and planning to participate in the April 19 litter pick-up event.

Mr. Person encouraged the Board Members to participate.

7). **Standing Committee Reports**

- Green Building Advisory Committee
  - Update and discussion of the GBAC April 15, 2008 meeting agenda items and actions.

Vice Chair Cohen reported that the GBAC is investigating the ASHRAE 189 high-performance building standards. ASU professor Harvey Bryan will talk to the Committee about it in detail at the next meeting.

Mr. Floyd is working to update the annual Green Building Program Report.

The architect for the new fire station will talk about its LEED Gold design at the next Green Building Lecture.

The program *Sustainable Scottsdale* runs on Thursdays on Channel 11.

- GBAC 2007 volunteer hours report and discussion.

The GBAC, through its members and events, volunteered nearly 5,000 hours to the City during the past year, amounting to 2.5 FTE's. This includes the Expo, lecture series, and Design Day.

- Green Building Expo status report and discussion.

Vice Chair Cohen said the Expo is in the process of reorganizing itself and moving towards non-profit status. The City is helping to analyze their options. The Expo has been postponed until the Spring of 2009.

- Water Advisory Committee
  - Update and discussion on the Water Resources Department's assured water supply application.

Board Member Gill said the application process remains in a holding pattern.

- Update, discussion and possible action for a recommendation to Council on downtown storm drain issues.

He said a report from Bill Erickson indicates that 48 people were arrested for not using indoor restrooms during a recent stepped-up enforcement period. Toxic dumping was reduced thanks to public reminders that such activity is illegal. Two inspectors have been reassigned to investigate storm drain complaints.

- Update and discussion on the water conservation rebates.
- Update and discussion of the WAC 4/08 meeting agenda items and actions.

- Energy Advisory Committee
  - Update and discussion on working groups preparing background information staff implementation of the Energy Plan 2007 update.
  - Update and discussion on case study Granite Reef Senior Center energy performance audit.

Mr. Skidmore said initial data shows that the building peaks at 10:00 p.m. for some reason and he is working to figure out why.

- Update and discussion of EAC 4/08 meeting agenda items and actions.

#### 8). **Updates and Reminders**

- Board Member suggestions for environmental topics on future agendas.

Board Member McCay requested discussion and possible action on the City's purchasing policy, especially biodegradable bags that are used for dogs in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve.

- Upcoming events.
  - EQAB Meeting - May 21, 2008
  - Solar Series Lecture - April 17, 2008
  - Green Building Lecture - May 1, 2008
  - Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day - November 1, 2008
  - Electronic Recycling Collection Day - May 3, 2008

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A/V-Tronics, Inc.