

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY  
COUNCIL – MARCH 13, 2007  
@ 3:00 P.M., Room 003/004  
Carroll County Office Building**



**James E. Slater, Jr., AICP, QEP  
Environmental Compliance Officer  
225 N. Center Street  
Westminster MD 21157-5194  
410.386.2756**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Karen Merkle, Chair  
Robyn Gilden, Vice Chair  
Sher Horosko  
Bob Foor-Hogue  
Jim Johnson  
Christopher Spaur  
David Pyatt  
Brian Rhoten  
Kim Petry

**Members Absent:**

**None**

**County Government:**

Cynthia Parr, County Commissioners Office  
Tim Feeser, County Commissioners Office  
Chris Swam, County Commissioners Office  
Commissioner Michael Zimmer  
Terri Jones, County Attorney's Office  
James E. Slater, Jr., Office of Environmental Compliance  
Jeff Keefer, Office of Environmental Compliance  
Hugh Murphy, Environmental & Resource Protection  
Vinnie Legge, Bureau Chief, Solid Waste  
J. Michael Evans, Director DPW  
Frank Schaeffer, Deputy Director DPW  
Sheree Lima, Finance Mgr., DPW  
Vivian Laxton, Communications  
Kathi Detrich, County Commissioners Office  
Ann L. Baugher, Secretary to EAC

**The Press:**

Carrie Knauer, Carroll County Times  
Kelsey Volkmann, Baltimore Examiner  
Kimberly A. Stenley, Carroll County Times

**Other Attendees:**

Dr. Elizabeth Ruff, Carroll County Health Department  
Dr. Patrick Gallagher, DDS, President of Carroll County Dental Society  
Mr. Neil Seldman, President, Institute for Local Self-Reliance  
Ms. Robin B. Davidov, Executive Director, Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority  
Cody Saville, Carroll Land Service, Inc.  
Dan Andrews, Sierra Club  
Gregor Becker, Sierra Club  
Sally Sorbello, Frederick citizen  
G. Wolf, citizen  
Bret Grossnickle, City of Westminster  
Charles Zeleski, Carroll County Health Department  
Brian Flynn, Carroll County Health Department  
Samnti Dogra, Carroll County Health Department  
Lois Bankert, Carroll County Health Department  
Ellen Cutsail, Union Bridge Council

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**CALL TO ORDER** - Ms. Merkle, Chair, officially called the meeting to order at 3:03 P.M., welcoming new EAC member, Kim Petry to the Council, presenters, guests, press, and County staff and asked that

attendees sign one and/or both of the sign-in sheets if they wished to address the Council. Ms. Merkle then asked for approval of the January 17, 2007, minutes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - MOTION NO. 4-07:** Motion was made by Bob Foor-Hogue, and seconded by Sher Horosko, to approve the January 17, 2007, minutes, as presented. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS** – Chair Merkle asked the Council’s cooperation on staying “on task” due to a full agenda.

Chair Merkle reviewed with the EAC two (2) items; which are attached to and a part of these minutes:

- the 2/6/07 letter from the Board of Commissioners requesting the EAC develop a countywide Water Conservation Plan; and,
- copy of letter written to the BOC, dated, 2/28/07 from Cheryl Wilhelm, regarding the Global Warming Solution Act and Resolution the EAC may wish to address at a future meeting

**OPEN FORUM** – Mr. Dan Andrews and Mr. Gregor Becker, both of the Sierra Club addressed the EAC:

- **Mr. Dan Andrews** – raised three (3) topics of concern for the EAC’s future consideration:

- 1) Mr. Andrews announced he had attended a Green Building Symposium and found out that wind turbines are not allowed in the County’s current zoning ordinance. Mr. Mark Brewer, of the Zoning office, encouraged Mr. Andrews to attend the EAC to see if they could review and present to the BOC a change to the current ordinance that would allow small micro turbines in Carroll County;
- 2) Mr. Andrews asked the EAC if they would consider a “solar energy awareness” campaign on potable tanks and hot water technology. Mr. Andrews offered to assist the EAC in this campaign; and
- 3) Mr. Andrews asked the EAC if they would teach the residents of Carroll County not to waste, in the form of a public awareness campaign and include what has been done and is being done in all of the County buildings.

- **Mr. Gregor Becker** – The U.S. Mayor’s Climate Protection Agreement has been presented to the Westminster City Council and the Council of Governments, having already or soon to be adopted by Howard and Anne Arundel counties, and Montgomery is looking at it as well. Mr. Becker will see the EAC receives a copy of this two-page agreement.

Chair Merkle thanked Mr. Andrews and Mr. Becker for voicing their concerns to the Council.

**UNFINISHED OR ONGOING BUSINESS:**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Fluoride:**

Dr. Elizabeth Ruff, CCHD gave a brief presentation on the fluoride issues. Dr. Ruff and Mr. Ed Singer met with the EAC subgroup previously to discuss the Council’s fluoride questions and concerns. Dr. Ruff made a few comments on issues discussed at the subgroup meeting for the benefit of the entire Council:

- the ADA’s recent recommendation to not mix infant formula with fluoridated water - prompted the CCHD to send a letter to local Pediatricians, hospitals and Dentists (copy of letter attached and a part of these minutes) to make them aware of this issue. The Carroll County Times is also publishing an article to assist in circulating this information to the public;

- the benefits of fluoride, according to the Center for Disease Control, in 2000, considered fluoride as one of the ten (10) most important accomplishments of the last century, with fluoride being a huge contributing factor in decreasing dental carries;
- Fluorosis not a disease. It is mostly slight white patches on teeth usually seen in young children and infants if exposed to too much fluoride. In Carroll County naturally occurring fluoride in the water is very minimal;
- Fluoride is added to four (4) public water supplies in Carroll County;
- Dr. Ruff shared the ADA recommendations, to discourage the formation of fluorosis, fluoridated toothpaste not be used by children under the age of two (2), and young children, over 2-years old, use fluoridated toothpaste the size of a pea. Children are to be supervised by an adult when brushing their teeth until age 6.

Ms. Robyn Gilden and Ms. Sher Horosko, as well as Ms. Merkle thanked Dr. Ruff for meeting with the subgroup and addressing the EAC.

**Waste Management:**

Mr. Evans presented the Council with a brief history of waste management activity in his department to date. Mr. Evans stated the Commissioners of Carroll County adopted Resolution 658-06 in January, 2006, giving the DPW directions on following up on the R. W. Beck 2005 report and told the Council that his office has looked at many ways to dispose of waste – landfills, transferring, co-composting and finally, under item number three (3) of Resolution 658-06, conducting procurement, for Waste To Energy by processing a proposal, currently out to bid, with no obligation to purchase. A few questions from the Council were answered by Mr. Evans. Mr. Evans then introduced Ms. Robin B. Davidov, Executive Director, Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority.

- Ms. Davidov presented on “Technology and the RFP process”, including discussion of integrated waste management and waste-to-energy technology, followed by a brief question and answer period. (A copy of Ms. Davidov’s presentation is a part of these minutes along with Ms. Davidov’s response to comments made by Mr. Neil Seldman.)

Ms. Merkle introduced Mr. Neil Seldman, President, Institute for Local Self-Reliance.

- Mr. Seldman presented “The transition from solid waste management to resource management – the U.S. experience to date.” No formally prepared presentation was given to attach to these minutes.

Mr. Seldman expressed strong disagreement to the waste-to-energy method and focused his comments on zero waste, recycling alone will not suffice, composting, and conducting meetings with small haulers on ways to move materials.

Ms. Vinnie Legge responded to a question from the EAC that Carroll County, in 2006, voluntarily recycled 34%, which did not include construction and demolition.

EAC members, after much discussion, suggested that an unbiased party address the group on the waste management topic at a future meeting. Ms. Merkle will meet with Mr. Evans, Mr. Slater and other County staff regarding this suggestion.

**Open Forum on Waste Management topics: - None**

**Monthly Update regarding MTBE issues – CCHD** – Mr. Charlie Zeleski presented updates on the Council's MTBE spreadsheet, a part of these minutes.

- Sheetz in Manchester – A major hit – 160,000 ppb in the monitoring well. CCHD sampled two homes, one had non-detect, the other had over 5,000 ppb. MDE ordered Sheetz to hook up the home with the high levels to town water at their cost in exchange for no longer holding Sheetz liable. The town had agreed in hooking up this homeowner.
- Little George's, Deer Park Road, began drilling four (4) monitoring wells to define where the contamination is, where it is going and whether it is actually the source of contamination to the adjoining property
- CCHD is reviewing the 7-11 in Woodbine for some alternate methods on disposing wastewater on the treatment system since a problem getting rid of it.

Ms. Merkle thanked Mr. Zeleski, for the update.

### **COMMITTEE/WORK TEAM REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**2007 Environmental Awareness Awards Committee** – Packets for Council to vote for one nominee in each of the five categories were given to each EAC member with votes to be cast and returned to Ann Baugher no later than March 23, 2007. In the case of a tie, Chair Merkle will vote. The Awards will be presented by the Commissioners to the winners, on Tuesday, April 24, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. in Room 300A.

**Change A Light, Change the World** – Ms. Gilden reported they came up with a multi-faceted strategy on promoting CFL's targeting around Earth Day. Both Eldersburg and Westminster Home Depots already have an educational display set up and are willing to increase outreach efforts around their display around Earth Day. Home Depot stressed they have a wide variety of CFL's now available. CFL information was faxed to all three (3) Wal-Mart stores and these managers are considering displays as well. BJ's informed Ms. Gilden that they need central approval for anything like this. Public Service Announcement on WTTR and Channel 24 announcing Earth Day and information on CFLs. Ms. Gilden sent the two-page fact sheet from "Energy Star" on CFLs to Wal-Mart and Home Depot. Ms. Horosko was not able to get Lowe's on board due to a technical obstacle involving time to accomplish.

Potential to contact the schools regarding distributing CFL information is still being considered, Mr. Foor-Hogue will investigate further. If pursued, it will be brought before the EAC.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Water Summit** – EAC members, Chris Spaur, and Sher Horosko will serve as representatives in the Water Resources Coordination Council staffed by Steve Horn, Tom Devilbiss, Cindy Parr and representatives from all municipalities, EDC, and the CCHD. The kickoff meeting, open to the public, is scheduled for Wednesday, March 28, 2007, from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., in Room 105 of the COB. Meetings will be held monthly and subcommittees will be formed at the first meeting 1) Policies, Regulations, Legislation, 2) Innovative Technology/Practices, 3) Water Resources – current and future supply, and 4) Funding. Please contact Cindy Parr with questions.
- b. **EAC Water Conservation project – Commissioners Charge** – The BOC would like this project ready before the summer of 2007 to present to the public by then.

Chair Merkle asked for small group volunteers to meet on how to approach this task and formulate a timeline for presenting to the entire EAC at the April, 2007 meeting. The EAC will periodically report their efforts and recommendations to the Water Resources Coordination Council. May explore grant funding in a big countywide effort.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Chair Merkle announced: 1) the April, 2007 EAC meeting, will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 003/004.

**ADJOURN - MOTION NO. 05-07:** Motion made by David Pyatt, seconded by Robyn Gilden, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. Motion carried.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is **Tuesday, April 10, 2007, at 6:30 p.m.** in Room 003/004.

**NOTE: *TUESDAYEVENING MEETING IN APRIL, 2007***



***Please inform the secretary if you are unable to attend***