

MEMO TO: SEMO RPC Air Quality Meeting Attendees
FROM: Dave Grimes
SUBJECT: Meeting Summary
DATE: March 26, 2010

The Air Quality Committee of the Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission held a meeting on March 26, 2010 at the American Legion Hall in Perryville. Twenty-one people were in attendance including representatives from local governments, education institutions, economic development organizations, and the private sector. The following is a summary of that meeting.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Albert Fults at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Fults then asked for brief introductions around the room.

Mr. Fults noted that Stan Payne from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources was present and asked him for an update. Mr. Payne said that the Department of Natural Resources had formally commented to EPA regarding the proposed new Ozone standards. He briefly discussed these responses and noted that the committee had received copies through the Regional Planning Commission.

David Grimes of the Regional Planning Commission staff then provided a brief update on several items of interest to the committee. He said that formal comments had been forwarded to EPA, letters to the congressional delegation had been sent, support and allies had been sought through the Missouri Association of Councils of Governments organization all in support of the Commission and the Committee directions. In addition he gave a brief report on the Air Quality Forum meeting he had attended and said that the application for funding under the EPA Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program to attempt to obtain funding to cover implementation of the Clean Air Action Plan.

Chauncy Buchheit said that a resolution had been introduced in the Missouri House regarding the ozone standard, seeking that the new standard be held in abeyance for the time being. Once through the House it would be submitted to the Senate as a Joint Resolution.

Mr. Grimes then gave a report on his meeting with the Missouri Air Conservation Commission on March 25, 2010. He said that he had gone to the meeting hoping to get a favorable response to the idea of the MACC joining in the Air Quality Committee's efforts to require EPA to stick with the March, 2008 standards. At that meeting one of the Commissioners had introduced a resolution regarding EPA's Endangerment Finding regarding Greenhouse Gases. He explained that in the discussion surrounding this proposed resolution it was clear that members of the MACC understood that they were the appropriate venue to address these political/policy issues. Mr. Grimes went on to say that after the meeting he had talked with Ron Boyer, the MACC Commissioner who presented that resolution and had told Mr. Boyer that it was likely that the Air Quality Committee would provide support for the resolution.

On motion from Norm Lucas, seconded by Debbie Gahan and passed unanimously Grimes and Buchheit were directed to prepare a letter of support and send it to Mr. Boyer with copies to the balance of the MACC, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Attorney General, the Director of the Air Quality Program, state legislators and the congressional delegation.

During general discussion focused on next steps several ideas were presented. Specific items included:

1. Mr. Buchheit to approach the national regional organizations (National Association of Development Organizations or the National Association of Regional Councils) for possible support.
2. URS/Ken Hagg/Mike Alasendrini to be requested to clarify their proposed work plan.
3. Approach the issue nationally and specifically try to arrange face-to-face meetings with Senator Bond, Senator McCaskill, Representative Emerson and/or Representative Carnahan.
4. Paul Koeper from Cape Girardeau County to contact the National Association of Counties for potential support.
5. Contact the Blunt and Carnahan campaigns to investigate the possibility of getting the ozone standards included as part of the Senate campaign.

The next meeting was set for May 7, 2010 at the American Legion Hall in Perryville.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.