

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

DATE: April 8, 2014

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Hoffman, Meyer and Dr. Nosek

STAFF: Mark Moeller, City Planner; Carlos Espinosa, Assistant City Planner

The meeting began at 4:00 p.m.

Committee Member Hoffman motioned to approve the meeting notes from February 25, 2014. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Meyer and the notes were approved unanimously.

Next, Mr. Espinosa summarized the agenda item and stated that EQB formalized their silica sand recommendations on March 19. Mr. Espinosa also noted the letter received from CASM. Mr. Espinosa said that the City Attorney previously stated that re-enacting a moratorium on silica sand would not be possible. Committee Member Meyer stated that she was at the Council meeting where that was stated – so she could attest to the statement.

Committee Member Hoffman asked if potential new air monitoring requirements would apply to existing silica sand operations with a CUP. Mr. Espinosa stated that there is a clause in the CUPs that could require this.

Committee Member Meyer stated that if the EQB is recommending air quality monitoring at all silica sand facilities, she would like to see the same occurring in Winona.

Committee Member Hoffman asked about the recommended year of monitoring prior to a silica sand operation's startup. Mr. Espinosa stated that might be difficult to do, but that perhaps the monitoring could occur during the approvals process. Committee Member Hoffman asked if the YMCA monitor could be used as a baseline. Dr. Nosek stated that it could, but it wouldn't be ideal.

Dr. Nosek then went through the list of recommendations previously made to the Planning Commission. Dr. Nosek stated that numbers 3, 7, and 8 are still outstanding and that number 8 should be re-examined after the results of the one-year air monitoring project at the YMCA are available.

Next, it was asked what needed to be done for the EQB's recommendations to become requirements in Winona. Mr. Espinosa stated that a new ordinance would have to be created. That ordinance would come from the Planning Commission and would have to

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be approved by the City Council. The committee members indicated they would like to forward the EQB's recommendations to the Planning Commission for consideration as a new ordinance.

Dr. Nosek asked if it would be appropriate to thank the Commission for their part in getting the YMCA air monitors up and running. The committee members indicated that this should occur.

Committee Member Hoffman asked if Winona has an ordinance requiring trucks to be covered. Mr. Espinosa stated that there isn't an ordinance, but the City has made it clear that the trucks are to be covered and it hasn't been an issue.

Committee Member Hoffman asked if Winona has an anti-idling ordinance. Mr. Espinosa stated that Winona does not.

There being no further comments or questions, Mr. Espinosa asked if the committee members would like to make a motion to forward recommendations 3, 7, and 8 with the understanding that number 8 would be re-examined after the air monitoring at the YMCA complete; and to forward the EQB's recommendations with the proposal that they be made into a new ordinance requiring air monitoring at silica sand operations. Such a motion was made by Committee Member Hoffman and seconded by Committee Member Meyer. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Espinosa stated that he could place the CEQC's recommendations on the Planning Commission's next agenda. Committee Member Hoffman asked if the recommendations could be reviewed by the CEQC before being forwarded to the Planning Commission. Mr. Espinosa replied affirmatively.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.



Carlos Espinosa
Assistant City Planner