

**Minutes for BAQC January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010**  
**11:00 AM RDKB Meeting Room**

*“To implement the BOUNDARY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN to improve the quality of life and health in the Boundary Region while sustaining a viable economic base.”*

Present: Cheryl Unger, Mike Van Ek, Peter Shilton, John Vere, Chris Moslin - Chair,  
Joe Mottishaw, Larry Ballard, Doug Zorn (arrived at 11:24 am)  
Diane Heinrich – Corporate Officer  
Public-Roy Ronaghan

Chris Moslin called the Meeting to Order at 11:12 am

**Welcome, Introductions and Regrets:** Michele Caskey, Alvin Boyer, Paul Willis,  
Mike Reiner

**Review of the minutes of November 12<sup>th</sup>**

MOTION: CHERYL UNGER/MIKE VAN EK

“Moved that the minutes of November 12<sup>th</sup> be adopted as circulated”

CARRIED

Discussion: Peter Shilton questioned why the Advance Orchard Met Station Failed.  
Chris Moslin reported that the weather vane was out by about 90 degrees

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

- *Draft proposal of Roxul modifications and monitoring its effectiveness* – There are two letters included in the package; one is from Peter Regenberg and another is an email from Ministry of Environment. There was a discussion with regard to the correspondence. Peter Shilton reported that Roxul discovered that the new system does have better filtering than in the past; however, the design recommendations were to take all emissions up through the stack in 4 separate flues. The sometimes visible blue haze results from the melter emissions. Roxul is going to do a test through the old stacks to separate this emission to try to get a reduction or elimination of this haze. This haze is also effected by different weather conditions (fall like weather where there is less mixing of weather patterns– also humidity plays a factor on visibility; whereas on a hot summer day – it is least likely to see the haze) They are looking at approximately a 6 month time frame to try to predict and evaluate if the separation will improve conditions and the streams aren’t split as yet. They will be getting a temporary permit to allow them to do this test. Once the test is in place, the success of this test will be based upon the number of complaints received (or not) from the public. The relevant complaints recorded would pertain to an odour and /or on a visual basis. As

well, any complaints, if any, which come through City Hall should be distributed to Roxul and Ministry of Environment.

- Disposition of the Wood Stove Bylaw – The Woodstove Bylaw that was forwarded to Council - did not pass. It was suggested that the bylaw needs to be focused on the educational standpoint. Chris Moslin reported that the City is currently working on the possibility of including budget allowances for a Bylaw Enforcement Officer within the next Financial Plan. There is a bit of timeline to be able to bring the Bylaw back to Council which is June, 2010. The committee needs to continue to educate the public during this timeline. It was suggested that the committee needs to implement another sub-committee to review a revised bylaw. The committee will consist of: Cheryl Unger, Peter Shilton and John Vere who offered their services and expertise.

MOTION: JOE MOTTISHAW/JOHN VERE

“Moved that the BAQC resubmit a revised woodstove bylaw for Council’s consideration as soon as possible”

CARRIED

### **Budget Statements to the end of December**

- BAQC Operating which is included in today’s package. Chris Moslin will be meeting with Lynne Burch and Cecile Arnott of the City with regards to the budget. The major item is the Dispersion Modeling. Chris apologized that we weren’t able to connect with Bryan McEwen today to elaborate on the progression of the dispersion modeling which should be ready for delivery within a two month time period. It is estimated that SNC Lavilin costs continue to be within budget for the project. Peter Shilton advised that the committee needs to be aware the all the data Roxul collects may not meet all the criteria as required by SNC as Roxul’s equipment is not high enough and wind direction is recorded only in quadrants.
- Woodstove Exchange Program – All funds have been forwarded to the Regional District from the City. John Vere stated that he can budget for the number of stoves, if it’s not used, the surplus is sent back to the Ministry; and it is then re-budgeted for the next round of stoves.

### **Reports**

- The Year in Review – Chris Moslin
- Dispersion Modeling Update – Bryan McEwen (11:30 AM) We were unable to connect with Bryan today via phone
- New MoE website and access to long term data – Web site is an improved site and reflects who is delivering the data which is “Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport” “bcairquality.ca” is the web address. Directions to get to Grand Forks information: Click on *South Okanagan* and a weird map will show up.

Click on *Grand Forks City Hall* to get live TEOM readings. Click on the numbers and a chart will show up. You will see the “wood stove curve”. Because Roxul represents a constant, this “curve” is a good indicator of the effect of wood stoves burning in the area. Another air quality site is to check website from City Hall: [www.city.grandforks.bc.ca/air/weather](http://www.city.grandforks.bc.ca/air/weather) to get the live data from the top of City Hall. Chris advised the committee to check out the website.

- *State of the Air 2009 from BC Lung*
- *Woodstove Exchange Program* – Out of 140 allotted wood stoves, to date, John Vere has exchanged just short of 50. Everything is going good but has slowed down somewhat and requests are really spread all over. Most requests are from Area E where the rebate is higher. John’s big focus is on the education portion and he stated that he has a good healthy budget in this aspect. He reported attendance was terrible on the workshops. From bi-weekly meetings with other coordinators throughout province, it’s been reported that the most success is with the “Burn It Smart” program, when it is combined with another event like a “Fire Safety Week”. Vere stated that he needs to team up with something else to get public interest such as a House Heating Trade Show possibly to include Terasen Gas, Solar Energy, etc. March is still going to be the big “Push Month” and Vere stated that it would be a good plan to implement a “Trade Show” around this time. One problem John mentioned, is that all industries should be on board (and they’re not) with the program to be able to offer alternative heating such as heat pumps, solar, etc. as opposed to wood stove replacements only.

#### **Correspondence included in today’s package**

- *New BC Air Quality Web site* – (Details mentioned in the MoE Website notes shown above)
- *List of advisory recipients* - Chris question if there were any other names that would like to be added. Roy Ronaghan mentioned if editor could be added to the recipient list and the Gazette is already included in the list. Doug Zorn, Joe Mottishaw expressed that they could be added and to add Ingrid Hampf to the list plus the Boundary Lodge.

#### **New Business**

- *List of recipients for Air Advisory warnings* – as above
- *Clean Air Buds at June 12<sup>th</sup> Relay for Life at Perley School* Advised to check out the website: [www.cancer.ca/relay](http://www.cancer.ca/relay) for details of this event

#### **Next meeting time and place**

Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 for next meeting date at RDKB at 11:00 AM

Chris Moslin suggested that the committee go to a quarterly basis instead of monthly meeting. It was agreed that this is a good idea.

It was mentioned that the possibility of a public forum in the future may be a good idea after the dispersion modeling.

### **Questions from the public**

Roy Ronaghan – Questioned with regards to the Blue Haze – what is it? Peter Shilton replied that it is Smoke particulate from a chemical reaction. (It's a combination of a slight acidic and slight ammonia combination)

Ronaghan asked with regard to the letter from MoE to Roxul: that it states that Roxul is to implement additional measures – what more can you do? Shilton replied Roxul has spent a great deal of money researching their emissions and they're working toward what they intended to do. He is not aware of any new technology on the plate at this time. Currently, there are no major plans of expansion to the system and due to current economic times; Roxul is struggling like everybody else.

Ronaghan asked Chris what was the major block from Council standpoint on the Woodstove Bylaw being defeated. Moslin suggested that it was too punitive towards seniors, in particular, who may not be able to afford stove upgrades or for their access to air advisories.

Ronaghan asked with regard to the Educational Program between now and June and how the committee will attempt to implement this? Vere advised that the use of media and workshops are currently in place. As a select committee of Council, this committee has the authority to provide education practices.

Ronaghan asked what the committee will get from SNC – Chris answered that it will determine how it comes along and how it impacts the area other than from an industrial standpoint. We'll see the "area source" as opposed to a "point source".

Ronaghan also made an additional comment on education, which people need educating on the "language of air quality" – and suggested that perhaps he will put this in a future editorial in the paper.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:05 PM