

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL COMMISSION

MINUTES
December 12, 2017

A regular meeting of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Air Pollution Control Commission was held at the Pioneer Park, in the Palace Theater, 2300 Airport Way, Fairbanks, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Kathleen Hook, Chair.

A. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Duffy, Kathleen Hook, Kent Severns, Cathy Cahill, Mike Pollen.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Maegan Weltzin, Tom Douglas, Ex-Officio Assemblymember Christopher Quist.

OTHERS PRESENT: Assemblymember Lance Roberts, Glenn Miller, Nick Czarnecki, Todd Thompson.

B. AGENDA APPROVAL

Amended to add citizen comments on items on the agenda, (accidentally left off), under G, New Business.

C. MESSAGES

None.

D. MINUTES

Minutes from November 14, 2017. Carried without objection, approved as is.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(Public testimony was completed at November 14th meeting). Continuation of Commission discussion and consideration on Assemblymember Lance Roberts proposed ordinance 2017-63, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 21.28 FNSBC TO ADD PROVISIONS FOR ELECTROSTATIC PRECIPITATORS AND GASIFICATION HEATING APPLIANCES."

Action Item: Commissioner Hook moves to call for a vote to support Ordinance 2017-63. Commissioner Duffy seconds. Discussion leads to adding a statement to the memorandum of the outcome of the vote, explaining why the ordinance did not get approved.

The votes were as followed:

Yeses: Duffy

Noes: Cahill, Hook, Pollen, Severns

-The motion to support Ordinance 2017-63 failed.

-Another motion to make a statement to attach to the outcome of the vote in a Memorandum passed. The following statement was added to the Memorandum to be viewed by the Mayor and Assembly:

The APCC would support the use of ESP devices if they were EPA certified. Because both gasification units and ESP devices are not EPA certified, the APCC recommends NOT supporting this ordinance. This ordinance as proposed has the potential for increased emissions during Stage 2 alerts. Although the APCC rejects this ordinance as is, the APCC does appreciate the collaboration that lead to this effort and encourages the manufacturers of both gasification heating appliances and ESP devices to work with the EPA to obtain certifications.

F. NEW BUSINESS

Citizen comments on items on the agenda, limited to three (3) minutes each:

- Greg Egan, borough resident, speaks to items under new business.
- Jimmy Fox, borough resident, speaks to items under new business.
- Joe Copeland, borough resident, speaks to items under new business.
- Joan Franz, borough resident, speaks to items under new business.
- Mary Ann Nichols, borough resident, declines to comment.

Air Quality Curtailment Program update: Mr. Czarnecki gives update on FNSB, gives stats on how many exceedances, 6 exceedance days in NP resulting in 2 Stage 1 burn restriction and 1 Stage 2 burn restriction. There have been no exceedance days in Fairbanks resulting in 1 Stage 1 burn restriction. Ninety warning letters have been issued, and no citations have been issued. More stats given. EPA Flag program for schools kits have arrived, hope to deploy soon.

Citizens for Clean Air update on ESP installation by Jeanne Olson:

Jeanne Olson gives a presentation with power point, explains in detail about Oeko Solve electrostatic precipitation device, the installation of one of the units on her wood stove stack, and first look at how it works, and how she is going to do a scientific study and test study.

Introduction of Behavioral Economics workshop, update given by Mr. Nick Czarnecki. Nick explains what the workshop accomplished, and some of the initial outcomes of the workshop. Hopes to give this information out to the commission, and looks forward to further discussion in an upcoming meeting for future steps.

Propane as a potential residential alternative fuel, presentation by Commissioner Cathy Cahill. Cathy presents the issues of getting propane, a clean source of energy for home heating, and the outcome of converting wood heating appliances to propane, and the air quality benefits. Cathy explains in detail why propane is a viable solution, as it is cheaper, cleaner and easier to store, deliver and implement everywhere, especially off grid, (many advantages over implementing natural gas).

G. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS


1. Commissioner's Comments

- Commissioner Cahill – Thanks fellow commissioner on all of their thoughtfulness on all of these tough topics.
- Commissioner Duffy – He had recently asked a friend about following the burn restrictions, and they were unaware of any such regulations, and found it a little frustrating.
- Commissioner Pollen – Thanks fellow commissioners input on the tough decisions, and is still a little uneasy of the decision made on the ESP topic, and feels strongly that something should be done on an experimental basis, allowing people to try ESPs on EPA stoves to see how well they work.
- Commissioner Hook – Supports the (ESP) technology, and recognizes we are resource limited. There is a lot of work to be done. One on one conversations are a great way to get the information out. Appreciates the AQ staff, Jeanne and Cathy for the presentations. Possible path for the propane topic that a resolution could be created to pass on to the Mayor at a future meeting.

H. ADJOURNMENT

1. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35p.m.

With my signature, I certify the accuracy and completeness of the minutes above.



Commissioner Hook, Chair, FNSB Air Pollution Control Commission

DATE: 2/6/18