

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES OF August 17, 2022

Item No. 1 being:

ROLL CALL

The Environmental Control Advisory Board of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in a Special Session at the City of Norman, in the Executive Conference Room, Norman Municipal Building, 201 West Gray Street on August 17, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. Notice and Agenda of the meeting were posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT	Dane Heins (Chair) Sara Bondy Thomas Fightmaster Deborah Cretsinger Jim Griffith Courtney DeKalb-Myers (Vice Chair) Lainey Phillips Benjamin Baranowski Nathalie Rocher
-----------------	---

MEMBERS ABSENT	None
----------------	------

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Michele Loudenback, Enviro. & Sustainability Manager Rachel Croft, Utilities Staff Engineer Jerry Gates, Environmental Services Assistant Manager Jason Murphy, City of Norman, Stormwater Division
-----------------------	--

Item No. 2 being:

INTRODUCE NEW MEMBERS & GUESTS

None

Item No. 3 being:

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2022 MEETING

Phillips made a motion to approve the June 15, 2022 minutes. Myers seconded. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS	Dane Heins (Chair) Sara Bondy Thomas Fightmaster
------	--

Deborah Cretsinger
Jim Griffith
Courtney DeKalb-Myers (Vice Chair)
Lainey Phillips
Benjamin Baranowski
Nathalie Rocher

NAYS None

The motion passed by a vote of 9 to 0.

Item No. 4 being:

DISCUSSION OF MAYOR'S CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE FORMATION

Loudenback has reached out to Planning about their land use policies and if they have met any of the recommendations. She has reached out to Fleet to get Fuel efficiency data, the CNG and alternative fuel stuff as well as the miles driven. She also has an intern from OU that is helping her do a greenhouse gas emission. Heins informed everyone that the goal for the next meeting is to have more updates. Rocher asked how the agreement works. Loudenback said that she thinks the way that it was handled before is that they reviewed the plan, the recommendations, the accomplishments and developed new recommendations all at the same time so that it was a continual movement. As she recalls, at each meeting, each subcommittee would give an update on what they had. As they got closer, then the pieces were written and put together in a document. Rocher stated that she already has a list of some recommendations, the latest one being; "establish rules for ground water usage throughout Norman". So that people won't say "oh its well water". Loudenback stated that with private home owners it is a little more difficult to regulate that kind of thing but that doesn't mean that they can't investigate it. Croft explained that even if you live in the general area, you can still have a ground water well that is used specifically for irrigation but not drinkable. Loudenback explained that Rocher was saying that they limit the amount of water they use, that they also do conservation. Rocher stated that if the water were to be treated then it is drinkable water. Griffith said that you have to have a permit to drill a well and there is a depth limit and you are not allowed to drill into the aquafer. He stated that they aren't supposed to but not sure how they regulate it. Rocher explained that she knows someone that just recently ran out of water a few weeks ago and now it is working again. Bondy asked if ECAB as a group, was trying to come up with ways to implement some of the recommendations. Loudenback said she doesn't see why they couldn't. Phillips asked if that was their goal. Loudenback said that she thinks the goal really is to make sure that the City is following-up with recommendations and also to come up with new recommendations. Griffith said that he thinks if they are going to do something for businesses, a plan of action for a business to implement recycling, he thinks that there would almost have to be some sort of incentive on the part of the City to encourage it. Phillips stated that she feels that if we have a recycling bin for residents then we should also have them for businesses. Phillips feels that this is a pretty easy fix. Loudenback stated that she thinks that what she will find is that as contractual obligations go away with time, all the things they want to do could become plausible. Phillips asked what the hurdle is with it currently. Loudenback stated that it is contracting. Loudenback mentioned our contamination rates are at 28% just with the private residents. Unfortunately compliance in apartments will be much rougher. There was discussion that our contract will be up in a year, and the City is considering doing recycling in house which will give us more opportunities to do more things such as curbside glass recycling. Croft stated that she spoke with the Solid Waste Manager and he would love to come visit and discuss recycling and trash with everyone. Heins said it would be

great to develop that relationship especially if things are fixing to turn over. They can discuss how to move things forward. Loudenback asked if they would like to discuss those things that they would like to bring up before asking him to come visit with them. Heins stated that he thinks it is a good idea to have him come and do a presentation, then they can pick his brain a little. Then have him come back where they present what they have come up with. Loudenback will try to get him to come visit next month. Cretsinger asked about Plan Norman, she wasn't sure if it had ever been approved. Loudenback stated that it has not been approved yet. Cretsinger asked if it was moving forward or what is the status. Loudenback stated that she believes it is in council review. Loudenback stated that the last time she spoke with them which was last year and it was in review.

Item 1: Inventory Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Ben, Courtney
Item 2: Adopt and enforce land use policies	Nathalie, Sara, Jim
Item 3: Promote alternative transportation	Deb, Courtney
Item 4: Renewable energy and energy efficiency	Nathalie, Sara
Item 5: Sustainable building practices	Ben, Sara
Item 6: Municipal fleet vehicles	Dane
Item 7: Efficiencies at water and wastewater plants	Tom, Jim
Item 8: recycling in city operations and community	Sara, Deb, Laney
Item 9: Maintain healthy urban forests	Nathalie, Deb, Laney
Item 10: public education of environmental disciplines	Dane, Courtney

Item No. 5 being:

DISCUSS OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- EWASTE collection event coming up September 17th from 9 to noon at Reaves Park.
- Beyond the Backyard, a suburban homestead conference, September 24th at the Well.
- William Morgan Park. They are going to plant a Pollinator garden there on October 1st.
- Monarch Festival on October 2nd at Andrews Park.
- Lake Thunderbird Watershed Workshop and Clean up event at the boat house at Lake Thunderbird on October 30th.

Loudenback stated that there will probably be clean ups in October for the watershed like we do every year but they have not been set up yet or confirmed. Also, Styrofoam event in November.

Item No. 6 being:

DISCUSSION OF SPRAYING PROGRAMS IN NORMAN

Loudenback has nothing new to add and will keep trying. Croft stated that they are having a meeting with the superintendent in September. Loudenback will plan to figure something out then since she isn't having any luck with emails.

Item No. 7 being:

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION

Cretsinger asked if there were future plans for Ward to come and speak to the group. Loudenback stated that they did have a plan for Ward to come talk to everyone about the changes in Yard by Yard program and collaboration if they wanted; however, they all got sick, and the plan was delayed. Ward had a loss in the family so it may be a bit before she can come talk to them. Cretsinger said that she is back at work. Cretsinger stated that she did do one Yard by Yard certification herself. Loudenback asked Cretsinger to give everyone an overview about the meeting because the rest of the members did not know what occurred. She stated that the Cleveland County Conservation District runs the program, and they would be thrilled if ECAB would volunteer to help them. The program is under their jurisdiction. Cretsinger said that she would be happy to have anyone go with her to do her certifications. It appears that ECAB's part in the program will be limited to promotion and yard certification. The Board decided to continue research and make a choice about participation at a future meeting.

Michele mentioned a company called Replenish, they do education on recycling and they do recycling programs. They would like to come and do a presentation if they are up for it. Everyone said sure. She asked Murphy how things were going with the EDC, he said that it was going, they sent their comments in and hoping that they will get it approved by the end of the year.. She explained to everyone that the EDC is the Engineering Design Criteria Manual. It is what development is based on in the City of Norman, and they have a "specific to Norman" designed LID Manual included with the EDC update. She asked about the Stormwater Park, and he said that they are starting that. Loudenback explained that the park will have Low Impact Development/natural features throughout the play area. There will be native planting, an outdoor classroom, boardwalk next to the water, Murphy said that they are going to build out the creek to create more storage.

Item No. 8 being:

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

Item No. 9 being:

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Passed and approved this 21 day of sep 2022.

Chair, Dain Heins

