



MECKLENBURG COUNTY - *Air Quality Commission* -

Monday, September 26, 2022, 11:30 a.m.
Hal Marshall Conference Room
Fourth Floor, 2145 Suttle Avenue, Charlotte, NC

The monthly meeting of the Mecklenburg County Air Quality Commission was held Monday, September 26, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. in the Hal Marshall Conference Room, at 2145 Suttle Avenue, Charlotte, NC. The meeting was also broadcast virtually on Microsoft Teams.

Air Quality Commission Members Present

*In-Person (I)	Virtual (V)			
Peter McGrath (I)	Rosa Mustafa (I)	Lisa Hooker (V)	Fern Paterson (I)	Janet Garner-Mullins(I)
Billy Powers(I)	Aaron Levy (V)	Brian Magi(I)	Bill Lawrence (I)	

Air Quality Commission Members Absent

Karl Welke Gregory Twait Marcus Hackler

Mecklenburg County Air Quality Staff Present

Leslie Rhodes Ieshishua Pierce Jason Rayfield Megan Green Aaron Matijow Tori Jercich
Sheldon Turner Stacy Slobodiuk Harrison Dunn

Guest

Leslie Young, General Public Danielle Mercurio, General Public

1. Call to Order

Chair McGrath called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m. by reading the hybrid meeting script before proceeding with the meeting agenda.

Roll Call of the Air Quality Commission Members

Air Quality Commission Members Present

Peter McGrath Lisa Hooker Fern Paterson Billy Powers Janet Garner-Mullins Aaron Levy
Rosa Mustafa Brian Magi Bill Lawrence

2. Recognition of June Blotnick, Executive Director, Clean Aire NC

Leslie Rhodes, Air Quality Director, recognized June Blotnick, Executive Director of Clean Aire NC and former member of the AQC who will be retiring on September 30th. Leslie thanked Ms. Blotnick for her partnership throughout the time they have worked together. Leslie recognized the following three areas of June's work throughout the years that has made a mark on her life and helped with the work that air quality staff does:

1. Making air pollution visible
2. Protecting the public from diesel pollution and her work has made great strides in helping to cleaning up diesel vehicles.
3. Foresight to see how important it was to have a medical advocate on our side

Leslie presented June with a photo from the AQLS ribbon cutting event. June spoke, highlighting some of the partnerships with air quality staff, her years of service on the AQC and she recognized the great job everyone is

doing to help improve air quality and encouraged everyone to continue to fight for clean air before thanking everyone for recognizing her.

Dr. Aaron Levy personally thanked June Blotnick and wanted to show his appreciation for her impact in his life as well as people within the medical community through her work and advocacy.

3. Approval of Minutes

Chair McGrath opened the floor for the approval of the August AQC meeting minutes.

Action Taken:

Motion: A motion was made to approve the August AQC meeting minutes as written.

Made: The motion was made by Fern Paterson and seconded by Billy Powers.

Vote: The motion was adopted unanimously by a roll call vote.

Roll Call of the Air Quality Commission Members

Peter McGrath Lisa Hooker Fern Paterson Billy Powers Janet Garner-Mullins Aaron Levy
 Rosa Mustafa Brian Magi Bill Lawrence (abstained)

4. Public Comments to the Air Quality Commission (AQC)

Action Required: Open Public Comment Period

A. Air Quality Permit Reviews

Public comment on the proposed permits will be received at this time. The Air Quality Commission opens public comment for air quality permit reviews per Mecklenburg County Air Pollution Ordinance, Regulation 1.5213 – “Action on Application; Issuance of Permit”. Inclusion on the AQC agenda does not imply or infer any action or opinion by the AQC or its members regarding any permit.

Chair McGrath, opened the public comment period for the facilities below, providing notice of the Mecklenburg County Air Quality’s (MCAQ) intent to issue/modify their air quality permit(s):

Facility Name	Facility Address	Action Type
J.R. Cole Industries, Inc.	10911 Granite St., Charlotte, NC 28273	Open Public Comment
Circle K # 2703150	7140 N Tryon St., Charlotte, NC 28262	Information Only

Jason Rayfield, Permitting Manager, was available to answer questions. Billy Powers asked for clarity on what does action type information only means. Jason explained that there were no emissions increase for the Circle K permit application just an administrative action permit. Leslie reminded AQC members that the permits listed on the AQC agenda have gone through a technical review by MCAQ staff and staff intends to issue, which starts the public comment period. Rosa Mustafa asked a question concerning a previous discussion to add an EJ screen to the permitting process asking if staff has decided to start using that profile with permits. Leslie explained that staff does not use that tool with permits because there are no regulatory bases for using the tool; she did state that if Ms. Mustafa would like to propose a way to the AQC for them to use the tool that is something the Commission could discuss.

B. General Comments to the Commission

None

4. Annual Election of Vice Chair

Chair McGrath informed the AQC members that according to the AQC charter the commission would need to nominate and elect an AQC Vice Chair. Chair McGrath stated that Marcus Hackler who currently serves as Vice Chair is opened to stay on if there are no other nominations. Chair McGrath suggested that the AQC members email their vote for Vice Chair to him, and he will email the results to the AQC and staff.

5. Updates and Presentations

Chair McGrath opened the floor to receive announcements.

A. Announcements

Keep Our Air Clean Student Art Contest

Dr. Brian Magi informed the AQC members of a billboard that he saw advertising the Keep Our Air Clean Student Art Contest, he will have Ieshishua to email a link providing more information on the art contest to AQC members.

AQ Personnel

Jason introduced Harrison Dunn and Stacy Slobodiuk as the new Environmental Specialists in the Permitting & Enforcement Program.

Annual Forum

The AQC members were informed that the Annual Air Quality Forum will be held on Thursday, November 17th at Suttle Avenue. The AQC members will receive an email invitation to attend the event.

AQC rezoning summary update

Megan Green, Mobile Sources Manager, informed the AQC members that a new comment has been added to the AQC rezoning summary providing information about adjacent properties/facilities was provided to aid the Zoning Commission in making a determination about land-use compatibility. It was stated that this is something that staff screen all rezoning petitions for as part of the review process, however, this is the first time that staff has received a rezoning petition that triggered this comment.

Upcoming Outreach events

The AQC members were informed that the County Manager's Office is conducting an environmental justice study in preparation for an Environmental Justice Action Plan and will be scheduling ten in-person community outreach events to gather feedback. An email was sent to the AQC members that provided more details on the event including all dates for the outreach sessions. Rosa asked a follow-up question concerning who is driving the EJ Action Plan. Megan explained that is through the County Manager's Office facilitated by Erin Stanforth along with a team which Rev. Garner-Mullins participate on. Chair McGrath asked Rev. Garner-Mullins if she would like to provide the AQC members with any updates on the EJ Action Plan. Rev. Garner-Mullins highlighted some feedback from that meeting with the consultant that focused on community engagement.

The AQC members were informed that the Friendship Park Monitoring Station open house that was originally scheduled for September 10th was cancelled due to inclement weather and has been rescheduled until October 15th. An email will be sent out for the event once the specific time of the event is confirmed.

B. MCAQ 2023-2025 Strategic Business Plan

At the August AQC meeting, the AQC members created workgroups that will meet outside of AQC meetings with staff to do so background work and provide input into how staff implement the four areas of the strategic plan. After receiving some questions from AQC members Leslie paused the start of the workgroups process to provide additional information on what the Strategic Business Plan is and what the ask is from staff to the advisory board. The AQC is requested to provide input into the implementation of MCAQ's Strategic Business Plan through workgroups or alternative process. A copy of the FY23-25 Strategic Business Plan for Land Use and Environmental Services (LUESA) was emailed to AQC members for review.

Leslie gave a presentation on MCAQ FY20-25 Strategic Plan highlighting the LUESA FY23-25 Strategic Business Plan as well as the work being done within each Air Quality section to address the four different strategies. Leslie discussed the working group process that was laid out at the August AQC meeting which led to a discussion on the following 2 group models:

- 3-group model (communication/outreach, monitoring, and permitting all having an EJ component)
- 4-group model (communication/outreach, monitoring, permitting and EJ)

During this discussion, Leslie clarified that staff is asking for input from the AQC members on how we can conduct the internal process. Chair McGrath followed up to say he sees as an inward/outward opportunity to provide input. After hearing discussion from AQC members highlighting benefits of both group models a motion was made.

Action Taken:

Motion: A motion was made on whether there should be 4-group model as outline in Leslie presentation.

Made: The motion was made by Rosa Mustafa and seconded by Billy Powers.

Vote: The motion was adopted 7 yes to 2 no by a roll call vote to move forward with the 4-group model.

Staff will move forward to schedule workgroup meetings in October it was noted that a full list of all meetings will be emailed to the AQC members.

[Written handout: Request for AQC Input Implementation of Strategic Business Plan (PowerPoint Presentation)]

C. Procedures for Recognizing AQC Members Upon Completion of Term(s)

Chair McGrath asked Rev. Garner-Mullins to give her suggestion for formally creating a procedure to recognize AQC members upon completion of the term of service on the commission. Rev. Garner-Mullins suggested presenting the AQC member with a certificate and maybe have some type of dessert. Rosa Mustafa also suggested giving some type of swag bag with some goodies.

D. Monthly Ozone Report

Danielle Jones, Monitoring Manager, provided the AQC members with an ozone update. The ozone season started March 1st and will run through October 31st. So far in 2022, there has been two exceedance days in Mecklenburg County and three in the region. The current ozone compliance value is 64 ppb. Danielle highlighted the 2022 attainment breakpoint and discussed the Mecklenburg County three-year average of the maximum annual 4th max 8-hr ozone data that shows ozone compliance values trending downward.

[Written handout: Ozone Season Update (dated September 26, 2022)]

6. Next Meeting

October 24, 2022

7. Adjournment

12:55 p.m.

Mecklenburg County will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities. Mecklenburg County will make reasonable accommodations in all programs to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements. Mecklenburg County programs will be available in an integrated setting for each individual. If accommodations are necessary for participation in any program or services, participants are encouraged to notify staff.