

**Roane County Environmental Review Board (RCERB)
January 3, 2013 Meeting Minutes—Final Review**

Members Present:

Carolyn Granger
Mary Anne Koltowich, Chair
Frank Kornegay
Brian Niekerk
Gail Okulczyk, Recorder
R.L. Pope
Dave Reichle, Vice Chair

Members Absent:

Guests:

Teri Likens, Editor Roane County News
Scott Stout, Roane County Emergency Management

Agenda: Revised to add Air Emissions to discussion.

Public Comments:

The RCERB welcomed Ms. Likens and offered appreciation for the Roane County News' support of environmental issues and activities. Members discussed items of interest with Ms. Likens that included the Rockwood Middle School's recycling initiative; getting other Roane County Schools to engage in recycling; Stacey McElhaney's activities with "Keep Roane Litter Free"; and the RCERB's desire in having a student member(s). Members thanked Ms. Likens for her interest in the RCERB and attending the meeting.

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Koltowich at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting agenda was revised to include discussion on Air Emissions and approved. The December 6, 2012 minutes were approved.

A discussion on supporting the efforts of "Keep Roane Litter Free" resulted in the following:

How to get a recycling program started in all Roane County Schools. A suggestion to coordinate a meeting with Mr. Gary Aytes—Director of Schools, Ms. McElhaney, and an RCERB member.

How to get the revenues generated from recycling at the schools back to the schools—the schools need to see some sort of return on their efforts.

How to raise awareness and get more participation in the County's "Adopt-a-Highway" program. It was suggested to contact various businesses, especially the fast-food businesses for support.

How to benchmark other counties regarding efficiency and productivity in recycling efforts.

Engage an interested faculty member to create a student project to look at the metrics and economics in recycling.

Submit articles written by RCERB members to the newspaper.

Discussions returned to the December meeting topic of hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking." The University of Tennessee is proposing a research activity on 3000 acres of University-owned property in Morgan County. Members are interested in the water shed impacts downstream. Chair Koltowich took an action to schedule a person to discuss the technology at a future RCERB meeting.

Air emissions were again a topic of discussion because of further development around the Roane Regional Business and Technology Park. Member Reichle distributed an article from the Knoxville News Sentinel dated 12-21-12 "EPA rejects appeal of ozone nonattainment by ET counties." The article discussed appeals denied by the EPA regarding three East Tennessee counties (Anderson, Blount, and Knox) for the nonattainment of ground-level ozone standards. The article indicated that nonattainment could hamstring some industrial recruiting efforts. The article went on to describe one air monitor in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park that registered ozone levels that exceeded standards. Both Knox and Anderson counties were listed as nonattainment "because they were deemed contributors to the higher ozone reading in the Smokies." The article concluded that a decision by EPA will not "hamper Knox County's economic recruiting because those efforts are now focused on industries we know we can permit." While the article points out that Tennessee's Commissioner of Department of Environment and Conservation "blasted" EPA's decision, there are long-term negative economic impacts. The RCERB has expressed its position regarding nonattainment to the current and past County Executives, More awareness by and communication with Roane County officials and the Industrial Board/Alliance are needed in order to adequately plan meeting air pollution standards in the near future. The impact of new businesses, while much needed economically, needs to be considered into the cumulative effect of negative environmental results from the operations of these businesses. If Roane County becomes listed as a "nonattainment" county, the State of Tennessee and EPA may impose mandates for attainment. For example, state and EPA mandates and measures could result in costly requirements to conduct vehicle inspections to verify pollution standards are enforced. RCERB members believe if Roane County does not adequately plan to meet air pollution standards, the County may not be able to make its own decisions as the State of Tennessee and EPA could impose mandates for attainment, much like the three neighboring counties.

In other business:

Member Reichle thanked those members that volunteered to judge the Kingston Elementary School's science fair the first week of February.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Okulczyk
2012 Roane County ERB Recorder

Attachments:

January 3, 2013 Agenda

Knoxville News Sentinel article dated 12-21-12

**Meeting Agenda January 3, 2013; 6:00 P.M.
Roane County Environmental Review Board**

6:00 Call to Order
6:01 Approval of Agenda
6:05 Approval of December 6, 2012 RCERB Meeting Minutes
7:05 Public comment time
7:10 Roundtable Discussions –
Workshop session on support efforts for “Keep Roane Litter Free”
Research efforts on fracking
Air emissions (added to agenda)
Open Discussion
7:30 Adjourn

Documents Received:

Meeting Notice: The Oak Ridge Reservation Communities Alliance (ORRCA) will meet on Monday, December 3rd from 3:00-4:30 p.m. in the William J. Wilcox Room, Building 1000, at the East Tennessee Technology Park (NOTE: Replacement LOC organization).

NOTICE OF FINAL DECISION OF THE APPROVAL OF A CLASS 3 MODIFICATION TO *ENERGYSOLUTIONS* (Note: No public interest)

Attachments

None.

NOTE: Recap of RCERB Meetings

April 5, 2012 Quorum (5/6 members), prior to TVA Workshop
May 3, 2012 Quorum (4/6 members), prior to TVA Workshop, Minutes approved via email
June 7, 2012 No Quorum, prior to TVA Workshop
July 5, 2012 Cancelled due to Holiday
August 13, 2012 Quorum (4/5 members), short meeting prior to Commissioners Meeting
September 6, 2012 Quorum (3/5 members)
October 4, 2012 No Quorum (3/6 members)
November 8, 2012 Quorum (4/6 members), short meeting after TVA/EPA EE/CA Public Meeting
December 6, 2012 Quorum (5/6 members)