

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 27, 2008

10:00 am MST

Central Arizona Association of Governments Administrative Office

1075 S. Idaho Road – Suite 300

Apache Junction, AZ 85219

MINUTES

Members Present:

Don Gabrielson, Chair, Pinal County Air Quality Division
Jake Garrett, Gila County Wastewater Department
LaRon Garrett, Town of Payson
Kevin Louis, City of Casa Grande
Janet Martin, Town of Queen Creek
Doug Mason, San Carlos Irrigation and Drainage District
Morris Taylor for Wayne Costa, Town of Florence

Members Absent:

Reg Glos, Vice Chair, Pinal County Environmental Health Department
Rick Gibson, U of A Cooperative Extension
John Mitchell, City of Eloy
Debra Daniel, Ex-Officio, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Edwina Vogan, Ex-Officio, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Guests:

Barbara Cenalmor, Pinal County Air Quality Division
Fred Goldman, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants
Kazi Haque, City of Maricopa
Jessica Jensen, Archaeological Consulting Services
Rod Luker, Superstition Mountain Properties
Henry Thome, Sunburst Holdings

Staff:

J. Peter Armenta, CAAG

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Environmental Planning Committee Meeting called to order at 10:00 am MST by Chair Gabrielson.

II. ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS

Roll call was conducted and a quorum was established. Members of the audience also introduced themselves.

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – *May 27, 2008*

◆ **Motion to approve minutes for May 27, 2008 made by Mr. Jake Garrett. Motion seconded by Mr. Mason. Motion carried unanimously.**

IV. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. CAAG 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan Update Amendment for Gold Canyon Sewer Company (CAAG 208 ID #2008-1)

Mr. Armenta introduced the item, and provided a brief history of the progression of this amendment, including the review process and public participation. Mr. Goldman from Kennedy/Jenks Consultants then provided a brief presentation on the amendment.

Following the presentation, the floor was opened for discussion by the Committee. Discussion included clarification on the effect of the plan, including the affirmation of Gold Canyon Sewer Company's (GCSC) current Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CC&N) boundary; rationale from applicants on why certain properties were or were not included in this amendment; discussion on planning requirement to have 208 service areas be contiguous; infiltration and exfiltration issues; and odor control issues with the current wastewater treatment facility (WWTF).

There were several members in the audience that wished to speak on this issue. The Committee felt a discussion would be appropriate, and the Chair opened to the floor for public comment and discussion. Items discussed included a small property (approximately 7 lots) that was not included in this amendment that wished to be included; the means on how this amendment was submitted and its progression; potential capacity issues if this property was included; and a request from the property owner (through representation) to direct the applicant to include them in the amendment.

Taking into consideration discussions on this item, the Committee issued two positions: 1) It appears that the applicant, Gold Canyon Sewer Company, has placed an individual property owner in the unusual position to "make an amendment" to the proposed 208 amendment, rather than the utility provider submit an "inclusive" amendment, and 2) Although the Committee understands the issue at hand, it may be inappropriate for the Committee to mandate that a private utility company must serve a property that is not currently in their CC&N.

◆ **Motion to recommend to the CAAG Regional Council approval of the CAAG 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for Gold Canyon Sewer Company, contingent upon the issuance of a CC&N by the Arizona Corporation Commission within 24 months made by Mr. Mason. Second by Mr. Louis. Motion carried unanimously.**

- B. CAAG 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan Update Amendment for Desert Springs Utilities Company (CAAG 208 ID #2008-3)

Mr. Armenta introduced the item, and provided a brief history of the progression of this amendment, including the review process and public participation. Mr. Goldman from Kennedy/Jenks Consultants then provided a brief presentation on the amendment.

Following the presentation, the floor was opened for discussion by the Committee. Discussion included discussions with Pinal County in regards to monitoring of emergency discharges into an unnamed wash during excessively wet events; enhancement of riparian areas; UV disinfection method and potential backup plans; and direct injection wells vs. infiltration sites.

◆ Motion to recommend to the CAAG Regional Council approval of the CAAG 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for Desert Springs Utilities Company, contingent upon the issuance of a CC&N by the Arizona Corporation Commission within 24 months made by Mr. Jake Garrett. Second by Mr. Mason. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Update on Silverbell Army National Guard Heliport (CAAG 208 ID #2007-12)

Mr. Armenta provided an update on this amendment, including a lack of communication from the Arizona Department of Military and Emergency Affairs (ADEMA), and a statement from ADEMA, declaring that they will no longer be pursuing 208 conformance, and requiring any further questions on the facility to be directed to the Arizona National Guard Judge Advocate General's Office. The Committee discussed the issue. Upon discussion, the Committee elected to direct Staff to draft a letter to the Judge Advocate General's office, requesting information on the status of the plan, whether the facility has been constructed and/or is in operation, whether they will pursue 208 conformance, and if they will not pursue conformance but operate, a rationale as to why they will not pursue an amendment. This letter should be sent Certified with a return receipt, and copied to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

D. Environmental Planning Committee Member Appointment

Mr. Armenta introduced the item. The City of Maricopa is beginning the process to form a Designated Management Agency. As direction by the Committee, all DMAs should sit on the Committee. As a way to fulfill that obligation, Mr. Kazi Haque, Planning Manager for the City of Maricopa, has volunteered to sit on the Committee.

◆ Motion to recommend to the Regional Council the appointment of Kazi Haque to the Environmental Planning Committee made by Mr. Mason. Second by LaRon Garrett. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Election of Officers – *J. Peter Armenta*

Mr. Armenta explained the Committee is required to elect leadership at their September meeting. Currently, Mr. Gabrielson is serving as Chair, and Mr. Glos as Vice Chair. The Committee may elect to retain current leadership or choose new leaders.

◆ Motion to keep retain Mr. Don Gabrielson and Mr. Reg Glos as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, made by Mr. Mason. Second by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried unanimously.

V. **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr. Gabrielson announced that the Pinal County Air Quality summit will be held on November 7th,

at Ak-Chin Casino and Resort. The agenda is still pending.

Mr. Gabrielson also mentioned that preliminary PM₁₀ testing results have come back, and this year's results are completely different, with the exception of "Cow Town." Many of the PM₁₀ readings have indicated a reduction in particulate matter.

VI. STAFF REPORT

Mr. Armenta provided a written report, included in the Committee packet.

Mr. Armenta also noted that although there are no agenda items for the next meeting, this would be a good time to re-evaluate the Committee's last attempt to develop minimum planning standards for the Region. After a brief discussion, the Committee agreed to review this item. The Committee directed Staff to 1) refer to this as Planning Guidelines, rather than standards, 2) draft a preliminary list of guidelines based upon discussions from the September 2007 meeting, discussions during the review of recent plans, and any other pertinent information, and 3) provide this preliminary list at least 3 week prior to the meeting to allow the Committee reasonable opportunity to review.

VII. SET DATE, TIME, & LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, November 5, 2008, 10 am MST, CAAG Administrative Offices, Apache Junction
Wednesday, January 7, 2009, 10 am MST, CAAG Administrative Offices, Apache Junction

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

IX. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one answered the Call to the Public.

X. ADJOURN

The Environmental Planning Committee Meeting was adjourned at 12:26 pm MST.