



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

## Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

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Monday, July 18, 2011

4:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room 103A, City-County Building.  
Meets the 3rd Monday of the month.

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 7 -

Ald. Anita Weier; Steven M. Fix; Patricia A. Lasky; Dan Melton; Lori O. Grant; James P. Bennett and Keith W. Pierce

**Excused:** 2 -

Roger T. Bannerman and Reginald N. Weide

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Melton, seconded by Fix, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None

1. [23203](#) Pharmaceuticals in Waterways

Dave Taylor, Madison Municipal Sewerage System, reported on recent studies done by MMSD on pharmaceuticals in effluent, before and after treatment. The levels of pharmaceuticals and personal care products are quite low when measured against how much water someone would have to drink to meet the therapeutic level for any of the substances contained in it. There will continue to be further testing on pre- and post-treatment effluent, but the best way to keep these substances out of our waterways is to prevent them from getting into the system in the first place. Events like MedDrop are important for people to be able to safely get rid of old prescriptions, etc. The best way for the COE to help with this issue is to help promote MedDrop, according to Mr. Taylor. Currently there is only one drop-off site available in the City of Madison during non-events, which is located inside the East Side Police Station.

Fix made a motion, seconded by Bennet, to make a recommendation to the Common Council to encourage more MedDrop sites throughout the city.

2. [22841](#) Authorizing the Mayor to enter into the Yahara Future Memorandum of Understanding with Dane County, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and

Consumer Protection Regarding Efforts to Improve Water Quality in the Yahara River Chain of Lakes.

Genesis Steinhorst, City Engineering, reported that this MOU is intended to allow the City of Madison, Dane County, DNR, and DATCP to continue to work together on finalizing a plan for reducing nutrient and sediment loading to the lakes and to reduce bacteria levels at select (impaired) beaches. Staff of the individual MOU signatories have begun working with the Clean Lakes Alliance to hire a consultant who will rank/prioritize the recommendations that were included in the September 2010 Yahara CLEAN report, which was a result of 3 years of work by the signatories and many others. The focus of this work is strictly on nutrient/sediment loading to the lakes and bacteria at beaches. The group made a conscious decision to not address other issues such as lake levels or invasive species so as to meet the requirements of the MOU in a timely manner. Another (separate) group has formed to address the lake level issue specifically.

A motion was made by Bennett, seconded by Lasky, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. [08477](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

None

4. [08478](#) REPORT FROM WATER UTILITY BOARD:

On July 26 the Water Utility Board will vote on a package of recommendations from a group of citizens-- the Water Utility East Side Citizen Advisory Panel (CAP). A large group of citizens met over the winter and spring to generate the recommendations. A nucleus of active, committed citizens, including Dan Moser, Randy Deering, Larry Nelson, Marty Cieslik, Mark McColloch and Mary Anglim, shepherded the items right to the end.

5. [08479](#) REPORT FROM SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

None

6. [14746](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF HEALTH FOR MADISON AND DANE COUNTY:

Nothing new to report; waiting for budget news; current vacancy on environmental issues.

7. [13375](#) STAFF REPORT

A. There will be a series of budget forums to focus on "priorities and values" of the public as they relate to specific budget items. Engineering budget discussions will be on August 16 at the Senior Center. More info here: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/budgetProcess/>

B. Mike attended the July meeting of the Upper Sugar River Watershed Association. The group is focused on info & education, outreach, water trail

clearing and monitoring. They have offered to come talk to the COE about the work they are doing.

C. City Engineering is working with the Friends of Lake Wingra to hire a consultant who will help guide the creation of a Lake Wingra Watershed Management Plan. More details on this to come.

8. [19947](#)

Discussion of Future Items

1. Report on the method and content of materials used in street resurfacing and chip-sealing.
2. Report by Parks Staff (Russ Hefty) on Cherokee wetlands projects and how they relate to lake level issues.
3. Update on proposed fireworks study for 2012; Mayoral Aide Katie Crawley was present and will check on status of this request.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Fix, seconded by Ald. Weier, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.