



# City of Madison

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

## Meeting Minutes - Draft COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT

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Monday, April 28, 2008

4:45 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:** 6 -

Larry Palm; Michael W. Rewey; Bill Sonzogni; Jonathan H. Standridge;  
Roger T. Bannerman and Keith W. Pierce

**Excused:** 2 -

Bruce C. Dickie and Reginald N. Weide

### APPROVE THE MINUTES

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

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### NEW BUSINESS

1. 09512 Setting a goal of 65% waste diversion by recycling and composting for 2010 with progress towards the ultimate goal of zero waste.

George Dreckman, Recycling Coordinator, was present to outline the resolution that would set a citywide goal of reducing waste by 65% through increased recycling and composting, by 2010. The ultimate goal shall be zero waste.

Currently, the city diverts over 57% of its waste from the landfill through recycling efforts. Reaching the 2010 goal of 65% will likely require an educational campaign, the cost of which may be offset by savings on landfill tipping fees.

Commission members requested (motion by Commissioner Sonzogni; Second by Alder Palm; unanimous approval) that this item return at the May meeting, as they did not have a copy of the resolution.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. 10085 Presentation on the Natural Step program

Attachments: [The Natural Step - handout](#)

Brian Joiner gave a presentation on the concept of The Natural Step. The City of Madison has been involved in implementing The Natural Step in a variety of

procedures and policies. Brian's handout is attached, which outlines the basic concept.

[More information on what the city is doing can be found here:  
<http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/Natural.html>]

3. [10072](#) Air quality concerns related to wood burning

Attachments: [Lake Mills Outdoor Wood Boiler Ordinance](#)  
[Monona Outdoor Furnace Ordinance](#)

Several members of the public were present to provide comment on air quality issues related to wood burning. One member of the public, Lynda Karr, voiced health concerns regarding the poor air quality due to a neighbor's continuous wood burning, especially when the wind is in her direction. Rachel Roang, also registered to speak, indicated she had the same experience with Kipp and had similar symptoms as Lynda. Both are in support of an ordinance to regulate outdoor wood boilers.

Don Wichert, Focus on Energy, registered to speak in support of the ordinance with one exception. The EPA has a list of newer and cleaner-burning boilers (so-called "orange tag" varieties), more often used in commercial applications, that he feels should not be regulated/banned. EPA does the testing on the models, and those approved are 70% less polluting than older models.

Pam Porter, representing Agrecol, also requested that the COE distinguish between commercial scale, clean-burning boilers from older, dirty residential wood boilers, and that there are a number of local companies that are moving towards more sustainable heating methods and they shouldn't be prevented from doing so.

The Commission requested that this item be continued at the May meeting.

[EPA website on Outdoor Wood-fired Hydronic Heaters, for more info:  
<http://www.epa.gov/owhh/>]

4. [09938](#) NPDES Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan - Annual Report

Attachments: [Annual NPDES Report](#)

Genesis gave a brief summary of the City's annual WPDES (Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Report. The full report can be found here:  
<http://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/stormwater/WPDESpermit.cfm>

## REPORTS

5. [08477](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

none

6. [08478](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS:

There are currently 6 remaining applicants for the Head of the Water Department

position.

Last month the Board reviewed a groundwater conservation plan put together by city employees and members of the public.

7. [08479](#) REPORT FROM SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Not present

8. [08481](#) REPORT FROM EROSION CONTROL SUBCOMMITTEE:

Attachments: [Draft Meeting Minutes 4/11/2008](#)

First meeting was held in April. The builders who are investing in erosion control want to encourage all builders to follow the same standards and thus have similar associated costs. A design engineer will likely also be brought onto the subcommittee.

9. [08482](#) REPORT FROM STAFF:

A new Commission member application was submitted to the Mayor's office for approval to fill the empty spot.

Another MedDrop will take place on Saturday, June 7, 9am to 1pm, at the City Transfer Station, 121 E Olin Ave.

Election of officers shall occur in May.

### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Pierce, seconded by Palm, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.