



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, February 15, 2010

4:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 108, City-County Building.
Meets the 3rd Monday of the month.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 8 -

Larry Palm; Laura E. Hewitt; William C. Sonzogni; Lori O. Grant; Roger T. Bannerman; Reginald N. Weide; James P. Bennett and Dan Melton

Excused: 1 -

Keith W. Pierce

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. [17414](#) 2009 Road Salt Report

The 2009 Salt Use Report was compiled primarily by Rick Wenta, Public Health Dept. The report indicates that chloride levels are continuing to rise in both surface and groundwater. Al Schumacher, Streets Superintendent, was present to give a summary of measures the Streets Dept. has recently taken and plan to take to reduce the City's salt use. One major issue he continuously encounters is the fact that the public does not agree on how much salt should be used, and Al receives a large number of complaints that the city does not use enough. To alert the public to winter-related weather conditions around the city, the Streets Dept issues press releases and uses texting, emails, Facebook, and Twitter.

Commissioners discussed the fact that a key factor in reducing salt use is to change the public's expectations during winter weather. The Madison Area Municipal Stormwater Partnership (MAMSWaP) includes a road salt application workshop in their Information and Education workplan each year, which may be something the COE and/or City of Madison could piggyback on to. (Note that the City of Madison is a member of MAMSWaP.)

Commissioners also discussed the possibility of issuing a press release to support the findings in the report while encouraging the city to do more public education to create support for using less road salt. Commissioners

requested that staff put together a press release that the members could review and take action on at the March meeting.

- 2. 17435 Discussion of radon testing in residential homes

This item was referred to the March meeting, pending availability of Public Health staff.

- 3. [17163](#) The following committee members must file a Statement of Interests form with the City Clerk's Office:
ENVIRONMENT, COMMITTEE ON THE
♦ Weide, Reginald N.

Commissioner Weide has submitted the necessary paperwork; he will investigate the cause for the discrepancy.

REPORTS

- 4. [08477](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Alder Palm indicated that the Board would like to hear about planned projects in a bigger context when possible, including any upcoming pertinent environmental issues.

- 5. [08478](#) REPORT FROM WATER UTILITY BOARD:

The Board voted to approve continuing the use of fluoride in City drinking water.

- 6. [08479](#) REPORT FROM SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

None

- 7. 14746 REPORT FROM BOARD OF HEALTH FOR MADISON AND DANE COUNTY:

Board discussed the possible re-phrasing of Public Health's Environmental Report Card to indicate that it is a representation of the health of the people as it relates to the environment and not the health of the environment specifically.

- 8. [13375](#) STAFF REPORT

None

ADJOURNMENT

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