

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD

**MINUTES OF
May 15, 2013**

Item No. 1 being:

ROLL CALL

The Environmental Control Advisory Board of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session at the City of Norman, in the Multi-Purpose Room, Norman Municipal Building, 201 West Gray Street on May 15, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. Notice and Agenda of the meeting were posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT Amanda Nairn (Chair)
 Zac Abbott
 Darren Alexander
 Holly Armstrong (arrived 5:45)
 Aaron Pilat

MEMBERS ABSENT Linda Goeringer (Vice Chair)
 James Harp
 Odette Horton
 Charles Sever

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT Debbie Smith, Environmental Svcs. Coordinator
 Charlie Thomas, Cap. Projects Engineer

Item No. 2 being:

INTRODUCE GUESTS

GUESTS PRESENT none

Item No. 3 being:

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2013 MEETING

Amanda Nairn asked if there were any corrections to the February 20, 2013 minutes. There being none Zac Abbott made a motion to approve the February 20, 2013 minutes. Darren Alexander seconded. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS Amanda Nairn
 Zac Abbott
 Darren Alexander
 Holly Armstrong
 Aaron Pilat

NAYS None

The motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Item No. 4 being:

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 1, 2013 WATER WISE WORKSHOP

Amanda Nairn asked if there were any corrections to the April 1, 2013 minutes. There being none Zac Abbott made a motion to approve the April 1, 2013 minutes. Darren Alexander seconded. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS Amanda Nairn
 Zac Abbott
 Darren Alexander
 Holly Armstrong
 Aaron Pilat

NAYS None

The motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Item No. 5 being:

DISCUSS PUBLIC EDUCATION ON FERTILIZER USE

Nairn stated at the Council meeting that out of eight major retailers, most of them have approved the signage the City is going to post next to the fertilizer regarding the ordinance.

Item No. 6 being:

DISCUSS WATER CONSERVATION

Nairn stated she would like to do the Water's Worth It Proclamation again in July. Smith asked if they wanted to do it the same as last year or expand on it. Other events that could be included could be a rain barrel workshop or a water wise workshop. Abbott mentioned that Horton has a "Make Every Drop Count" sign in her yard. Smith said the City has some of these available that could be given away.

Nairn stated that she thought the Earth Day Festival went well. Horton and Goering recognized the student winners in the contest and presented their t-shirt and gifts. Nairn suggested selling the shirts next year. Horton and Goering were able to get several items donated for the gifts. Thomas asked if thank you notes were sent to the donors. Nairn will check with them.

Nairn stated that the water conservation tips have started in the newspaper. Jim Griffith sponsored this. They will run each Saturday on the front page of the paper for an indefinite length of time.

Nairn stated that at the Oversight Committee meeting City staff gave a presentation on native grasses. Public education for homeowner associations was discussed. Members of the Committee asked Nairn if she thought ECAB would be willing to help with this public education if the material/information was supplied to them. Susan Connors, Planning Director, said there were two management firms that manage most of these associations. Members could go to meetings and give presentations or ECAB could send information via email to the associations. This information could include water conservation, fertilizer ordinance, and native grasses. The Board decided to send information through email and, if requested, could give presentations.

The Board discussed many water conservation campaigns. One would be to organize volunteers to sweep the city, passing out literature to each household. The summer is a difficult time to recruit volunteers because many of the City volunteers are high school and college students. It was suggested to do a test run in one area of town. It was also suggested that firefighters stand

on the street corner, as they do for muscular dystrophy, but instead pass out literature. Darren Alexander said he could get his firefighters (Cedar Country) to help but it would be better to get Norman firefighter's help. A brochure/door hanger needs to be developed. A Water-Wise yard of the month could be promoted with the winner posted on the website or put in the paper. Holly Armstrong and Aaron Pilat will write up the rules; one for commercial and one for residential. Criteria could be to include turning in water usage. Thomas suggested having a campaign for the best water wise idea. Discussion will continue next month.

Item No. 7 being:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development Block Grant Committee (CDBG) – (C. Sever and D. Alexander) – no report

Item No. 8 being:

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION

None

Item No. 9 being:

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

Item No. 10 being:

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Passed and approved this 19 day of June 2013.


Chair, Amanda Nairn