

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD

### MINUTES OF April 18, 2012

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 Multipurpose Room, Norman Municipal Building, 201 West Gray Street on April 18, 2012 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) Darren Alexander Holly Armstrong Linda Goeringer James Harp Aaron Pilat Charles Sever
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MEMBERS ABSENT	James Greer Marc Jensen
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STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Debbie Smith, Environmental Svcs. Coordinator Charlie Thomas, Capital Projects Engineer
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Item No. 2 being:

#### INTRODUCE GUESTS

GUESTS PRESENT	Chris Ward, Cleveland County Conservation District
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Item No. 3 being:

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 28, 2012 MEETING

Amanda Nairn asked if there were any corrections to the March 28, 2012 minutes. There being none, Charles Sever made a motion to approve the March 28, 2012 minutes. Darren Alexander seconded. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS	Amanda Nairn (Chair) Darren Alexander Holly Armstrong Linda Goeringer James Harp Aaron Pilat Charles Sever
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NAYS	None
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The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 0.

Item No. 4 being:

#### **INTRODUCE NEW ECAB MEMBER HOLLY ARMSTRONG**

Holly Armstrong said she is a retired pharmacist and currently has a construction/engineering company. She is very interested in permaculture and water harvesting.

Item No. 5 being:

#### **DISCUSS EARTH DAY FESTIVAL SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 22, 2012**

The fertilizer survey and the fertilizer brochures will be available for earth day. Debbie Smith passed out the brochures. Debbie Smith ordered additional stormwater placemats from EPA that Charles Sever recommended. ECAB will be sharing a booth with the City of Norman's Environmental Services Division. Amanda Nairn stated that Aaron Milligan, City of Norman Stormwater Specialist, will provide giveaways to the individuals that fill out a survey. Rain barrels will be also be on display. Several board members volunteered to help at the booth. James Harp said Republic Bank will donate water to the event. Charlie Thomas will pick it up. Debbie Smith will try to locate a banner to be used at the booth. Darren Alexander will check to see if his employer will provide shuttle service from Lloyd Noble Center to the park since parking is limited.

Item No. 6 being:

#### **DISCUSS FERTILIZER PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Amanda Nairn, Debbie Smith, and Aaron Milligan have a meeting scheduled with Amy Goodin, OU Poll, to discuss having the fertilizer survey available electronically. Charles Sever is working on information for agriculture. He passed around several brochures he has developed. He also has a brochure from Oklahoma City that is good. Debbie Smith will scan these and forward to the members. It was discussed that the agricultural information could be more detailed but information for residents needs to be short and simple. Chris Ward mentioned the brochures tell people what to do or not do but they also need to give information on where they can go for help. For example, manure can be used for fertilizer but too much manure can be a problem so a waste management plan may be needed. The Natural Resources Conservation Services can help with waste management plans. Brochures will be put on the City's website once they are finalized.

Charles Sever stated that individuals that apply herbicides and pesticides are required to be licensed by the state and they are required to have training every year. The manager of the John Deer wholesale landscape facility east of town suggested hosting a meeting for these individuals and including information on the proper use of fertilizers event though fertilizer applicators do not need to be licensed. The John Deer manager offered to host meetings at his site for these individuals. Charles Sever also contacted the extension service to see if they would participate with us. Heath Herje, the Cleveland County Agriculture Extension Educator stated they would participate but needed a letter requesting this. Charles Sever drafted a letter and he thinks it would be best to come from the City. Debbie Smith will find out the appropriate person to sign this letter. Charles Sever stated the training will not be until winter.

Discussion continued on what should be included in the brochures. Holly Armstrong mentioned creating a brochure that explains how you can fertilize your lawn without chemicals. She will gather information on this.

Item No. 7 being:

**DISCUSS WATER CONSERVATION PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Charles Sever has created bookmarks and other information that could be distributed to the library and other venues. Debbie Smith will distribute to the board. Amanda Nairn stated she felt for the brochure the less text the better, hit your points quickly. Amanda requested assistance in editing these. It was discussed that in-depth information can be provided on the Green Norman website. She suggested sharing information electronically so members would have time to review and be ready to discuss at meetings.

Amanda Nairn said, in the past, board members decided to put snippets in the newspaper. Debbie Smith stated the newspaper will publish these but the snippets need to be created. Chris Ward stated that most of the pictures came from the districts manual. The City needs to acknowledge the source of all information that is published. James Harp suggested putting information on Facebook. Debbie Smith will check to see if this is possible. James Harp asked if YouTube videos are available that the city can use. Darren Alexander has access to equipment that could be used for Norman to create their own YouTube videos. Amanda Nairn asked all the members to bring three or four snippets, no more than one or two sentences long, on water conservation or fertilizer usage next month to the meeting.

Linda Goeringer contacted Farmer's Market about distributing information. She was told ECAB could have a table at no charge. She will call and find out when the board could come. Charles made a motion to authorize a booth at the Farmer's Market. Linda Goeringer seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken with the following result;

YEAS	Amanda Nairn (Chair) Darren Alexander Holly Armstrong Linda Goeringer James Harp Aaron Pilat Charles Sever
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NAYS	None
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The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 0.

Aaron Pilat stated there were two components to the public education. One is the content and the other is the delivery. Aaron Pilat would like a flyer in the water bill. He asked if there could be a press release about general water conservation or fertilizer usage. Debbie Smith said press releases need to be approved by the City Manager. The board could submit a release but there is not a guarantee it will be sent out. Holly Armstrong suggested education through the school district. Amanda Nairn said it was very difficult to get curricula in the school system because if it is not required curriculum or meet past objectives the teachers and schools do not have time for it. Debbie Smith reminded the board about Blue Ribbon Week. All of the elementary students received a blue ribbon and information on water. Amanda Nairn thought this would be the best way to get information out to the students.

Item No. 8 being:

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Community Development Block Grant Committee (C. Sever and L. Goeringer) – no report
2. Green Team (D. Smith) – no report

Item No. 9 being:

**MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION**

Amanda Nairn mentioned the letter from Blue Thumb that was received at the last meeting requesting assistance with Bishop Creek cleanup. She wanted ECAB to follow-up with this. Debbie Smith said she had also been contacted by them and she will follow up for ECAB.

Item No. 10 being:

**QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

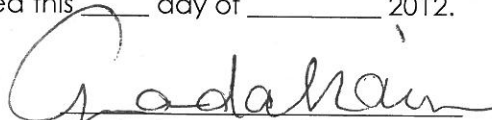
None

Item No. 11 being:

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Passed and approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2012.

  
Chair, Amanda Nairn