



**Minutes of the
Environmental Affairs Advisory Board
Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at 6:30 PM
Location: Avon Lake Public Library, McMahan**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Welcome/Attendance/Meeting Minutes

Present: Rita George, Sam Naumann, Marty Patton, Terry Robison, and Rob Shahmir, citizen members.

Mike McCormick (Applied Specialties), Scott Cameron (Charah Solutions), and Ron Spears (Lubrizol), industry members.

Absent: Kayla Goodwin, Jen Miller, and Terry Wyrock, citizen members; Tom Sulzer (Avient™) and Michelle Hall (Ford), industry members; and Billie Jo David, Council Representative.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Patton moved to approve the minutes of June 7, 2023. Mr. Cameron seconded. All ayes. Motion approved.

Board Social

Chair Naumann reported that Mr. Wyrock agreed to coordinate the Board's social event. Since he was not present at the meeting, Mr. Shahmir offered to follow up with him and will email the Board members with a date and the venue of the social.

Residential Accountability

1. Carbon Reduction Petition

Chair Naumann reported that Councilwoman Billie Jo David is working on an initiative on behalf of the City Administration and Council. Since she was unable to attend the meeting, this topic will be deferred until next month.

2. Speaker Series

The next program partnered with Avon Lake Public Library is Environmentally Speaking: Importance of Urban Trees which will be held on Tuesday, July 11th from 7 to 8 p.m.

3. Summer/Fall Projects

Chairman Naumann asked if any Board member has a topic for the Board to consider as a summer or fall project. Since there were no comments, this topic will be revisited at a future meeting.

The Board had a brief discussion on their presence at Big Trucks, which will be held on Saturday, September 16th, and will discuss appropriating funds for giveaway items that will be distributed at the event.

Industrial Accountability

4. Industry Reports

- Applied Specialties – Mr. McCormick reported that Applied Specialties is completing routine maintenance that includes cleaning and painting at the facility.
- Lubrizol – Mr. Spears reported that Lubrizol organized a special waste pickup for paint solvents, etc., and asked if the City coordinates these types of collections.

Mr. Cameron responded that the City has previously worked with Chemtron, now known as CIRCON Environmental. Since there are not many locations in the area to dispose of hazardous chemicals, those collection days were well received.

Mr. McCormick added that residents are now directed to drop off hazardous chemicals at the Lorain County Solid Waste District Collection Center on Abbe Road in Elyria. Chemtron had hosted a collection in the past, and he suggested that maybe the new owners of CIRCON would be willing to offer this service to boost public relations. CIRCON's contact is Ryan Hamilton.

Chair Naumann stated that people clean out their garages in the summer/fall, and this may be a project for the Board to consider. He recommended that the City be contacted first and then CIRCON.

- Charah – Mr. Cameron reported Charah has completed the asbestos abatement at the Power Plant. One trailer will remain on site in case additional asbestos is discovered. Most of the oils have been removed and CIRCON will remove the chemicals left on site. Precipitator 9 has been demolished, and they are working on the ductwork at the stack and then on the boiler. When completed, demo work will begin on the east side. Charah will work with the City on building a bike path that will cross Lake Road via the old trestle and have hired a contractor to build a ramp to the overpass.

Mr. Shahmir asked if the coal waste from the coal pile on the south side of the plant will be removed. In response, Mr. Cameron stated that the coal has been removed and the soil and rock that was under the coal pile have remained. The coal was cleaned before it was removed offsite, and rejected rocks were kicked out in the wash process.

Mr. Shahmir stated that he wasn't aware that there was high carbon content clay or shale, and the soil looked very dark. He asked if the soil would be removed. Mr. Cameron explained that the coal pile was built with an underflow wire system that feeds into ditches on one side and an underground pipe that is directed to the treatment pond on Lake Road near the building with the clarified treatment system. The coal pile was lined with clay and not placed on top of the dirt. It was constructed when Unit 8 went into operation in the 1950s. It was built in the shale and was lined with rubber 10 feet down and was 12 to 14 feet deep. The coal pile treatment system was built in the mid to late 1970s when NPDES systems were required. He was not aware if the liner was ever changed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m. Steven Gross, the City's Environmental Consultant from Verdantas, addressed the Board and the public on his role in the redevelopment of the Power Plant.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Valerie E. Rosmarin

Valerie Rosmarin, Clerk