



Environmental Issues Advisory Committee (EIAC)

DRAFT MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EIAC)

October 3, 2019

**Avery Large Conference Room
360 SW Avery Ave., Corvallis, Oregon**

Committee Members

Present:

Debra Higbee-Sudyka
Jan Napack

Elizabeth Waldron
Jennifer Ward – Chair

Guests:

Hank Erberle
Jim Holm, Citizens Climate Lobby

John Sarna
Teresa Welch, Citizens Climate Lobby

Staff Members

Present:

Jen Brown
Kathy Goss (Recorder)

Laurie Starha

Meeting Called to Order at 12:05 pm by Jennifer Ward.

I. ADMINISTRATION:

- Intro of Guests and Members
- Approval of September Minutes: Elizabeth moved to accept the September 5, 2019 Minutes; Jan seconded and the Motion carried.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

- HR 763 – Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act
 - John Sarna attended the BOC Meeting and said they were favorable of the Act. The BOC would like a Resolution put together to send to Pete DeFazio by November. John encouraged the Committee to go on record and send a letter of recommendation to the BOC.
 - Debra is concerned it does not address nuclear energy. Oregon has passed a law that will not allow nuclear energy in the state.
 - The Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL) does not reference any energy sources in their Act.
 - Laurie suggested the letter of endorsement be created and done by the end of next week in order to get to the BOC by their October 15th meeting.
 - The recommended wording is "The EIAC supports HR 763 – Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act as presented by the Citizens Climate Committee to the EIAC Committee on Sept. 5, 2019 and presented to the BOC on Oct. 1, 2019. We encourage the Commissioners to adopt the Resolution in support of HR 763."
 - **MOTION:** Jan made a Motion "to adopt the recommended wording as written." Jan made the Motion and Elizabeth seconded. Voting results were 3-1. One member was in opposition because she believes the BOC would profit by knowing about other energy concerns.
 - **ACTION:** Kathy will create the letter on EIAC letterhead and have the Chair sign.
- Future of EIAC - Review Draft of Environment & Natural Resources Advisory Committee:
 - Only John Sarna sent in comments and Laurie included them.
 - Laurie will forward the draft along with the recommended changes to Greg Verret, Community Development Director.

- Discussion followed regarding the "Areas of Primary Activity or Focus" and the "Areas of Potential Collaboration with Solid Waste Advisory Council". The preference is to switch the list to read the Committee name first and then the Area of Focus.
- **MOTION:** Elizabeth made a Motion "to adopt the Draft for the Environment & Natural Resources Advisory Committee (ENRAC) with the noted changes that were made today." Jan seconded the Motion and it passed by a vote of 4-0.
- A question was raised about term limits. The wording from the newly adopted Bylaws reads: "Terms shall be three years, except for initial appointments, which shall be staggered. Any member may serve successive terms if reappointed by the Board of Commissioners. Members may not serve more than two (2) successive terms; partial terms shall not be counted toward the successive term limit. Terms begin on January 1 and end on December 31."
 - Debra is on her third term and it expires on 12/31/2019.
 - Elizabeth is on a partial term and it expires on 12/31/2020.
 - Jan is on her first term and it expires on 12/31/2019.
 - Jennifer is on her second term and it expires on 12/31/2019.
- Question: Must there be 11 members? May want to reduce it to 7 or 9.
- How does the Committee feel about it being rotated every two years to a new department? One benefit is it will connect the Committee with other departments. The Committee is concerned that other staff members will not be as knowledgeable. However, it will be okay as long as the staff member knows how the internal processes work. It would be good to bring this back for discussion at the end of the two year period.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

- Summary of Cascadia Electric Power Resilience Symposium: John Sarna
 - The Committee may want to become involved in "ShakeAlert" which is an earthquake early warning system that detects significant earthquakes so quickly that alerts can reach many people before shaking arrives. It is not an earthquake prediction, rather it indicates that an earthquake has begun and shaking is imminent. The warning time would range from seconds to a tens of seconds. It can give enough time to slow trains and taxiing planes, to prevent cars from entering bridges and tunnels, to move away from dangerous machines or chemicals in work environments and to take cover under a desk, or to automatically shut down and isolate industrial systems.
 - Laurie mentioned that the County may already be tied in to the wireless emergency alerts. A computer must be up all the time, and have a way to send the notice out to the entire County staff and eventually the residents. An app is also being designed for cell phones.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Laurie will check with IT. She asked John to send the website address and other information to her.
- Items from 2019 Legislative Session: Peggy Lynch from the Corvallis Women's League of Voters will make a presentation next month. Debra will confirm the time frame is 30 minutes with 15 minutes for questions and answers.
- Project Accomplishments on Google Drive: Debra said it is a historical document. It is really important for it to be up-to-date and located on the website. To review the current document, either devote an entire meeting to it or set up a separate meeting.

IV. NEXT MEETING: November 7, 2019

V. ADJOURNMENT: 1:36 pm