

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**July 25, 2017**

**7:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:39P.M. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer called the meeting to order and read the following notice requirements.

**Notice Requirements**

**Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by publication of the notice in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Courier News on February 2, 2017, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Express Times on January 25, 2017. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on January 25, 2017.**

**In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of this Commission, and also members of the public are requested to speak only when recognized by the Chair so that there is no simultaneous discussion or over talk, and further, all persons are requested to utilize the microphones which are provided for your use by the Township. Your cooperation is appreciated.**

**Roll Call**

Debbie Kratzer	Cynthia Niciecki
Lois Voronin	Joe Zgurzynski
Willard Reasoner	
David Posey	
Sandra McNicol	
Timothy Cahalin	
Gail Ashley	
Thomas Ciacciarelli	

**Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor**

Richard Malgran, Resident – Addressed the Environmental Commission by letting them know he feels that at all the public meetings, the members of the boards, committees and commissions should have name tags. This way the public will be able to see who everyone is and also be able to address them by name.

Richard Malgran asked what date the Environmental Commission has planned to have William Kraft from ENVIRON appear at a public meeting. The Environmental Commission replied that there is no date made at this time. He questioned about the possible radio activity on the MEL grounds and who would be concerned about this problem and he asked if the NJDEP is involved. Gail Ashley noted that the NJDEP seems to respond on a case by case basis. She noted that if there is an issue they respond. He also asked if there have been any reports on remediation on the spills at MEL. Timothy Cahalin noted he received a report recently from ENVIRON, who is the site remediation professional on this site.

2.

Richard Malgran asked if the radio active issue was mentioned in the report from ENVIRON. Lois Voronin noted the Environmental Commission just received this report today from Timothy Cahalin. It was noted since it was sent so late today that no one was able to review it before the meeting.

Richard Malgran read aloud the minutes of the March 2017 meeting and asked questions as to what the Environmental Commission is doing regarding the petitions that were sent to several of the neighbors surrounding MEL. David Posey explained that the Environmental Commission sent a petition letter to obtain at least 25 signatures of people who live or work within 200 feet of MEL that have expressed interest in the site and salt plume escaping from the site. He explained that signatures were collected via petition by the Environmental Commission, who are requesting the assistance of the NJDEP's Office of Community Relations for public outreach with William Kraft, LSRP for MEL Chemicals Inc. site. He explained that the Environmental Commission would like ENVIRON to come speak to them about the Salt Plume and nothing else.

Richard Malgran asked what the Environmental Commission plans on doing about the radio activity spills at MEL. He asked if anyone on the board knows what products they are making and producing at MEL. Sandra McNicol noted that they are not sure what they are producing and that they do not respond by coming to the EC meeting so they can ask these questions.

Tom Ciacciarelli explained that a letter was sent to the NJDEP Bureau of Radiological Monitoring as directed by the Township Committee requesting that the township along with the Emergency Management Coordinator and the County be notified immediately when a spill has occurred on the site.

Richard Malgran, noted a couple of months ago he suggested to the Environmental Commission that all the wells be tested in the township for the health and welfare of the citizens of the township. He feels that the township should consider doing well testing for the residents. He feels that the condition around MEL could be catastrophic. The Environmental Commission noted each year they put on a discount water testing program for the residents to have their water tested at a lower rate. Richard Malgran feels that the township should be paying for the water testing.

Richard Malgran commented that if anyone on this Commission knows anyone or has any relatives that work at MEL, that those individuals on this Commission would recuse themselves as this would be a conflict of interest. He feels that this is a serious issue and that the Environmental Commission should continue to find out the most about MEL regarding the chemicals they are using and what they produce.

### Minutes

(1). Approval of June 27, 2017 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Lois Voronin and carried to approve the June 27, 2017 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>- Kratzer, Voronin, Ashley, McNicol, Posey, Cahalin</b>
	<b>Nay</b>	<b>- None</b>
	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>- None</b>
	<b>Absent</b>	<b>- Niciecki</b>

3.

**Correspondence**

N/A

**Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops: Reminder of Dates –**

N/A

**Recycling News and Update**

Update from Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol

(2). 2016 Recycling Tonnage Report – Sandra McNicol

Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol noted that the Recycling tonnage report has been submitted to the State.

(3). Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 County Electronic Collection – 9:00am-3:00pm

Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol read aloud the County Electronic Collection information date and time to everyone. She noted that the new signs for the recycling depot have not been ordered, but she will be working on that soon.

**Reports**

(4). NJDEP - Block 40, Lot 8.04 Freshwater Wetlands General Permit 10A – Very Minor Road Crossing

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(5). Letter of Notification to EC – Application Submitted for a Permit or Approval to the NJDEP Under the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act Rules – B1 40, Lot 21

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(6). LOI - Block 40, Lot 21 – 99 Byram- Kingwood Road

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the map of the property and the site boundary area. The property is approximately 10 acres and it is in the AR-2 Zone (Agricultural Residential 2 Acres – Zone).

(7). Letter of Notification to EC – Application Submitted for a Permit or Approval to the NJDEP Under the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act Rules – B1 33, Lot 14.06

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed and noted this is in the transition zone.

(8). Jeff Tareila Environmental Consulting – Transition Area Averaging Plan Submitted to NJDEP– B133, Lot14.06

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

**Right to Know Surveys**

N/A

4.

**Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District**

(9). HCSCD – Notice Block 5, Lot 8.01 – Confirmation Notification – 49 Ridge Rd

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(10). HCSCD – Letter of Certification – Bl 8, Lot 25.15 – 91 Lower Oak Grove Rd

The Commission reviewed.

**New Business**

(11). Environmental Commission – 2016 Annual Report Draft

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted she has not worked on this yet.

(12). Wetland Rule Comments to NJDEP Letter from Lois Voronin – 6-28-2017

Lois Voronin reviewed her comments and letter. She suggested that the Environmental Commission members have their own e-mail addresses through the township, so that they do not use their personal e-mails. Thomas Ciacciarelli noted the township is in a transition and plans on changing the e-mail system. He noted once the township finds another server for the website and e-mails, they will certainly consider having e-mails for all the volunteers.

(13). E-Mail from Evergreen Environmental re: Wickecheoki Creek Mitigation Bank Plan

Lois Voronin noted that they came to the Planning Board meeting and it was very interesting. She explained the process of the Mitigation Bank Plan. She explained that when someone buys property and they destroy the wetlands the company negotiates and builds a wetland area for them, which gives them credits. Sandra McNicol noted that this property is on the corner of Whiskey Lane and State Hwy. Route 12. Lois Voronin noted they are very agreeable regarding the planting and maintaining the kind of fence that will be going around it. She noted that the Planning Board made comments regarding the plantings. She suggested that the Environmental Commission comment and give their suggestions.

Sandra McNicol explained the general idea is that they do mitigation sites. She noted part of this property has been promised to the Scuttersfalls Bridge. She stated this is the site that is going to make up for all that damage.

(14). Evergreen Environmental Wickecheoke Creek Mitigation Bank Plan Set Rev 6-28-2017

The Commission reviewed. Sandra McNicol reviewed the property over the projector and recommended they eliminate the Green Ash. The Commission reviewed the list of plants they had listed. She suggested what would be best to plant in the development. She noted there are several copies from the Planning Board for anyone that would like to take a copy of the map.

Sandra McNicol noted it was discussed by the Planning Board and they would like the Environmental Commission to send any suggestions or comments they may have before their next meeting in August.

5.

Sandra McNicol noted if there is anything that the Commission sees or has any suggestions to let her or Lois Voronin know by next week. Sandra McNicol suggested anyone interested can come to the Planning Board meeting on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30P.M.

(15). E-mail from Kerry Pflugh – NJDEP Director Office of the Local Government Services re: Recycling Award 2017

(16). NJDEP Recycling Award 2017 Nomination

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the e-mail from Kerry Pflugh regarding the recycling award 2017 and asked the Commission if they would be interested in applying for this award. Sandra McNicol noted she is not interested in applying for this award, as there are so many larger towns that may be doing much more at their recycling depot.

(17). Green Infrastructure – Information

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed what Green Infrastructure is all about. She stated it is a way of working with nature to control storm water resources. Sandra McNicol suggested the township engineer come to a meeting either of the Planning Board or the Environmental Commission to explain how this works and what they do. There was a suggestion to eventually work on an ordinance and submit it to the Township Committee for consideration adopting. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted it is to control the green infrastructure and storm water planning and to look into future building projects also.

Community Day – September 30, 2017 – Discount Water and Septic Programs  
Approve - Quotes for Discount Septic and Water Testing Programs

The Commission reviewed the quotes provided for both programs.

**Discount Septic Cleaning and Water Testing Program**

(18a.b.c.d.) Septic Cleaning Quotes – Castle Septic Service, Stink’s Septic Pumping, Russell Reid Septic, River Valley Septic

Russell Reid Septic Service was the company of choice as they had all the prices listed for each extra Service provided.

Motion to approve septic company for discount septic program 2017

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Gail Ashley and carried to choose Russell Reid Septic Service at a price of \$210.00 for a 1000 gallon tank to be cleaned for the Discount Septic Cleaning for township residents only.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Kratzer, Voronin, Ashley, McNicol, Posey, Cahalin
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- None
	Absent	- Niciecki

(19). Water Testing Quote - Garden State Labs, RaData Labs, New Jersey Analytical Labs

(19a). Water Testing Quote – RaData Inc. and E-mail

6.

The Commission reviewed the list of quotes for the Discount Water Testing Program.

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Timothy Cahalin and carried to choose RaData Labs proposal for the Discount Water Testing program for 2017.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Kratzer, Voronin, Ashley, McNicol, Posey, Cahalin
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- None
	Absent	- Niciecki

(19b). PWTA – Private Well Testing Act – David Posey

David Posey reviewed the PWTA – Private Well Testing Act. He noted if anyone would like more info to go to the website link of [www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pwta/pwta\\_list.htm](http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pwta/pwta_list.htm)

### **Old Business**

#### **Update on Chris Citgo**

Sandra McNicol contacted a resident she knows on Lower Oak Grove Road. She suggested they encourage their neighbors to get their well tested. She will try to contact the other neighbors and get the word out to the residents and possibly encourage them to attend an Environmental Commission meeting. The Commission suggested Sandra McNicol contact JM Sorge again to find out how many people had their water tested along that area so far.

### **Action Items:**

#### **Township Committee EC Liaison – Monthly Report**

Tom Ciacciarelli gave an update on the recycling center and how the sign for that area needs to be ordered after speaking to a member of the Commission at the Recycling Depot. Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol explained what kind of sign she would like to have and where she would like to order it. She explained that she will be paying for this out of Clean Communities Funds and she will be working on this next week.

#### **Sustainable Jersey – Kingwood Green Team Update**

Willard Reasoner noted that the Hunterdon Sustainable Team is having a meeting on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00am – 3:00pm. He noted that the location is to be determined. He read aloud what they will be talking about at the meeting. He noted unfortunately he will not be able to attend the meeting. Secretary Keller will forward the information to the other members of the Kingwood Sustainable Green Team.

### **MEL – Update**

#### **Update from David Posey – Petitions Re: MEL**

Debbie Kratzer stated she will work on an invitation to William Kraft and Nick Scala to come to an Environmental Commission meeting either in September or October to discuss the salt plume at MEL.

7.

Update from Gail Ashley

(20). Draft – Review Questions for MEL Public Meeting

The Commission reviewed the list of questions Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer wrote for the Commission to ask the representatives from ENVIRON. The Commission Members made a few suggestions to the draft. She would like to finalize the questions at the August meeting. She asked everyone to send their additional questions to her. The Commission will discuss the public meeting next month.

Links re: MEL Site Reports From Nick Scala – Timothy Cahalin

Timothy Cahalin provided the Commission with these reports to review. The Commission discussed how they need to review these reports since they just received them this afternoon.

**Sustainable Aquaculture Systems, Inc.**

Update

There is no update at this time.

(21). EC – Comments – NJDEP Division of Water Supply & Geoscience  
Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

**PennEast Pipeline: - Update**

(22). Copy of Letter to the NJDEP from Mayor and Deputy Mayor – Re- PennEast Pipeline

(23). Copy of Letter and Editorial from the NJCF – July 12, 2017 Re: Update on PennEast Pipeline –

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

**Horseshoe Bend Park – Update**

Pollinator Meadow Project – Field Management Plan – Update

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. Lois Voronin noted that there is a large piece of the field that someone cut into with a tractor.

**Site Plan Review**

Lois Voronin and Sandra McNicol reviewed an ordinance the Planning Board would like to write and recommend to the Township Committee regarding importing soil into the township.

Update of Open Space and Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting of July 11, 2017 from Sandra McNicol

Sandra McNicol reviewed the meeting of the July 11, 2017.

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Gail Ashley, seconded by Lois Voronin and carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:00P.M. All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Keller  
EC Secretary