

**OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSISTANCE AND
PROTECTION**

**MINOR BARNETTE
DIRECTOR**



**ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSISTANCE AND
PROTECTION BOARD**

**CHAIRMAN
RICHARD L. SIEG**

**VICE CHAIRMAN
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WILLIAM CROUSE
MARY BETH WILLIAMS
CHARLES E. WILSON
NICOLE MATHIS**

**FORSYTH COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE and PROTECTION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

The Forsyth County Environmental Assistance and Protection Advisory Board met on October 20, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. via online meeting through the Microsoft Teams platform.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nathan Atkinson
William Crouse
Nicole Mathis
Brent Rockett
Richard Sieg
Mary Beth Williams
Charles Wilson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

FCOEAP PRESENT:

Minor Barnette
Amanda Bashor
Peter Lloyd
Steve Lyda
Michael Settle
Valerie Shores

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I. Call to Order

Mr. Sieg called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

II. Approval of the July 21, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Sieg opened the discussion to approve the July 21, 2020 meeting minutes. Ms. Mathis made a motion to accept. Ms. Williams seconded the motion, all members of the Board in attendance approved.

III. Director's Update

Due to budgetary considerations from the impact of COVID-19 the office has eliminated the Air Awareness Coordinator position through reduction in force action. Tom Hillis was the staff member filling the position and has moved laterally into the remaining Environmental Specialist opening.

Staff continue to work from home with a few remaining in office. There are still public interactions during inspections and there has been continued increased activity on trash and burning complaints.

LASS continues to support remote operations, a phone system and digital services transition to Microsoft, and is currently focused on preparing the annual Emissions Inventory reporting.

Community Hygiene continues to interact in socially distant compliant ways to investigate increased complaints regarding illegal burning and solid waste. Tom Hillis has filled the remaining Environmental Specialist position and they are now fully staffed.

CAP has successfully transitioned to fully remote. The permitting backlog is completely caught up and they are working on completing the yearly emissions inventory. The division is on track to be finished ahead of deadline this year. Remote work has had a surprise benefit, opening up more readily available meetings and interactions with facilities and their representatives.

A&M is still monitoring and functioning as normal. The end of the ozone season is approaching and it is anticipated to finish the year with no exceedances. Recently the monitoring sites have been switched from internet air cards to hard wired service for more reliable connectivity. Radon test kits have become available to purchase via the postal service. The CAPCA conference this fall will be made available online for interested parties to register.

Regarding court action on repeat offenders, all cases are still suspended per court calendars. Court room action has been discontinued since April, causing a hefty backlog on cases. There are more than five criminal summons pending for the office that could be a year or more before moving forward.

IV. Other Business

V. Next Tentative Quarterly Meeting:

Date: January 19, 2021

Location: 201 North Chestnut St. Winston-Salem, N.C.

VI. Mr. Sieg adjourned the meeting.

Dated: 1/4/2021

Minor Barnette Minor Barnette, Director

Approved:

Richard Sieg, Chairman