

Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2021
Ohio EPA/OCAPP, Central Office, Columbus
50 W Town St. Suite 700, Columbus, OH 43215
Autumn A

CAP members	Present: Dan Sowry, Randy Solginak, Chris Shaw, Glorianna Corman Absent: Christina O’Keeffe, Shane Wilkin, Ben Stratton, John Pierko
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Non-member participants: Lexie Andrews, Jon Bernstein, Brooke Grant
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Welcome and Roll Call: Lexie opened the meeting at 10 a.m. followed by introductions and roll call. Lexie introduced the Compliance Advisory Panel’s newest member, Randy Solginak and DEFA’s newly appointed Chief, Jon Bernstein. Lexie then turned the meeting over to Jon.

Opening Remarks: Jon introduced himself and talked about the new infrastructure bill that was signed last night which includes funds for lead service line replacement and PFAS, money for recycling and litter prevention, school busses, and pollution prevention. Ohio EPA is awaiting guidance from US EPA on how the funds will be administered.

Ohio EPA Updates: Dan Sowry provided updates about a unit reorganization in OCAPP where he recently combined the Recycling and Litter Prevention Grant Program with The Sustainability Unit to form what is now referred to as the Recycling and Sustainability Unit (RSU). Dan mentioned that the grant cycle recently opened in November with four grants available right now through the Recycle Ohio Grant Fund. The grant types include, market development, scrap tire, community and litter and a newer grant category for academic institutions. RUS hosted a webinar on November 3 about the grant program which is now available on the Agency’s YouTube Channel. Dan shared that OCAPP is working on filling vacancies and reenergizing the Ohio Materials Marketplace (OMM). A webinar about OMM is planned for December 6. Dan continued with information regarding the Encouraging Environmental Excellent program and asked the CAP members to share any information they might have about businesses that might be eligible. The application for the awards program is now open year-round. Glorianna mentioned that she has many clients that would be eligible for at least the base level of recognition and asked if OCAPP could help them with their applications. Dan then provided an update about the technical and In Your Community webinar series that OCAPP provides on a monthly basis. Dan asked the CAP members if they had any topics they would like added to the 2022 calendar. CAP members shared they would like webinars about mitigation and identification of PFAS, funding opportunities, new rule updates, and reporting deadlines.

Dan provided updates about the NPDES program and that there would be up to a two week delay in permit issuance set for the beginning of January 2022. Next, Dan informed the CAP that Bureau of Worker’s Compensation’s (BWC) Safety Congress will be virtual again and is scheduled for March 9 through the 10 of 2022. Dan is hoping to have an environmental session day. Dan and Glorianna chair and co-chair the environmental subcommittee. Glorianna said that normally they meet in August for the

following year when they are on-site. Safety Congress is still planning on going virtual and doing minimal sessions, potential for collaboration with Ohio EPA.

Dan is hoping to have environmental sessions provided by Ohio EPA at the virtual conference. Topics for the conference that Dan hopes to include are hazardous waste, stormwater, air permitting and how to prepare of an Ohio EPA inspection.

Next, Dan asked for the CAP members help in marketing our services, so more people are trusting and willing to reach out.

Dan highlighted the infrastructure bill, specifically the 100 million for pollution prevention, targeting environmental justice areas as well. Dan has a goal of asking US EPA to pay for the OMM, but for all states. The infrastructure bill includes money for recycling and solid waste. Currently unsure who all is allocating the money.

SBO Updates: Next, Brooke Grant of the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) provided updates about the Clean Air Improvement Program. The Clean Air Improvement Program serves as a conduit bond issuer with tax exemptions for sales and use tax, property tax and proceeds from the bond. OAQDA has lots of interest in investing with a purpose, the Executive Director is working on a program, new build construction that goes above and beyond the building requirements. Next, Brooke provided an update on the Clean Air Resource Center (CARC) which focuses on helping small businesses cover a portion of the principal amount of up to 20 percent or maximum of \$20,000 of the total cost of the eligible project. To date OAQDA has financed just shy of \$2 million state-wide, over \$170,000 has been awarded in grants. Brooke also shared that OAQDA is working on increasing their outreach on social media platforms such as Facebook and LinkedIn. Lastly, Brooke shared that OAQDA is bringing on two new people.

Challenges with Environmental Regulations: Lexie asked the CAP members if they had any current or ongoing challenges with complying with environmental regulations. Dan also added that he would like feedback from the members on what exemptions they would like OCAPP to advocate for. Members responded that they would like more information or exemptions to be created for used oil furnaces and the hazardous waste F006 which is used in the metal plating industry. Members also commented that they would like more information on MS4, PFAS, the exemption for dry cleaners using petroleum-based solvents and they would like to see more industry specific or target webinars for dry cleaners, automotive shops and platers.

2022 Meeting Schedule: Lexie shared with the group that she would be reaching out in 2022 to all members to put together the schedule for the new year.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at ~11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lexie Andrews, OCAPP Supervisor/CAP Secretariat