

## May Meeting Summary

The May meeting of the Hood County Clean Air Coalition was held May 1, 2024, in the Granbury Parks Department office at 220 North Travis Street in Granbury, Texas. There were five board members present and one attending virtually, which represented a quorum. Board members present included Mayor Jim Jarratt, Judge Ron Massingill, Brian Caruthers, John Campbell, Chuck Licata, and Chairman Mark Franco attended virtually. Also present were Zak Monroe of Heine Propane and Michelle McKenzie, Air Quality Program Manager.

1.) Board member Chuck Licata called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.

### 2.) Local Updates

- a. The City of Cresson has recommended Lisa Clement to represent them on the board for the Hood County Clean Air Coalition. The local government positions are appointed positions, so this action will not require a vote. The HCCAC board will need to elect a new Secretary. Lisa Clement was nominated to be Secretary by Mayor Jim Jarratt and the nomination was seconded by Judge Ron Massingill. The nomination was approved with a vote of six ayes and no nays.
- b. Review of March and April Meeting Summary. The March and April Meeting Summaries were sent for board member review. There was no discussion regarding the March or April summaries. John Campbell made a motion to approve the March and April summaries. The motion was seconded by Mayor Jim Jarratt. The motion was approved with a vote of six ayes and no nays.
- c. The Monthly Budget Review for February and March were considered together. For February, expenses were \$3,432.18 for salary and \$1,533.33 for fringe, \$23.99 for Adobe license, and \$25.48 for office supplies (flash drives). Total expenses for February were \$5,015.18. Donations were received in February from the City of Granbury in the amount of \$2,083.33 and from the City of Cresson in the amount of \$2,000. For March, expenses were \$3,432.18 for salary and \$2,158.84 for fringe, \$23.99 for Adobe license, \$120 for annual tax filing, \$63.10 for liability insurance, and \$75.84 for travel to NCTCOG offices. Total expenses for March were \$5,873.95. Donations were received in March from the City of Granbury in the amount of \$2,083.33. There was no discussion regarding the budget reviews. John Campbell made a motion to approve the February and March budget reviews. The motion was seconded by Mayor Jim Jarratt. The motion passed with a vote of six ayes and no nays.
- d. Rider 7 Update: A Hood County Clean Air Coalition board member meeting was held with staff from NCTCOG on April 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the new TCEQ Rider 7 grant. There were six board members present which represented a quorum. Board members present included Chairman Mark Franco, who appeared via Zoom, Mayor Jim Jarratt, Judge Ron Massingill, Chuck Licata, John Campbell, and Brian Caruthers. Others present at the meeting were Chris Klaus, Jenny

Summary Approved:



Date: 7-24-24

Narvaez, Daniela Tower from NCTCOG, and Michelle McKenzie, Air Quality Program Manager. Following the meeting introductions, Chris Klaus provided a review of the new Rider 7 grant. For the new biennium 2024-2025, funds remain the same in the amount of a little over \$281,000 with 10% allowed for administrative expenses for Hood and Hunt counties in North Texas. NCTCOG met with the Hunt County judge who agreed to allow the full expenditure of the Rider 7 grant in Hood County for this biennium. NCTCOG has the contract from TCEQ and will take it to their executive board at the end of June. They propose to allow the administrative expense allowance to be used by the HCCAC to help with overseeing projects in the amount of about \$28,000 for the biennium through an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Granbury as has been done in the past. Current state modeling does not match what has been happening with the ozone numbers. The City of Dallas has a new program with the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) to use “purple air” non-regulatory sensors. There are currently three of the smaller devices in Hood County currently. NCTCOG is working on a project with the TTI for PM monitoring in Dallas and Tarrant counties using the PM Rider 7 funding. They could expand this project to include ozone and NOx monitoring in Hood County. Funding from Rider 7 would allow for monitoring for four quarters of the year and could create a network of monitors to collect a large amount of data including the impact of the activity at Wolf Hollow and the bitcoin mining operation. This data would also be beneficial to compare “before” and “after” if the new permit for an additional power plant at Wolf Hollow is approved. In addition to the monitoring, an updated emission inventory may be beneficial as well with the 2020 NEI being available and TCEQ working on completing a more recent emission inventory. The previous emission inventory report used 2012, 2016, and 2017 emission inventories. NCTCOG may be able to come to future HCCAC meetings to discuss the Rider 7 projects. The Air Quality Program Manager contacted Ramboll about getting an estimate for the emission inventory project. John Grant with Ramboll worked on the previous emission inventories for Hood County and said they could do an overall update of the emission inventory and provide a focused analysis on Wolf Hollow past, present, and future with the regard to the proposed permit. He estimated the work would cost between \$30,000-\$35,000. In the budget discussion, funds for fiscal year 2025 will need to be requested from the City of Granbury, City of Cresson, and Hood County. Judge Massingill requested the budget information be sent to his office and he will request the funding be put on an upcoming Commissioners Court agenda.

- e. Comment for Proposed Air Permit for Wolf Hollow. The comment for Wolf Hollow was sent to board members for review. There were no comments received. Following board member signatures, the comment will be sent to TCEQ as soon as possible.
- f. Reports
  - i. In the ozone season report, for 2024 there have been 5 moderate days and no exceedance days. The fourth highest reading is 58 and the design value is 72 ppb.
  - ii. The EPA Advance Partner meeting was held on April 24, 2024. The meeting topic was a presentation on Discovering Energy Efficiency Opportunities in Asheville’s Craft Brewing Industry. Ashley Featherstone

of Asheville's Air Quality Agency and Ava Ingle, a recent graduate of the University of North Carolina at Asheville worked together on the project that the presentation was based on. Asheville has been named "Brew City" and "Beer City, USA" because of the number of craft breweries in the area. The research project was done because brewing can be energy intensive. Ava worked with four microbreweries. Two were larger and two were smaller in their production size. They looked at natural gas usage in boilers and electricity usage in refrigeration. There are over 35 breweries in Asheville and the project looked for cost savings associated with energy efficiency opportunities as well. Total cost savings for the four breweries were \$25,000 and it would also result in a savings of 309,000 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions. They are planning on presenting findings at an upcoming meeting with other breweries and are planning on following up to see if any of the breweries were able to follow through on the suggested changes to improve energy efficiency like updating equipment and increasing insulation.

- g. Propane fueling update from Zak Monroe of Heine Propane. Fed Ex has expressed interest in using alternative fuel vehicles in Hood County. They are considering 40 delivery vans that would run on propane in the county. Zak is working on a proposal that could provide savings in fuel and maintenance costs for them and would provide a tiered amortization built into the fuel cost that would help speed up adoption. It could include a fleet tracking system that would track carbon emissions and cost savings.

### 3.) EPA Updates

- a. On April 15, 2024, EPA posted in the Federal Register: Secondary NO<sub>2</sub>/SO<sub>2</sub>/PM – EPA proposed to revise the existing secondary SO<sub>2</sub> standard to an annual average, averaged over three consecutive years, with a level within the range from 10 to 15 ppb. Additionally, EPA proposed to retain the existing secondary standards for N oxides and PM, without revision. EPA also proposed revisions to the data handling requirements for the proposed secondary SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS. Comments on this proposal must be received by June 14, 2024. More information and instructions to comment: Secondary NAAQS-Proposal. Virtual public hearing on May 8, 2024, from 11 am to 7 pm, eastern time. Info to participate in the hearing: Secondary NAAQS-PR-Hearing.
- b. EPA review of California In-Use Locomotive Regulation. Mayor Jim brought this regulation to the Air Quality Program Manager's attention. The Air Quality Program Manager contacted Carrie with EPA, but she didn't find anything additional other than the Federal Register announcement that EPA is reviewing the action that the California Air Resources Board adopted its In-Use Locomotive Regulation. EPA will hold a public hearing to consider California's authorization request and EPA is now accepting written comments on the request. The public hearing was held March 20<sup>th</sup> and comments were due by April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The CARB request would go into effect on January 1, 2030, and would allow only locomotives with an original engine build date less than 23 years old to operate in California excepting locomotives that meet the current cleanest EPA Teir 4 emission standards for a locomotive of its type, those that are operated in a zero-emission configuration while in California or that satisfy other specified

conditions. It would also allow locomotives that were repowered to Tier 4 prior to January 1, 2030. It would also require a “spending account” provision that would require an annual deposit of funds by locomotive operators in California. The account would be held as a restricted trust, held by the locomotive operator, with the funds able to be withdrawn for specific uses described in the regulation. An “Alternative Compliance Plan” allows regulated locomotive operators to comply with the requirements using a project or projects that achieve equivalent emissions reductions within three miles of the operators’ locomotive activities within California. The regulation also includes an anti-idling requirement that operators must ensure that locomotives do not exceed 30 minutes of idling except to prevent engine damage, maintain air pressure for brakes or starter system to recharge the locomotive battery or perform other maintenance. The regulation also imposes registration, reporting, and record keeping requirements on locomotive operators for all locomotive activity in the state. They are required to register all locomotives by July 1, 2026.

#### 4.) Regional Updates

- a. Upcoming DFW Clean Cities Events: all at [www.dfwcleancities.org/events](http://www.dfwcleancities.org/events) but notable is:  
Early June: we’re launching a new program called Charging Smart for cities to receive “EV-friendly” designation and get best practices on supporting EV adoption. A meeting will be coming soon but if interested let us know!  
June 11 Hydrogen End Users Forum – will include discussion about opportunities to use hydrogen in transportation, power, and industrial sectors – registration link is posted.
- b. NCTCOG is seeking interest in a Local Project Advisory Group for a hydrogen infrastructure planning project. Please let us know who all from the Hood County Clean Air Coalition, or broader Hood County community, might be interested! The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is an official partner under GTI Energy’s Department of Energy awarded Houston to Los Angeles (H2LA) I-10 Hydrogen Corridor Study. GTI Energy’s goal with this project is to create a scalable blueprint for heavy-duty hydrogen truck fueling from Houston to Los Angeles along I-10, as well as along the Texas Triangle. As community engagement partner in this project, NCTCOG is creating a Local Project Advisory Group (LPAG) for the region. The LPAG will hold meetings to receive feedback from local community organizations, including effected disadvantaged communities, relating to local stakeholders’ concerns and priorities related to hydrogen fueling stations and infrastructure. Our first LPAG meeting will be held on April 9, 2024, from 2-3:30pm at the NCTCOG offices. These meetings will occur quarterly, and they will typically be virtual after the first in-person meeting.
- c. NCTCOG will be meeting with TxDOT soon on the next phase of NEVI/the Texas EV Charging Plan, which could bring chargers to Hood County. Please let us know what locations in the County the Coalition would consider to be priorities, and/or if you’d like to collaborate on a follow-up infrastructure-specific public engagement meeting now that we have more info on timing, etc.
- d. Aligning with Spring National Car Care Month in April, the North Central Texas Council of Governments Transportation Department’s Car Care Awareness (CCA)

campaign empowers community members to be a part of the regional air quality solution by providing opportunities to learn more about their vehicles and the importance of proper vehicle maintenance. To help spread word about the CCA campaign, staff prepared an educational toolkit with social media messages, articles, images, and other materials for municipalities and community organizations to share, available in both English and Spanish:

<https://www.ntxcare.org/Toolkit>.

The following materials are included in the toolkit:

Newsletter articles (English and Spanish)

Social media posts with graphics (English and Spanish)

Promotional video

Smoking vehicle GIF

Please assist us to provide this information to constituents and help them not only improve air quality but also save money on vehicle repairs by addressing mechanical issues as soon as they occur. For more information on the Car Care Awareness campaign, visit [www.ntxcare.org](http://www.ntxcare.org). For questions and partnership opportunities, please contact Anthony Moffa at [amoffa@nctcog.org](mailto:amoffa@nctcog.org).

e. Funding Opportunities – [www.nctcog.org/AQfunding](http://www.nctcog.org/AQfunding)

A new EPA program for Class 6 and 7 vehicle replacement (going old non-ZEV to ZEV) is coming soon and might offer some unique opportunities for fleets to replace old gas or propane, we aren't sure until the program opens but that's how it's looking.

TERP Rebate Grants has issued its 30 days' notice so it is coming very soon and will likely go very quickly.

5.) Other Discussion: There was a discussion about changing the monthly HCCAC meeting time to later time on first Wednesdays to help some board members make the meeting. Board members agreed to start the June meeting at 10 a.m.

6.) Adjourn until June 5<sup>th</sup>.