

**OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSISTANCE AND
PROTECTION**

**MINOR BARNETTE
DIRECTOR**



**ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSISTANCE AND
PROTECTION BOARD**

**CHAIRMAN
BRENT S. ROCKETT**

**VICE CHAIRMAN
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GAYLE S. GOLDSMITH
REID W. HUTCHINS
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CHARLES E. WILSON**

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING**

The Forsyth County Environmental Assistance and Protection Advisory Board met on April 18, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. via online meeting through the Microsoft Teams platform and in the BER Meeting Room of the Government Center.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Charles Wilson
Gayle Goldsmith
Nicole Chiles
Reid Hutchins

Brent Rockett
Joe Mannuzza

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Susan Appt

FCOEAP STAFF PRESENT:

Minor Barnette
Steve Lyda
Valerie Shores
Keon Bradsher

Peter Lloyd
Michael Settle

Benjamin Swartz

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Recycled Paper

I. Call to Order

Mr. Rockett called the meeting to order.

II. Approval of the January 24, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Barnette suggested the approval of the January 24, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes be moved to the July 18, 2023 Board Meeting in hopes of having a quorum. Then, later in the meeting a quorum was established and the minutes were approved by the participating members.

III. Director's Update

Mr. Barnette opened the update with a brief description of the restored Air Awareness Program and the hiring of a new Triad Air Awareness Coordinator, Sarah Coffey.

Next, he shared an update on the county's recycling facility in Kernersville which has been closed since January 10 due to damage from a vehicular accident. A new lease agreement with the town includes a cost increase from the current \$12,000 a year to \$23,000 a year to lease the property. The continued operation of the facility is subject to approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

In response to a question, Mr. Barnette provided a detailed update on the three recycling facilities Forsyth County currently operates in Kernersville, on Hanes Mill Rd, and in Pfafftown. Mr. Barnette discussed the value of the materials being collected at these facilities. The total annual cost is over \$300,000 a year to operate these three facilities.

The Advisory Board was informed that Ozone season starts March 1st, 2023.

The EPA has proposed new emissions standards for motor vehicles in different size categories. They will be taking public comments on the proposed changes.

Also, the EPA still plans to amend the national ambient air quality standards for particulate matter. The current annual standard is 12 micrograms per cubic meter and they are proposing a more protective standard in the range of 9 to 11. Forsyth County's design value is close to 9 micrograms per cubic meter.

Mr. Rockett informed the members of the Board that Michael Regan, the new EPA Administrator, is a former North Carolina resident, a North Carolina A&T State University alumnus and former Secretary of NCDEQ.

The County Commissioners have approved funding for EV's and charging stations.

The commissioners have also approved funding for a photovoltaic solar system to be installed on the roof of the maintenance building at Tanglewood Park. Federal funding is also needed to support this project.

V. Other Business

There was no other business.

VI. Next Tentative Quarterly Meeting is July 18, 2023

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Rockett adjourned the meeting following a motion, second and voice vote.

Dated: July 18, 2023 *W. M. Barnette* Minor Barnette, Director

Approved: *Brent S. Rockett* Brent S. Rockett, Chairman