



MINUTES
OXFORD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MUNICIPAL BUILDING 15 SOUTH COLLEGE AVE. OXFORD, OHIO 45056
FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2024 AT 7:00 PM

Approval of Agenda

The Environmental Commission members present were Jon Ralinovsky, Chair; Jason Bracken, Planning Commission Representative and City Council Member; Peggy Branstrator; Anna Abey; Jim Vinch. Staff Liason present was Reena Murphy.

Motion to approve the agenda: Ms. Branstrator

2nd: Mr. Bracken

Vote: Unanimous approval

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the October 2nd 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Peggy

2nd: Mr. Vinch

Vote: Unanimous approval

Old Business

New Business

1. Energy Improvement Matters (Bruce Everly + Anna Abey)

Bruce Everly, CEO of Energy Improvement Matters (EIM), spoke to the commission. EIM recently relocated to Oxford and is based out of the College at Elm building. EIM specializes in renewable energy and securing grants for farmers and small and rural businesses from the USDA and Treasury. He mentioned that Oxford is considered Rural by the USDA and distressed by the Treasury, so there are additional funding opportunities for local businesses.

2. Next Steps: Closed Landfill

Staff presented ownership models for the closed landfill to the commission. A memo discussing the ownership models and next steps is attached. The commission felt there were too many unknowns to make a recommendation between the models, but would be content with any ownership model, so long as we can maximize the landfill's solar generation capacity. The commission recommended a broad RFP for the landfill, open to all three models.

The commission also had a discussion about renewable energy credits and the nuances of off-site renewable energy and who would get RECs from a project.

3. Potential for Hazardous Waste Drop Off

The commission expressed interest in a hazardous waste drop-off day with Butler County in 2025, possibly in conjunction with Sharefest. Staff shared they will explore cost estimates and recommended the commission consider it for the 2026 actions.

4. Member Updates:

- City Council
- Planning Commission
- OPTAB
- OCASC

City Council and Planning Commission did not have updates. OPTAB shared that there was a public meeting for planning the Northern Arc of OATS. OPTAB's recommendation will go to council on December 17th. OCASC met with Sam Perry, Director of Community Development, about how to incorporate the CAP goals into the zoning code rewrite and emphasized the vulnerability for flooding and stormwater runoff.

5. Staff Updates

- Quarterly Update from the Environmental Division

Staff shared the quarterly update from the Environmental Division, highlighting the emissions reduction of the methane flare. Staff also shared that the City is working with consultants to pursue the Advanced Energy Fund. Lastly, the City received a grant from OKI for the installation of EV chargers.

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Bracken

2nd: Mr. Vinch

Vote: Unanimous

The commission adjourned at 8:30pm.