MINUTES from May 21, 2013

ATTENDEES:  
Don Kaufman  
Anthony Trujillo  
Alex Romero  
Beverly Chavez  
Larry Garcia  
Larry Rainosek  
Scott Throckmorton

STAFF:  
Cheryl Rein- Borunda  
Donna Griffin  
John A. Garcia  
Ramona Zamir-Gonzalez

Presenters:  
Carol Wight, Executive Director, NM Restaurant Association

Guests:  
Mary Lou Leonard, Director, Environmental Health Department  
Mark DiMenna, Deputy Director, Environmental Health Department  
Lori Stoller, Environmental Health Department  
Theresa Alling, Environmental Health Department

Attachments:  Report from Carol Wight, NM Restaurant Association; Albuquerque-Bernalillo Co. Air Quality Control Board (AQCB) Notice of Hearing and Meeting; AQCB Petition No. 2013-5; AQCB Regulations (Exhibits 2a, 2b, and 2c).

Meeting called to order by Chairman Don Kaufman at 7:37 a.m.

I. There were no changes to the Agenda.

II. April 16, 2013 Minutes reviewed and approved by the Commission.
   MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROMERO  
   SECOND BY VICE CHAIRMAN TRUJILLO  
   MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. Carol Wight summarized the report that was distributed to the Commission regarding recent issues concerning the Environmental Health Department (EHD) food safety inspections and implementation of a new inspection form. She shared concerns voiced by restaurant owners and emphasized the need for a ‘values and culture change’ in the approach used by EHD towards food establishments. There was a roundtable discussion, including suggestions offered for improvement - implement an appeals process with a third party; do not conduct restaurant inspections during peak hours; have a customer service/educational approach; notify NM Restaurant Association of upcoming changes that will impact
Department. This should occur within the next 60 days.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROMERO
SECOND BY VICE CHAIRMAN TRUJILLO
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There was further discussion about finding ways to align the processes of City regulatory entities and the ‘regulated’ customer, whether planning an event, or starting and operating a successful business in Albuquerque.

IV. Cheryl Rein-Borunda advised that the data table returned from UNM is incomplete, and Commissioner Throckmorton added that this is due to varying processes employed in different cities, making it difficult to confine the information to a matrix. An Executive Summary is in process and will be sent to Cheryl Rein-Borunda whereupon she will forward it to the Commissioners. Commissioner Throckmorton gave a brief summary of the results and findings.

V. Cheryl Rein-Borunda provided handouts and informed the Commission about some new Air Quality permitting revisions being proposed, many of which are federal and state regulated, and outside the scope of this Commission. However, the Environmental Health Department has asked for comments to be heard and reviewed by the Air Quality Control Board at its hearing on July 10, 2013. Mary Lou Leonard commented that the Air Quality Division has two small business representatives that assist and consult between 25-50 small businesses per year. There was further discussion about the impact of the Air Quality regulations on small business and Cheryl Rein-Borunda requested any feedback be emailed to her, and she can add this subject to the agenda for the next meeting if the Commission wants to discuss any further action, and/or draft a statement.

VI. There was a discussion about the copper theft issue and topics for the next meeting. Commissioner Throckmorton advised he would not be able to attend next month’s meeting. Chairman Kaufman asked for a list of divisions under the City Planning Department, and the Commission decided to invite the Department, possibly Suzie Lubar, to attend the July meeting.

The Commission discussed next steps to take on the copper theft issue; it was determined to keep it on the agenda for the next meeting in June and invite representatives from PNM, APD, and CenturyLink, as well as Minda McGonagle for the metal recycling industry to present their perspective. John Garcia suggested that the Commission propose organizing a task force to address the problem.

The Commission concluded with discussion about the food shows and the Environmental Health inspections. Donna Griffin added that it is likely the Gaming Compact (State of NM) or Indian Health Service performs inspections at food shows that relocate to Native American properties. She suggested that food shows do not escape inspection by leaving Albuquerque; however, the inspection approach and management is handled differently.

VII. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:19 am.

Minutes submitted by: Cheryl Rein-Borunda Date 6/19/13

Minutes approved by: Don Kaufman, Chairman of the Board Date 6/19/13