

**REGULAR MEETING
OAKDALE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
January 11, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

The Oakdale Environmental Management Commission (EMC) held a virtual meeting on Monday, January 11, 2021. The meeting began at 7:00PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL OF ROLL

On a call of roll, the following were present:

Chairperson: Keith Miller, Chairperson

Commissioners: Nick Kantola, Vice Chair
Connor Brown
Gretel Drainville
Noah Gerding
Bonnie Wilson

Also Present: Shannon Reidlinger, Sr. Community Development Specialist
Alyssa MacLeod, Communication Specialist
Kevin Zabel, City Council Liaison

Absent: Karen Jackson

Quorum Present: YES NO

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

COMMISSIONER GERDING MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DRAINVILLE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2020, AS WRITTEN.

6 AYES.

CITY COUNCIL UPDATE

Council Member Kevin Zabel has joined the Environmental Management Commission as Council Liaison for 2021-2022.

ELECTION OF COMMISSION CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Chair Miller explained the annual nomination procedure for Chair and Vice Chair.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER KANTOLA, TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER MILLER FOR THE POSITION OF CHAIR.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILSON, TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER GERDING FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIR.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER KANTOLA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILSON, TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS FOR THE POSITIONS OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER KANTOLA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILSON, TO ELECT COMMISSIONER MILLER AS CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) CALENDAR YEAR, COMMENCING WITH THE JANUARY 11, 2021 MEETING.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER KANTOLA, SECONDED COMMISSIONER DRAINVILLE, TO ELECT COMMISSIONER GERDING TO THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) CALENDAR YEAR, COMMENCING WITH THE JANUARY 11, 2021 MEETING.

6 AYES.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Environmental Communication Strategy Update and editorial calendar update with Alyssa MacLeod, Communication Specialist

Ms. MacLeod shared that she and Ms. Reidlinger have been working together with the 2021 work plan and put it into an editorial calendar. Ms. MacLeod shared the EMC draft communications plan and the editorial calendar and discussed with the commission both of these in detail.

Chair Miller asked all Commissioners to review the editorial calendar and communications plan and offer any suggestions. Ms. MacLeod asked that she receive assistance with Commission priorities.

Commissioners discussed the possibilities.

Action Items:

- Commissioners will review the resource list and the draft communications plan.
- Commissioners will review the editorial calendar and provide feedback.
- Staff will forward updated copies to Commissioners.

OTHER ITEMS

a. MPCA Electric Vehicle Level 2 charging station grant update.

Ms. Reidlinger went to an information sharing session, regarding the MPCA EV Level 2 charging station, part of the VW Settlement, and discovered that this particular grant is very comprehensive, with 22 charging stations that will come out of this grant. Each municipality must apply for two charging stations. In addition, there is a long list of requirements prior to application, some of which include: a map of each location with ADA Compliant specifics, electric and transformer box placements, signage, an outline of equipment needed, make & model of charging station, charging capacity, electric conduit placement, name of electrician's company, and to show that matching funds are available. After group discussion it was determined that the City is not yet at this stage. Ms. Reidlinger has noted that more money will be made available with Phase Two. Staff will work on Phase Two requirements and will report back initial findings within next two months.

In response to a question from Commissioner Drainville, Chair Miller stated that the EMC will gather with the City Council during the Annual Meeting next month, to obtain further feedback and to discuss issues relating to the matching funds requirement for MPCA EV Level Two charging station grant.

Chair Miller asked that the following be added to the calendar and have a communications go out regarding Promotion of Xcel Wind Sourcing, which could occur at a Utility Bill Clinic. The UBCs are available virtually through the Citizens Utility Board. Staff noted.

In response to a question from Chair Miller, Councilmember Zabel stated that the EMC should bring projects with rough estimate costs to the annual meeting in February, 2021.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Chair Miller reminded the Commission the next meeting would be Monday, February 8, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GERDING, TO ADJOURN THE JANUARY 11, 2021 REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAKDALE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AT 7:53 P.M.

6 AYES.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Knutson, Recording Secretary