

Air Odor Noise Committee

Tony C. Bellamy, P.E. – Chair
Lucinda Sonnenberg, Ph.D.
Michelle Tappouni
Mobeen Rathore, M.D.

Education & Public Outreach

Steven Jenkins
Lucinda Sonnenberg, Ph.D.
Michelle Tappouni



Water Committee

Nick Howland – Chair
Bobby L. Baker, P.E.
Amy Fu, P.E.

Michelle Tappouni – Chairman
Nick Howland – Vice Chairman
Bobby L. Baker, P.E., Tony C. Bellamy, P.E.
Amy Fu, P.E., Steven Jenkins,
Mobeen Rathore, M.D., Lucinda Sonnenberg, Ph.D.

City of Jacksonville, Florida
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD
Monday, February 9 2015
5:00 p.m.
Public Hearing- Noise Training

Members Present

Michelle Tappouni, Chair
Nick Howland, Vice Chair
Amy Y. Fu, P.E.
Mobeen Rathore, M.D.

Bobby L. Baker, P.E.
Steven T. Jenkins
Lucinda Sonnenberg, Ph.D.
Tony C. Bellamy, P.E.

Members Not Present

None.

Staff/ Resources Present

James Richardson, EPB Administrator
Jody Brooks, OGC
Melissa Long, EQD Chief
Tree Kilbourn, EQD Enforcement
Terry Carr

Visitors

Andrew Sears, JEA
Jacqueline Brown,

Call to Order

Chair Michelle Tappouni called the Public Hearing of the Environmental Protection Board (EPB) to order at 5:13 p.m.

Certification of Public Notice

James Richardson, EPB Administrator, certified that the public notice required by Florida law appeared in the Financial News & Daily Record.

Chair Tappouni read a statement which provided an outline of how the hearing would proceed: presentation by staff, presentation by petitioner, comments from public, board discussion and clarification, board action and procedural summary.

Presentation by Staff

Steve Pace, P.E. , Manager of the Environmental Quality Division Air Branch shared that EQD has historically provided the Noise Activity training every three years for staff to maintain certification in Community Noise Measurements. Budget cuts in General Revenue dollars have eliminated funding for this training from the EQD budget, however the EPB has provided funding in the past. Staff has conducted an extensive search for a local program to provide certification in noise training and has unfortunately been unable to identify a local program. Staff also communicated with Dr. McDonald who provides training for Hillsborough County, but does not provide a certification in Community Noise Measurements. Dr. McDonald will submit a proposal soon. Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey whose training program has previously provided the noise training, will provide onsite Noise Certification Training for up to 10 individuals (8 staff and 2 JSO officers). Staff will await the information from Dr. McDonald, however they asked that the funding proposal is approved, in an amount not to exceed \$6,500 for the Noise Activity to receive Noise Certification Training.

During discussion, members had inquiries such as: certification verses non-certification and what percentage of enforcement actions actually result in having to defend the enforcement? Mr. Pace stated that certification from a university, as opposed to simply passing a course, is more credible. With every enforcement case when the noise source inquired as to how staff acquired their noise measurements, staff is well trained in how to measure background, how to eliminate transient extraneous noise sources, focus on the source and understand that if there is not a 3 dBA difference between the source and background there is no violation, and if it is greater than 3 dBA, the source owns the background.

Comments from Public

None.

Board Questions/Clarification

The Board inquired at some point does staff foresee having the noise training back as a budgetary line item again or will future funding be proposed only through the EPB to continue the training. Staff stated they are hopeful that future funding will be reinstated in the EQD budget.

Board Vote

A motion was made to approve (Baker) the funding request in an amount not to exceed \$6,500 for the Noise Activity to receive Noise Certification Training which was properly seconded (FU) and unanimously approved by the body.

Procedural Summary

EPB Counsel Jody Brooks stated that the proposal will go before the Mayor's Budget Review Committee and then be forwarded to City Council.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Ruby Tucker, Executive Assistant to the Chief
Environmental Protection Board