Kittitas County Public Health Department Air Quality Advisory Committee (AQAC) Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 21, 2014
10:00 a.m.

In attendance:
Erin Moore, Amy Fuller, Holly Myers, Robin Read, Camille Bennett, Pam McMullin-Messier, Joe Seemiller, Art Stoltman, Andrew Lyons, Anne Johansen, Josh Hink

The group discussed the commitment of the committee members and how many think that they would continue being a part of the group. The committee talked about adding new members in the future to gain participation of more of the county.

The group also talked about the 2 air quality monitors on top of Hal Holmes. The new federal monitor is already collecting data and to date the county has already had 3 days above the acceptable PM2.5 levels. Members discussed the calibration of these monitors and what they mean.

Holly Myers recapped on the AQAC charter to see how we are doing on our goals. She passed around the goals outline. She reviewed that we need to finish our outreach and education goal. KCPHD needs to pick 3 activities to fulfill the education requirement of our agreement with Ecology. Holly asked the committee for low cost and sustainable ideas.

Joe Seemiller contributed the idea of putting air quality messaging at the fire station, which is where many people go to find out about burn bans and other air quality information already.

Josh Hink stated that he would be more than happy to distribute flyers in the upper county and while on inspections.

The group brainstormed where they could distribute flyers around the county:

- Real estate offices
- Wood permits
- Facebook
- Newspaper
- Hardware stores
- Appliance stores
- Post offices
- Libraries
Anne Johansen stated that she has students that could work on flyers and outreach materials for credit.

The committee reviewed what type of air quality messaging would be most important to folks based on the survey results. The group decided that it would be best to work on messaging around clean indoor burning, what is legal to burn and certified woodstoves.

To summarize, the goals the committee will work on are:

- Create a brochure targeting wood burners with messages and information about clean burning, equipment use and certified equipment, and what is legal to burn
- Publish regular air quality messages and information in local newspapers
- Coordinate air quality related displays in local libraries
- Work with CWU students to create air quality related flyers or posters for the general public
- Work with local fire stations to add visible signage about air quality and burn ban status
- Create and maintain the AQAC Facebook page

The next AQAC meeting will be Friday, December 14 at 10:00 in the Morris-Sorenson conference room.