

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes Approved on April 10, 2025

Agricultural Best Management Practices (AgBMP) Committee Meeting

Friday, February 7, 2025, 2:00 p.m.

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81295674655?pwd=ASqiYrioibimmU8yG9NvUgf9KderjW.1>

Meeting ID: 812 9567 4655 Passcode: 096696

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Ollerton, Grain Producer
Kimberly Butler, Maricopa, County Air Quality Department
Dr. Joseph Blankinship, Soil Taxonomist
James Boyle Jr., Dairy Operations
Paul Heiden, Beef Cattle Feedlot
Alfredo Sotomayor, Swine Facilities
Glenn Hickman, Poultry Facilities
William Heiden, Beef Cattle Feedlots
Daniel Czecholinski, AZ Department of Environmental Quality Director or Designee
Dr. Shane Burgess, Dean of the College of Agriculture at U of A or Designee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sheldon Jones, AZ Department of Agriculture
Jamilah McCoy, USDA NRCS Director or Designee
Harold Payne, Citrus Producer
Robert Boyle, Alfalfa Producer
Vacant, Cotton Producer
Vacant, Vegetable Producer

OTHER MEETING ATTENDEES:

Robert Phalen, Hickman's Family Farms
Ana Otto, Yuma County Farm Bureau
Harold Maxwell, Yuma County Farm Bureau
Hether Krause, AZ Department of Environmental Quality
Kelly MacKenzie, AZ Department of Environmental Quality
Steven Burr, AZ Department of Environmental Quality
Tara Ousley, AZ Department of Environmental Quality

CALL TO ORDER:

At 2:05 p.m., Chairman Ollerton called the meeting to order. Hether Krause called roll and a quorum was established.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

There was no disclosure of conflicts of interest.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES:

Chairman Ollerton asked for a motion to approve the July 28, 2021 meeting minutes and the September 27, 2023 meeting minutes.

James Boyle moved for the Committee to approve the July 28, 2021 meeting minutes, seconded by Glenn Hickman and the motion passed.

James Boyle moved for the Committee to approve the September 27, 2023 meeting minutes, seconded by Glenn Hickman and the motion passed.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION:

- A. Discussion on EPA’s Limited Approval/Limited Disapproval proposed action on the AgBMP rules

Chairman Ollerton said that he has drafted a letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) asking for a 60-day extension to their February 2025 deadline requesting comments on EPA’s limited approval/limited disapproval proposed action on the Agricultural Best Management Practices (AgBMP) rules. The draft letter would be submitted by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) on behalf of the AgBMP Committee. Kimberly Butler asked if this State Implementation Plan (SIP) was granted an automatic extension to March 31, 2025, because the decision was made late in President Biden’s administration. Chairman Ollerton said that this SIP was not granted the automatic extension to March 31, 2025; therefore, the Committee’s submittal of the extension letter is required. Chairman Ollerton said that the letter will be addressed to EPA Administrator Zeldin with a copy to Michael Mayfield, Christine Vineyard and Alina Batool in EPA.

- B. Discussion and possible approval to send letter requesting an extension to the EPA’s public comment period for the Limited Approval/Limited Disapproval proposed action on the AgBMP rules

Chairman Ollerton asked for a motion to approve mailing the letter to the EPA asking for a 60-day extension to their February 2025 deadline requesting comments on EPA’s limited approval/limited disapproval proposed action on the AgBMP rules. Glenn Hickman moved for the Committee to approve mailing the letter to the EPA asking for a 60-day extension to their February 2025 deadline requesting comments on EPA’s limited approval/limited disapproval proposed action on the AgBMP rules, seconded by Alfredo Sotomayor and the motion passed.

- C. Discussion and possible formation of an Ad Hoc Committee for preparing comments on the Limited Approval/Limited Disapproval

Chairman Ollerton asked for Committee members to volunteer to join the Ad Hoc Committee for preparing comments on the Limited Approval/Limited Disapproval.

Glenn Hickman said that he would like to appoint Robert Phalen to the Ad Hoc Committee. Chairman Ollerton said that Committee members can let him know at a later time if they would like to join the Ad Hoc Committee.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

No members of the public spoke.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Ollerton moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.