

51<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Camelback Road  
Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site  
Community Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting

Monday, February 7, 2022  
**Maryvale Community Center**  
4420 N. 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85031

## **DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

CAB Members Present: Patricia Burdette, William Owens, Cristal Rodriguez, David Scinta, Megan Sheldon, Helen Skibitzke, Debbie Veler

CAB Members Absent: Alfonso Aranda, Leopoldo Meraz Rodriguez

ADEQ Staff Present: Wendy Flood, Barbara Boschert, Gianna Trujillo

Members of the Public: Julie Riemenschneider, Silvana Burgos, Ricardo Flores, Katya Schwenk, Carole T., Stephen C. and Claudia A, Arizona Translators.

### **1. Call to Order/Introductions:**

ADEQ staff Wendy Flood called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m., confirmed CAB member quorum, and conducted introductions. The CAB agreed to re-arrange the agenda to discuss CAB business before ADEQ presentations.

### **2. ADEQ presentation on WQARF Process and CAB/Community Involvement**

Ms. Flood provided a presentation on what the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) and the Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) program. The presentation included information on groundwater and soil, and how contamination occurs, is found, spreads and is cleaned up. Community Advisory Board (CAB) purpose and responsibilities were also briefly reviewed. (See presentation attached).

### 3. ADEQ Presentation on 51st Avenue and Camelback Road WQARF Site History and Activities

Gianna Trujillo gave a presentation on the 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Camelback Road WQARF site. She revealed that a nearby underground storage tank project revealed groundwater contaminated with trichloroethene (TCE). The WQARF program then conducted a preliminary investigation from 2019-2021, and three contaminants of concern (COC) were discovered near 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Camelback Road, primarily in the groundwater. She stated that municipal water provided to area residents and businesses is not contaminated, but that any private water wells should be checked. Arizona Aquifer water quality standards (AWQS) for the COCs were outlined. During the preliminary investigation, current and historical businesses and land usage was researched. Passive soil vapor sampling was conducted in the area to look for the presence of TCE; TCE was not found in soil vapor. Next, ADEQ installed four groundwater monitoring wells, and sampled and tested the groundwater. Two wells north of Camelback showed the presence of TCE above the AWQS. One well south of Camelback Road showed the presence of TCE, tetrachloroethene (PCE) and 1,1-dichloroethene above the AWQS. Nearby Salt River Project (SRP) irrigation wells were sampled, and PCE was found in one well. Ms. Trujillo stated that it is unknown whether these releases were from one source, or several. Based on the results of the Preliminary Investigation, the site was added to the WQARF Registry in August 2021. Ms. Trujillo explained that ADEQ is now performing the Remedial Investigation (RI), which is a more thorough evaluation of the site. More monitoring wells will be installed and sampled. A Land and Water Use Study will be performed. During the RI, ADEQ will also begin to think about remedial objectives for the site.

Ms. Helen Skibitzke asked how long a cleanup takes at a WQARF site. Ms. Trujillo stated that many factors determine the length of time needed to do a cleanup, but that on average it is about 20-30 years.

A question was asked about the contaminated SRP well, and whether water from an irrigation well would contaminate the air. Ms. Trujillo stated that the well will continue to be sampled and monitored. She also stated that the COCs are volatile, and tend to evaporate when they come in contact with air, so air pollution is not a concern at the moment.

Mr. Scinta noted that the Longhaven Estates residential subdivision is nearby, with over 300 residents. He asked where their water is drawn from, and when they will be notified if there are contaminants in their water. Ms. Trujillo replied that her investigation revealed that there are no private water wells there and that those residents are drawing their drinking water from the City of Phoenix or the City of Glendale, which is treated and tested, and contain no contaminants.

Ms. Rodriguez asked what is done with the contaminated soil during cleanup. Ms. Trujillo explained that all waste is analyzed, and disposed of at a hazardous waste facility if necessary.

(See attached presentation).

#### **4. New CAB Member Training and Notebook Review**

Ms. Flood gave each CAB member a three-ring notebook with all printed materials related to the CAB. She also reviewed Arizona Open Meeting Law. Ms. Flood stated that Arizona law requires that CAB hold a first meeting within 90 days of the CAB selection committee choosing board members. She advised the CAB that any meeting (in person, virtually, or via text, email, or phone) of a majority of the CAB members is considered a board meeting, and must have an agenda and public notice of the meeting. Any meeting of the majority of CAB members without an agenda or notice to the public goes against Open Meeting Law.

#### **5. CAB Charter Drafting, Discussion and Vote**

Ms. Flood and Ms. Boschert reviewed the draft CAB charter with the board members. Ms. Sheldon pointed out that Pima County referenced in the section IV(J) of the charter should be changed to Maricopa. Ms. Sheldon asked whether “attendance” meant that someone had to appear in person, and not virtually. Ms. Boschert clarified that attendance does mean live or virtual attendance. Ms. Flood and Ms. Boschert stated that section IV(D) of the charter should be changed to reflect no specific number of meetings that CAB is required to hold each year. The CAB also discussed changing the maximum number of allowable CAB members in section IV(A).

Mr. Owens made a nomination to make the following changes to the draft CAB charter: 1) Change Pima County to Maricopa County in section IV(J); 2) Remove language in section IV(D) that specifies how many meetings must be held every year; and 3) Revising section IV(A) to show a minimum of five and a maximum of 11 CAB members. Ms. Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed by the CAB.

#### **6. CAB Co-Chair Nomination and Vote**

Ms. Flood explained the duties of CAB co-chairs, and stated that the CAB should have two co-chairs. She asked for nominations for the positions. Ms. Skibitzke and Mr. Owens volunteered to be a CAB co-chairs. Mr. Owens. Ms. Veler made a motion to nominate Ms. Skibitzke and Mr. Owens as CAB co-chairs, which was seconded by Ms. Skibitzke. The CAB voted unanimously to approved the motion.

#### **7. Community Involvement Activities**

- Information Repository – Ms. Flood explained that the repository for site documents is both online at the ADEQ website, and at the ADEQ offices (1110 W Washington St., Phoenix). The CAB can designate a third repository location in the future if they choose to.
- CAB Meeting Location – Ms. Flood advised the CAB that ADEQ typically uses the current meeting location for CAB meetings in this part of Phoenix, but that the CAB could choose other venues in the future.
- Community Involvement Plan – Ms. Flood asked the CAB to review the draft Community Involvement Plan and make suggestions for any changes or additions in the future.

## **8. Call to the Public**

No members of the public in attendance had any comments or questions.

## **9. Future Meeting/Agenda Discussion**

Ms. Flood advised that CAB that June 2022 was likely the next appropriate time for a CAB meeting to be held. Ms. Flood suggested that WQARF process be reviewed at the next meeting, as well as any technical information available. Mr. Owens asked how far prior to a meeting an agenda must be prepared; Ms. Boschert and Ms. Flood suggested two weeks, and Ms. Boschert clarified that the agenda cannot be modified within 24 hours of a CAB meeting. Ms. Sheldon suggested that an agenda item for the next meeting should be added for new CAB membership application(s) review and possible vote.

## **10. Adjournment**

Ms. Skibitzke motioned that meeting be adjourned, and it was seconded by Mr. Scinta. By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm.