

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT
Wednesday, June 23, 2010 9:15 AM – 9:45 AM
Council Chambers, 140 West Pine Street, Missoula, Montana

Members Present: Dave Strohmaier, Pam Walzer, Roy Houseman, Ed Childers.

Members Not Present: Bob Jaffe, Jon Wilkins, Lyn Hellegaard, Dick Haines, Renee Mitchell

Others Present: Jason Wiener, Bob Giordano, Ben Schmidt, Ann Cundy

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. Approve Minutes from [June 23, 2010](#) . Minutes held until the next committee meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Update on EPA grant to install 34 auxiliary power units in Montana Rail Link train engines ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Dave Strohmaier) (Referred to committee: 06/28/10) **(REMOVE FROM AGENDA)**

Dave Strohmaier described the EPA grant.

Ann Cundy described the grant opportunity afforded by the National Clean Diesel program. She outlined the implementation of the grant, and the installation of the auxiliary power units in Montana Rail Link train engines. She described the quarterly progress reports

Dave Strohmaier asked when the first quarterly report would be delivered.

Ann Cundy estimated that the first report would be issued in September.

Jason Wiener asked if the auxiliary power units would also be installed on BNSF engines.

Ann Cundy indicated that the BNSF engines do not spend very much time idling in the rail yard. She deferred the question to Claude Van Winkle from MRL who was not able to attend the committee meeting.

Roy Houseman concurred that the BNSF engines did not spend the same amount of time as MRL engines idling in the rail yard.

Ben Schmidt described the emission reduction estimates.

Pam Walzer asked how long the quarterly reports would be made available. She also inquired about the lifespan of the auxiliary power units.

Ann Cundy responded that the quarterly reports are only required for the timeframe encompassing the grant implementation. She feels that additional data can be provided beyond the requirements of the grant. She did not know about the lifespan of the auxiliary power units.

Pam indicated her desire to continue tracking the results of the grant.

Ann Cundy outlined the savings for MRL.

Ben Schmidt stressed the financial savings for MRL, and the health benefit for the most affected residents.

Ed Childers inquired as to why the engines are idling in the rail yard for extended periods of time.

Ann Cundy replied that the shutdown and restart process for the engines is quite expensive. It is cheaper to keep them running.

Dave Strohmaier indicated a desire to meet with MRL representatives when the first quarterly report is issued.

Pam Walzer feels the committee would benefit from meeting with MRL officials by learning more about MRL's operations.

Dave Strohmaier described prior meetings with MRL. He questioned using public funds to subsidize this upgrade when Federal legislation would have required MRL to perform these upgrades anyway.

Ann Cundy responded that older engines would be 'grandfathered in' under the Federal legislation, so this grant would be used for the older engines.

Roy Houseman would also like to see some kind of noise reduction in the rail yard.

Pam Walzer described the large volume of black smoke that is sometimes emitted by the engines. It looks like a structure fire. She asked if the auxiliary power units would address this.

Ben Schmidt responded that Clause Van Winkle would be better equipped to answer that question.

Jason Wiener appreciates the work that went into this grant.

Bob Giordano expressed concern about the length of time that the implementation of the auxiliary power units will take.

Ann Cundy indicated that the auxiliary power units will be implemented over the course of a year, and that the improvements will be incremental.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

V. HELD AND ON-GOING AGENDA ITEMS

1. Police Department Update – Ongoing in Committee. (Mark Muir)
2. Fire Department Update – Ongoing in Committee (Mike Painter)
3. Health Department Update – Ongoing in Committee. (Ellen Leahy)
4. An [ordinance](#) amending Missoula Municipal Code Chapter 6.09 entitled "Missoula Cat Ordinance" section 6.09.010 through 6.09.090 to amend definitions, to limit the number of cats over the age of four months that a person, family, or household can harbor, keep, or maintain to five and to enact other general amendments. [\(PS&H\)](#) (Returned from Council floor: 01/12/09)
5. An [ordinance](#) amending Missoula Municipal Code Title 6 entitled "Animals" generally amending Chapter 6.04 entitled "Animals Running at Large" and Chapter 6.08 entitled "Dogs and Pet Shops," increasing the fee when an animal is impounded and establishing a fee for a boarding kennel license. [\(PS&H\)](#) (Returned from Council floor: 01/12/09)

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM. Submitted by Gregg Schonbachler.