

Minutes of the October 11, 2005
Environmental Task Force Meeting

Attendees: Sarah Hartpence, Richard McMullen, Mike Weldon, Darlene Munger, Jan Thompson, Mike Nowels, Amanda Gross

The meeting began with an introduction of the ACME Brick Plant Manager, Harland Dixon, from Mike Weldon. Mr. Dixon then gave an explanation of the company and plant and prefaced the tour.

The group took a tour of the plant with Mr. Dixon leading the way. The final part of the tour included the new Environmental Control Mechanisms (scrubbers) that have been installed with an explanation of how the “scrubbers” actually work to capture and neutralize the gases released into the kiln.

After the tour the group returned to a conference room inside the facility to conduct the regular business meeting.

The July 12th minutes were approved. Motion by Mike Weldon, seconded by Sarah Hartpence.

Mike Weldon then updated the group on information he had gathered regarding the City of Denton’s efforts to begin a regular site to drop off household hazardous materials. This issue had been discussed at the July 12th meeting when Safety Kleen presented. Mike Weldon asked that the Commissioners Court call upon the Environmental Task Force to gather data regarding cooperation between the county and city in this effort when the city comes to the county requesting a partnership in the program to allow those individuals who do not live in the City of Denton to drop off their household chemicals for proper disposal. Amanda said she would keep the members updated regarding cooperation between the City and County on this issue.

Mike Weldon also provided an interesting article from the newspaper that discussed the emissions standards and the effect of noncompliance on the air quality for the region. Mike Nowels also helped explain the “AirCheck Texas” program and the effects of those efforts to reduce pollutants in the air. There was discussion regarding how a small percentage of offending cars could have such a large effect on the air quality for the area. Mike Nowels reinforced the need to continue to strengthen programs that are working like “AirCheck Texas”.

Rich requested that the minutes reflect the appreciation of the group to ACME Brick for their tour and the accommodations they provided for our meeting. Harland Dixon did a great job answering questions and helping everyone to understand not only the process of make a brick but the environmental controls as well. We appreciate him taking time out of his evening to meet with us.

Amanda said she would send out copies of the pictures taken on the tour along with a schedule for the 2006 meetings.

Motion to adjourn by Darlene Munger, seconded by Jan Thompson.

Next meeting is January 10, 2006.