

The logo for Henderson County, NC, is circular with a light blue background. It features a central emblem with a tree and a building. The text "HENDERSON COUNTY, NC" is written in a semi-circle at the top, and "FOUNDED 1838" is written at the bottom.

# HENDERSON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

## Environmental Advisory Committee

Thursday, July 1 2010

The Environmental Advisory Committee met on Thursday, July 1, 2010 at 3:30 pm at the King Street Meeting Room at 100 N. King St.

Committee members present: Mr. Ron Ehlinger, Dr. Richard DeSimone, Mr. Richard Freudenberger, Mr. Jeff Jennings, Dr. Robert Sweeney, Mr. Jim Fickes and Mrs. Charlotte Wolf and special representative, Commissioner Chuck McGrady

Staff present: Ms. Alexis Baker, Ms. Megan Piner

Guest: Larry Rogers

### **CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

Committee chairman Mr. Ron Ehlinger called meeting to order at 3:36 PM.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*The motion was made to approve the June minutes, Passed.*

### **DISCUSSION**

Introduction of new members.

#### **Water Quality**

Water Quality update given by Commissioner Chuck McGrady: there will be a vote soon in the NC State Legislature to strengthen the classifications for streams. Representative John Snow has proposed SB 1259 to bring the classifications back to the older, less strict requirements for stream classification. In the past DENR Division of Environmental Management Commission studied the streams and decided to upgrade the stream requirement to make buffers wider etc. These rules allowed for grandfathering in streams. This legislation would revert the stream classifications back to the old requirements.

Mills River's pesticide problem and The City of Hendersonville drinking water quality was also discussed. Commissioner McGrady informed the members of the Committee that Henderson

County has no jurisdiction with The City of Hendersonville's water supply. The Soil and Water department is trying to work with agricultural businesses to remedy the problem through education. It was decided that he would send a letter to the Mayor of Hendersonville voicing the Committee's concerns about the drinking water quality asking the Mayor to contact Ron Ehlinger about questions.

### Land Quality

Questions about the Seven Falls Development were brought up to Commissioner McGrady. He stated that the County Attorney Russell Burrell would know more about when the bonds that the developers obtained would be released to the County since the development is not longer in Bankruptcy. The primary concern once the bonds were released would be to build primary roads. Mr. Ehlinger will invite Mr. Russell Burrell to the next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee to discuss the Seven Falls Development.

### Air Quality

Commissioner McGrady informed the Committee about the new Federal Ozone Standards that will be released on August 1, 2010. The NC Mountains are already not in compliance, and the new report will likely move the mountains further from compliance. Once the reports are released the EAC can make review and make recommendations to the Henderson County Commissioners.

Motion to not hold August 2010 Meeting, Passed.

Motion for the Chairman of the group to remain Mr. Ron Ehlinger, Passed.

Motion for the Vice-Chair to remain Dr. Richard DeSimone, Passed.

The next meeting will be September 2, 2010 at 3:30 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:30 PM

Minutes submitted by Ms. Megan Piner, MPA

mpiner@hendersoncountync.org