The Lake County Board of Commissioners met in Special Session on Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. The following members were present: Board Chair Dan Shoun and Commissioner Ken Kestner. Vice-Chair Bradley J. Winters was absent from today’s session. Also present: Administrative Assistant Denise Thorsted, Rural Economic Development Specialist Fred Smith and Lake County Examiner Member of the Press Ryan Bonham. Number of Public present: 3.

Additions: None
Deletions: None

The Work Session was called to order by Chairman Shoun and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

10:00 am – Air Quality Update and County Ordinance Reviews

Present for today’s discussion were: representatives from the Department of Environmental Quality Larry Calkins and Rachel Sakata. Mr. Calkins provided a brief overview of the issue facing the Lakeview area (including the Urban Growth Boundary) in relation to EPA air quality regulations.

Mrs. Sakata confirmed that there were PM Advance Plan recommendations that had been developed through the PM Advance Committee. Over recent months, Town Hall meetings had been held to provide outreach to the community and to address public concerns/questions. The recommendations discussed were expected to be presented to the Board in June for consideration. Mrs. Sakata confirmed that the DEQ would need for both the Town of Lakeview and the County to approve the PM Advance Plan and to begin discussion on updating of current Ordinances during the upcoming months to show the EPA efforts were being made in regard to correcting this issue.

Over the summer, DEQ would be looking for both the Town of Lakeview and County to approve updated Ordinance (by end of summer) in order to have requirements in place for next winter’s wood stove burning season to curtail the smoke issue. Focus of the PM Advance Committee had been to “categorize and prioritize pollution prevention solutions within the Urban Growth Boundary” in order to reduce emissions down by fifteen micrograms.

Conversation followed on the potential EPA non-attainment designation issue facing the area and the possible impacts from imposed restriction to local industries. Potential socio-economic impacts for the community were also discussed.
Mr. Calkins provided information on strategies that had been determined through the committee/public meeting processes including: existing strategies, future strategies and longer term strategies.

Appreciation was expressed for the cooperation of the US Forest Service to comply with designated burn days. Conversation followed on “industrial” cooperation that had been expressed and the possible updating of existing Ordinances.

Kelly Potter with DEQ joined today’s session via telephone to provide information on the Regional Solutions tie-in on this process. Confirmation was given that Lake County had been awarded $750,000 for their wood stove change out program (expected March 2015). In the meantime, continued community education of red/green burn days and for the change out program was recommended to continue.

In closing, the next steps were for the finalization of the PM Advance Plan with recommendation to come to the Board in June. Following Plan approval, updating and approval of current County Ordinances was hoped to occur over the summer. This would allow for the EPA to receive the completed Plan and updated Ordinances by September.

There being nothing further to come before the Lake County Board of Commissioners, this meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Thorsted
Administrative Assistant

Board Approval,

Dan Shoun
Chairman

Bradley J. Winters
Vice Chairman

Ken Kestner
Commissioner

Absent