

**OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSISTANCE AND  
PROTECTION**

**MINOR BARNETTE  
DIRECTOR**



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSISTANCE AND  
PROTECTION ADVISORY  
BOARD**

**PETER H. DeVRIES  
CHAIRMAN  
TOMMY THOMPSON  
VICE CHAIRMAN**

**NATHAN ATKINSON  
JARRETTE DINEEN  
RICHARD L. SIEG  
MARY BETH WILLIAMS  
CHARLES E. WILSON**

**FORSYTH COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE and PROTECTION  
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

The Forsyth County Environmental Assistance and Protection Advisory Board met on January 19, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Equalization and Review Room, Forsyth County Government Center, 201 North Chestnut Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Peter DeVries, Chairman  
Tommy Thompson, Vice Chairman  
Nathan Atkinson      Richard Sieg  
Beth Williams      Charles Wilson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jarrette Dineen

**FCOEAP PRESENT:** Minor Barnette      Jason Bodenhamer      Michael Settle  
Bob Ragland      Valerie Shores

**I. Call to Order:**

Mr. DeVries called the meeting to order.

## **II. Approval of the October 20, 2015 Advisory Board Meeting Minutes:**

Mr. DeVries opened the discussion to approve the October 20, 2015 meeting minutes. Mr. Thompson made a motion to accept. Mr. Sieg seconded the motion, all members of the Advisory Board in attendance approved.

## **III. Director's Update:**

Mr. Barnette discussed National Radon Action Month. The Forsyth County Office of Environmental Assistance and Protection partnered with the State of North Carolina Radon Program, Forsyth County Department of Public Health and the Forsyth County Cooperative Agriculture Extension Offices to distribute free short-term radon kits during the month of January. The EPA gave the state radon program 15,000 free kits for distribution to people who were testing residential structures for radon for the first time. The counties received 9000 kits. Forsyth County received 50 kits. All free test kits were given away to the public. He explained the radon kit activation and testing process.

Mr. Barnette said that out of 12,184 tests, 39.4 % of the test results have been at or above the radon action level. This indicated that remediation may be needed to prevent the accumulation of radon within these homes. Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas. It is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of lung cancer. Advertisement for this program will continue to help raise awareness in our community.

There was a brief discussion regarding the data collected about radon, regional differences in geographical distribution and radon mitigation.

Mr. DeVries and Mr. Barnette discussed mapping of geographic overlays of the data received from the tests, depth of soil to bedrock and the significance of radon data. Mr. Wilson asked about the procedures for homeowners who set up residential radon tests.

Mr. Barnette gave a brief update about the inspection, general processes and pollutants emitted from some local permitted facilities. He also highlighted some Winston-Salem economic development projects. Mr. Barnette displayed slides of various sources of complaints and violations in Forsyth County. He showed solid waste dump sites and locations for some sources of air quality complaints.

Mr. Barnette informed the Advisory Board that he asked permission from the Forsyth County Board of County Commissioners to apply for 2 grants to improve recycling efforts in the county and within the government center.

The Community Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant will help fund the cost to place recycling containers in parking decks, areas within the government center and possibly other county buildings.

The Convenience Center Comingled Recycling Collection Grant will help the county save \$25,000 the first year hydraulic compactors are installed. Mr. Barnette said he anticipated other cost savings for the county.

Mr. Barnette discussed recent changes in the franchised garbage collection territories in Forsyth County. Mr. Wilson asked Mr. Barnette about the possibilities of mandatory universal service for all households in unincorporated areas of Forsyth County.

**IV. Other Business:**

Mr. DeVries confirmed there was no other business.

**V. Next tentative meeting:**

---

Date: April 19, 2016  
Location: 201 N. Chestnut St. Winston-Salem, NC  
Board of Equalization and Review Room

**VI. Peter DeVries adjourned the meeting.**

Dated: 4/8/16 *arnsbarnette* Minor Barnette, Director

Approved: *Peter H. DeVries* Peter H. DeVries, Chairman