

# MEETING NOTES

## EAST TENNESSEE CLEAN FUELS COALITION 9th Stakeholders Meeting ~ January 9, 2003

Where: The Copper Cellar's Banquet Room, Cumberland Avenue, Knoxville

When: 11am to 1pm

### Attending (total of 26 people)

Bardsfield, John Mark – Hydrocore

Brackins, Buster – Sevier County Utility District

Colby, Bob – Advanced Transportation Technology Institute (ATTI)

Davis, Wayne – UTK Civil & Environmental Eng. Dept.

Detring, Reed – Big South Fork National Park

Detring, Margery – Accompanying Reed

Fortner, Bryon – City of Sevierville

Greenberg, Barry – Knoxville Area Transit (KAT)

Headrick, Brian – Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB)

Hickman, Jerry – City of Sevierville

Lipe, Dan – American Institute of Graphic Arts, East TN Chapter

Lowe, Dejim – TVA

Marine, Scott – City of Pigeon Forge (Fun Time Trolley)

Mauldin, Glenn – CGM Consulting

McCarter, Jeff – Sevier County Utility District

Overly, Jonathan – Coordinator, ETCFC

Parton, Buddy – City of Gatlinburg

Penland, Mark – TN Dept. of Environment & Conservation (TDEC), Knoxville Representative

Reed, Greg – UTK Civil & Environmental Eng. Dept.

Shannon, Thomas – UTK Mechanical, Aerospace and Biomedical Eng. Dept.

Schotters, Mark – Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Smithyman, Linda – Sierra Club, Harvey Broome Group

Thomas, Susan – ATTI

Underwood, Randy – Sevier County Utility District

York, Carla – Ebus

Ziegler, Dick – Oak Ridge National Laboratory/National Transportation Research Center (ORNL/NTRC)

### Other participant information:

Thus far, a total of 72 people have participated in the 9 meetings, representing 43 different companies and organizations.

### Meeting Content

1. Called meeting to order ~11:20am; let food servers take orders before we started.
2. Briefly described outline for the day and discussed the documents that were provided to the group (see the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting Agenda on the Web site - [www.etcfc.org](http://www.etcfc.org) under “Documents,” which includes a list of what information was handed out).
3. Everyone introduced themselves to the group.
4. Reminded everyone of the coalition's official **mission statement**, and the **near-term goals** that exist for the team. Pointed out the word “simultaneously” in the mission statement.
5. Noted the coalition's first rolling billboard should be operational soon: a white Honda Civic GX, which runs on CNG. [Operational as of 1-10-03, with 5 magnets placed on the AFV denoting main coalition information: logo, contact information, alt fuels focused effort, and Founding Partners names.]
6. Discussed fiscal status of the coalition. Got into a brief discussion on the **early action compact**, with Wayne Davis noting some of the time frame of the compact, including that Knox County has less than 6 months to come up with its master plan of all the things it can do to work toward emissions reductions.

7. Jonathan talked briefly about the updated plan for completing the Program Plan. See the Agenda for more information.
8. Jonathan then spoke of recent activities and tasks to tackle in the next month:
  - ▶ The group reviewed **two video PSAs** (public service announcements; 1 60-second one and 1 30-second one) that Jonathan obtained from national Clean Cities. The video is editable, and national Clean Cities has already OK'ed us providing local information at the end of the video. Those in attendance agreed that this looks like a financially attractive way to get an ETCFC PSA up and running ASAP. Jonathan will work in the next month to get the PSA edited and ready to take to TV stations across East TN.
  - ▶ Jonathan noted that the **\$20,000 from ATTI** will most likely come in quarterly installments of \$5,000 each. He will attend a presentation of the funds at the Choo-Choo in Chattanooga on 1/16/03.
  - ▶ The **Earth Day event** was discussed briefly. It looks like TVA and the ETCFC will work together to operate 4-5 AFVs or hybrids that day, either for a "ride-n-drive" or simply to show off the vehicles.
9. In allowing several stakeholders a few minutes to update the rest of the coalition on their AFV activities, **Barry Greenberg of KAT** noted several items:
  - ▶ KAT will become a Gold Partner (\$1,000 level);
  - ▶ the University of Tennessee fleet of 4 dedicated-propane vans (that KAT is overseeing and operating) should be in operation as this coming Sunday night(!);
  - ▶ KAT should be releasing soon an RFP/RFQ for placing a couple of dedicated-propane hybrid-electric trolleys in operation in downtown Knoxville; and
  - ▶ Certainly last but not least, that it's quite possible that KAT may operate some propane buses on other Knoxville routes before the end of 2003!
10. Before splitting into Working Committees (WCs), Jonathan noted that the next meeting will be held on February 13<sup>th</sup>, most likely at the Copper Cellar. [Additional note – plans are underway to **hold the 2-13-03 meeting at the NTRC building** off of Pellissippi Parkway between Knoxville and Oak Ridge. As soon as those plans are solidified, Jonathan will notify the coalition.]

Meeting Notes taken and submitted by Jonathan Overly.

#### Working Committee Notes

##### **AFVs & Infrastructure WC Notes**

(received 1/23/03)

Attendees:

Barry Greenberg – KAT (Co-chair)

John Mark Bardsfield – Hydrocore

Buster Brackins – Sevier County Utility District

Bob Colby – ATTI

Reed Detring – Big South Fork National Park

Brian Headrick – KUB

DeJim Lowe – TVA

Glenn Mauldin – CGM Consulting

Buddy Parton – City of Gatlinburg

Greg Reed – UTK Dept of Civil & Env. Eng.

Mark Schotters – Great Smoky Mountain National Park

Carla York – Ebus

Dick Ziegler – ORNL

AFV & Infrastructure

Group Meeting

January Meeting

Project updates from members of the group:

- TVA - One-year project at Cade's Cove still underway collecting informational surveys on various electric vehicles. Report and survey results will be made available after the project is complete.
- KUB- Data being collected now on the entire fleet and will be shared with the group as soon as complete.

Discussion between KAT and KUB about CNG fueling sites and fuel availability;

- CNG Fill Station costs and associated cost is much higher for CNG than for other alternative fuels.
- CNG now available at KUB for fleet could possibly be made available to other fleets in Knoxville for use through a card system.

E85 is not at current a fuel that we will actively pursue, however, ORNL is working with Pilot to have E85 offered at their stations. There are a good number of flex fuel vehicles on the road and if we can find a way to show Pilot that it would be financially viable, they would install the fuel.

The group agreed to wait about promoting this until we get more promising emissions information about Ethanol.

Discussion about ways to “spread the message” and get info on fleets that we might never know about:

- Possibility of having some message printed on statements sent out by KUB to their customers about the fleets (they have the ability to sort and put a specific message on just commercial or residential customer statements).
- KUB might also be able to put signs on top of their fleet vehicles
- Before next meeting, agenda to be sent to group for review with plans to obtain current fleet data in conjunction with Jonathan and another group working in collecting this data.
- Several group members are going to check their individual counties about survey information.

Meeting Notes taken by Carla York.

### **Education & Marketing WC Notes**

(received 1/10/03)

Attendees:

Tom Shannon – UTK Mechanical, Aerospace and Biomedical Eng. Dept. (Co-chair)

Susan Thomas – ETVI (Co-chair)

Margie Detring – with Reed Detring, Big South Fork National Park

Brian Hamblen – Hydrocore

Dan Lipe – American Institute of Graphic Arts

Scott Marine – City of Pigeon Forge

Jonathan Overly – ETCFC

Mark Penland – TDEC

Linda Smithyman – Sierra Club, Harvey Broome Group

Randy Underwood – Sevier County Utility District

- ▶ The new brochure will undergo slight revisions and may be ready by the end of February. It will be one page with a tri-fold. Similar information should be on the website. Let's find locations where to place the brochures. In the middle portion put 'why join' on top and 'membership levels' on the bottom. Also, terminology for lay people - i.e. nonattainment; make it more reader friendly.
- ▶ Billboard mock ups - Overly has ideas, need to get input and make final decision.
- ▶ Brochure still: Activities - change to Special Events or Annual Events and include Earth Day, Clean Air Week, Fleet Mgr conference? Perhaps add our regular meeting date if it is a final decision. Maybe have a sticker to add updated information as needed.
- ▶ Billboard - add website address to info, maybe switch some info or cut some of it out.
- ▶ PSAs - Overly to get changes made such as adding our local contact information on the 60 sec and 30 sec PSAs. What about digital PSAs?
- ▶ **Radio PSAs - please look them over and send comments to Overly.**
- ▶ Earth Day, Sat. April 26 in Concord Park, rain date May 3. Have several vehicles there including SUV built by UT students, hybrid, KUB vehicle, other? Need a bigger banner or display board.
- ▶ Knox County School buses - we need more time for this event and to discuss how it will be different from Earth Day, maybe in June.
- ▶ East TN Regional Environmental Conference in Greeneville on March 5 & 6. Gov. Bredesen might be a keynote speaker. Have the display and person there.

- ▶ Display should catch the eye of fleet managers and educate the general public. Mostly photos/graphics with handouts including relevant information. Include photo of light duty vehicle from Gatlinburg. Include the kind of emission reduction information that can be achieved in the handouts and the visual items.
- ▶ Dan Lipe - Graphic Artist, President of local graphic artist organization - wants to participate in educating the public about the pollution problem in the Smokies.
- ▶ Special Events in Pigeon Forge - Scott Marine to get a contact persons name.
- ▶ Approximate time 12:20 - 1:05 pm

Meeting Notes taken by Linda Smithyman.

### **Legislative WC Notes**

(received 1/9/03)

Attendees:

Wayne Davis - UTK Civil & Environmental Eng. Dept.

Bryon Fortner - City of Sevierville

Jerry Hickman - City of Sevierville

Jeff McCarter – Sevier County Utility District

- ▶ Are there universal symbols for alt fuels to use on logo signs for the interstate? Long-term issue; something we need to be looking at in the future
- ▶ License plates
- ▶ Sales tax discounts for purchasing
- ▶ What can we do for utilities and local governments?
- ▶ Continue to monitor the early action compact incentives to encourage the use of alt fuel vehicles; how all of these items will mesh with the compact.
- ▶ Still waiting on Bredesen's full cabinet to be named.

Meeting Notes taken by Bryon Fortner.