

Meeting No. 5 of the Fund Committee

April 27, 2022

10:00 AM MOUNTAIN TIME

Meeting Minutes

➤ Introductions and Opening Remarks

Dr. Rincon, EPA Border Office Director, welcomes everyone to the meeting.

The co-chairs introduce themselves and provide opening remarks.

- **Mariama Mitchell**, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), US Co-Chair
- **Ing. Oscar Alfredo Fentanes Arriaga**, Sub-Director at the National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC, by its abbreviation in Spanish), Mexico Co-Chair

Ms. Mitchell begins the process to verify quorum by doing a roll call. Quorum is met if majority of the Fund members of each country are present.

Ms. Mitchell roll calls fund committee member from the US side:

- | | |
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| 1. Present: EPA – Mariama Mitchell | 3. Present: NMED – Armando Paz |
| 2. Present: TCEQ – Cory Chism | 4. Not Present: City of El Paso |

Ing. Fentanes Arriaga roll calls fund committee members from the Mexican side:

- | | |
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| 5. Present: INECC – Ing. Oscar Fentanes Arriaga | 7. Present: Ecology dept. of Ciudad Juarez:
Ricardo Aragon |
| 6. Present: SEDUE – Director Melisa Zambrano | |

Administrative Unit members present: Sergio Vasquez (TCEQ), Cesar Fierro (SEDUE), Ricardo Aragón (Ecología)

Other attendees: Carlos Rincon (EPA), Eddie Moderow (TCEQ), Stephanie Ma (TCEQ), Gerardo Tarin (SEMARNAT), Jose Palacios (TCEQ), Fernando Ortiz (NADB), Gina Posada (TCEQ), Patricia de la Cruz (TCEQ), Ing. Francisco Gomez (SEDUE)

➤ Item 1 Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Ms. Mitchell introduced Item 1 for the Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.

Cory Chism (TCEQ) makes a motion.

Armando Paz (NMED) and Ing. Oscar Fentanes (INECC) seconds the motion.

Ms. Mitchell asks member to indicate their vote through the chat.

EPA – **Yay**

TCEQ – **Yay** (on Chat)

NMED – **Yay** (on Chat)

El Paso – **Not Present**

INECC – **Yay** (on chat)

SEDUE – **Yay** (on Chat)

Ecología Ciudad Juárez – **Yay** (on chat)

Motion passes.

➤ **Item 2** **Report on site visits in Ciudad Juarez**

Ing. Fentanes Arriaga introduces Item 2 and gives the word to Cesar Fierro and Ricardo Aragon for them to present the visit to four proposed sites in Ciudad Juarez.

Cesar Fierro goes over the report done by administrative unit. On March 23, the administrative unit and some members of the fund committee visited four sites in Ciudad Juarez. Cesar discussed the pros and cons of each site and provided the recommendation of the administrative unit. The four sites that were visited were JMAS ANAPRA, Fire Station – ANAPRA (Bomberos Anapra), Nutrition Clinic (Clinica de Nutricion) and UACJ Community Center (Centro Comunitario). The administrative unit recommends for the Nutrition Clinic to be considered by the fund committee as the new site.

Ing. Fentanes Arriaga (INECC) provides additional information on the visit done to the sites. Ing. Fentanes discussed the location of the sites and supports the recommendation of the administrative unit to choose the new station to be located in the Nutrition Clinic.

Ricardo Aragon provided additional remarks about pros and cons about sites visited to the proposed sites and also provided the recommendation for UACJ Community Center to be the site for the new station.

Ing. Francisco Gomez introduced the new director of SEDUE, Director Melisa Zambrano and Secretary Gabriel Valdez of the Secretariat of Urban Development and Ecology of the State of Chihuahua.

Secretary Valdez gave welcoming remarks.

Fernando Ortiz gave some recommendations on areas of Ciudad Juarez that may benefit more from a monitoring station. The areas he showed interest in were on the east side of the airport where there are no current monitoring stations.

Ing. Oscar Fentanes indicated the importance of security in the site of the new stations. He indicated that there is no station in the south east side of the city will be a good part of the city for a new station, but there was no site that was shown to us there. We observed the south east side of the city as contaminant transport zone and not as a receptor and in the future, we can decide in a study if there is a need for a station that will complement the gathering of air data in the city. In the near future we can measure this area and learn if coverage is required in this part of the city.

Armando Paz (NMED) made a comment about the Anapra community and recommended that the fund reconsiders choosing a site in Anapra. He indicated the wind season come from the south east and there is a lot of PM 10 that comes from that direction and will provide coverage to that part of that city. Security is a concern and perhaps we could find another site in the area of the city.

Ing. Francisco Gomez made a comment about the location of the visited sites and if there was a plan to look for something in the south east side of the city. Ing. Gomez indicated he agreed with Fernando Ortiz and that part of the city is not being covered and has a lot of population. There are several public and private locations that can be used to put a station there.

Ing. Francisco Gomez made a proposal for a broader study in Anapra and also look for a site in the south east side of the city as Fernando mentioned and increase the proposed site. He indicated SEDUE is willing to do site visits and give the fund committee additional information for an informed decision.

Ing. Oscar Fentanes indicated he agrees and a broader study can be done to find a site in the areas of the city that were mentioned and compare them to the current sites we have.

Mariama Mitchell indicated this will be tabled for the next meeting.

Cory Chism (TCEQ) makes a motion for additional information on area population, local sources of air pollution and wind patterns.

Jose Luis made an observation indicating how some of the proposed sites have certain equipment in place that won't be needed. This will allow us to save money and purchase PM equipment. The fund must also decide ownership of the equipment.

Cory Chism (TCEQ) made a motion to begin purchasing the equipment for this new station and continue to conduct analysis on the appropriate location.

Director Melisa Zambrano (SEDUE) Seconds the motion.

EPA – **Yay**

TCEQ – **Yay** (on Chat)

NMED – **Yay**

El Paso – **Not Present**

INECC – **Yay** (on chat)

SEDUE – **Yay** (on Chat)

Ecología Ciudad Juárez – **Yay** (on chat)

Motion passes.

➤ **Item 3** **Annual Report of Activities of the Administrative Fund in 2021**

Ms. Patterson introduces Item 3 and gives the word to Sergio Vasquez

Sergio Vasquez goes over the Annual Report of Activities and the changes done to the annual report as requested by the North American Development Bank during the 4th meeting.

Oscar Fentanes (INECC) makes a motion to approve the **Annual Report of Activities of the Administrative Fund in 2021.**

Cory Chism (TCEQ) seconds motion.

EPA – **YAY**

TCEQ – **Yay** (on Chat)

NMED – **Yay** (on Chat)

El Paso – **Not Present.**

INECC – **Yay** (on chat)

SEDUE – **Yay** (on Chat)

Ecología Ciudad Juárez–**Yay** (on chat)

Motion passes.

➤ **Item 4** **Operation and Maintenance Contract (O&M) (UPDATE)**

Ing. Fentanes Arriaga introduces item 4 which includes the follow up of the data loggers, the CFE air monitoring stations request for access and the next Operation and Maintenance contract.

Sergio supplied an update from the pending items that were discussed by Ing. Fentanes. For the CFE air monitoring stations, Mariama and Oscar are working on signing a letter requesting the private entity to grant access to their stations to harvest data. Sergio also supplied an update on Operation and Maintenance Contract and recommends the administrative unit to begin the procurement process. Sergio also discussed the quotes received for the data loggers and an estimated cost to switch the current equipment in the stations. The estimated price to switch out the data loggers and in all three stations varies between 38k - 51k USD depending on the equipment brand. The information supplied is for information purposes for future planning on improvements to the stations.

Cory Chism (TCEQ) made a motion for the next O&M contract to be solicited.

Director Melisa Zambrano (SEDUE) seconds the motion

EPA – **YAY** (on Chat)
TCEQ – **Yay** (on Chat)
NMED – **Yay** (on Chat)
El Paso – **Not Present**

INECC – **Yay** (on chat)
SEDUE – **Yay** (on Chat)
Ecología Ciudad Juárez–**Yay** (on chat)

Motion passes.

➤ **Item 5** **Next Meeting of the Fund Committee**

Ms. Mitchell introduced Item 5 for the next meeting of the Fund Committee.

Dr. Rincon provides clarification on the process of an extraordinary meeting and the next steps.

Ms. Mitchell makes a motion to have our next meeting on August 17, 2022 at 10 AM MT/ 11 AM CT

Ing. Fentanes Arriaga (INECC) seconds to motion.

EPA – **YAY**
TCEQ – **Yay** (on Chat)
NMED – **Yay** (on Chat)
El Paso – **Not Present**

INECC – **Yay** (on chat)
SEDUE – **Yay** (on Chat)
Ecología Ciudad Juárez–**Yay** (on chat)

Motion carries and next meeting will be held on August 17, 2022.

NOTE: US and Mexican co-chair approved a change of date for the 6th fund meeting. Next meeting will be held on September 21, 2022 at 10 AM MT / 11 AM CT

➤ **Item 6** **Public Comments**

Dr. Rincon provides comments on the upcoming national coordinator meeting.

Eddie Moderow also provide comments on the upcoming national coordinator meeting.

Secretary Gabriel Valdez (SEDUE) follows up on the National Coordinator meeting and expresses SEDUE's enthusiasm to participate.

Ing. Fentanes provides closing remarks.

Ms. Mitchell provides closing remarks and concludes the meeting.