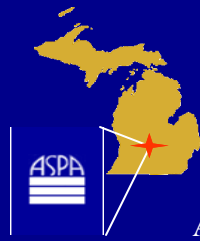


Michigan Capital Area
Chapter of The
American Society for
Public Administration

Mid-Michigan's Voice for
Public Service
Since 1951



PA Forum

A Journal of the Michigan Capital Area Chapter of ASPA

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4, AUGUST 2011

EDITORIAL STAFF

- Veronica A. Johnson
Editor-in-Chief
- George Orban
Editor
- Chad Rogers
Editor

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|--|---|
| Statewide Conference | 1 |
| Lieutenant Columbo, Public Administrator | 1 |
| MiCAP Abstracts: Michigan's 2008 Renewable Portfolio Standard Legislation: A Case Study of Clean Water | 2 |
| Annual Financial Report | 3 |
| Calendar of Events | 4 |

Statewide Conference to be hosted by Michigan Capital Area Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

MiCAP is hosting a statewide conference for September 30, 2011 and we want to see you there. Thanks to the support of Cooley Law School, the conference will be held at the Cooley Law School Temple Conference Center at 217 South Capitol Avenue in downtown Lansing. The theme of the conference is **reinvigorating public service, transitions for the 21st century**. This conference will feature interesting speakers and panelists from academia and public service. To register for the conference visit www.mipaforum.org.

Lieutenant Columbo, Public Administrator

By George Orban

America mourned the loss of actor Peter Falk, who passed away on June 23, 2011, at the age of 83. Best known as the Emmy-winning everyman rumpled detective who turned out to be smarter than everyone else, he didn't start out life as an actor however. He served in the Merchant Marines, and attended Hamilton College in New York and the University of Wisconsin. He graduated from the New School for Social Research in New York City, where he received a BA in literature and political science in 1951. Falk received a Master of Public Administration degree from the prestigious Maxwell School of Syracuse University in 1953. His first job was in Hartford, CT as an analyst for the Connecticut State Budget Bureau. He was late his first day on the job because he couldn't find the building. Needless to say, his heart really wasn't in public administration. While in Hartford, he joined a community theater group, and took acting lessons at the White Barn Theater in Westport, CT, where he was told that he should be a professional actor, so he quit his administrative job in 1956, and moved to Greenwich Village to pursue acting.

"Oh, M'am, just one more thing..."

Join ASPA!

Member benefits include:

- Networking with, and learning from, mid-Michigan's public service leaders
- Invitations to seminars and workshops
- Enhance your professional development through your relationship with a professional association
- Future opportunities to apply for mini-grants to support public service research

Go to:

www.aspanet.org
for a membership application!

MICAP Abstracts

MICHIGAN'S 2008 RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD LEGISLATION: A CASE STUDY OF CLEAN WATER ACTION

By
Erin Adair, MPA
Submitted to MiCAP July 2011

AUTHOR BACKGROUND: Erin Adair is a recent graduate from the MPA program at Western Michigan University with a concentration in nonprofit leadership. Erin is a community organizer with the East Lansing based Clean Water Action. Erin's career and research interests are environmental protection, social justice, public policy and advocacy.

Abstract

This paper investigated the factors that influenced the 2008 Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) legislation in which Clean Water Action (CWA) was involved. Currently, not much is known about activities, actions and negotiations that led to the final outcome of policy change. Research examined how the legislation evolved, paying particular attention to key targets, efforts that Clean Water Action made through coalition building and the field canvass, Michigan's political environment in 2008, and its policy application to the Advocacy Coalition Framework (ACF). This is a qualitative study that used interviews conducted with CWA staff, coalition partners, and legislators who voted on this bill in 2008. The RPS was weakened during negotiations and in return for a mandate on renewable energy, regulated utilities reduced customer choice. Research supported that the political climate was favorable for change in environmental policy. CWA's strong coalitions and grass-roots efforts through door-to-door community organizing contributed to their power when negotiating and influenced key legislative targets. This policy process an outcome was best explained by the ACF policy model; these factors ultimately led to bipartisan support of this bill in the state legislature.

Introduction

The utilization of coal as an energy source has contributed to advancements in technologies and living conditions because it provides an abundant, inexpensive and convenient energy source. The United States, and specifically the Midwest, Mid-Atlantic, and Southern regions have both benefited and suffered from the costs of coal. While coal is an indigenous, inexpensive energy resource that has generated thousands of jobs for Americans, our reliance on coal has also created potentially devastating health, economic and environmental impacts.

Coal-fired power plants are Michigan's primary source for energy. Burning coal emits carbon dioxide (CO₂) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), which are greenhouse gasses that contribute to climate change as well as pollute the air with health threatening contaminations (Schneider, Rscencranz, Mastrandrea, & Kuntz-Durisetto, 2010). Additionally, the by-product of combusted coal is coal ash, which is a fine, dirt-like substance that is extremely toxic. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) found that coal ash contains toxic concentrations of arsenic, selenium, barium, chromium and antimony (Gottlieb, Gilbert & Evans, 2010). Storage and containment of coal-ash is a major concern and historically the storage systems in place have experienced devastating failures. These coal ash pond failures can range from complete blow outs sending millions of gallons of coals ash contaminates into nearby streams and rivers to slow leaching underground that go undetected and contaminate drinking sources and habitats (Gottlieb, et al., 2010).

The major contributor to health issues from coal in the United States is fine airborne particulates. Their small size allows these particulates to bypass the immune system and head straight for the blood stream where it then wreaks havoc on vital organs (Schneider & Banks, 2010). The most common health effects are asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), chronic bronchitis, myocardial infarctions, cardiac rhythmic disturbances, heart disease, congestive heart failure, stroke, and mercury poisoning (Lockwood, Welker-Hood, Rauch, & Gottlieb, 2009). All of these health conditions come with a price; studies have estimated that coal related health issues cost the United States over \$100 billion per year (Schneider & Banks, 2010). Even more, the weights of these costs are not distributed evenly. Areas most afflicted by these contaminations are down-wind of power plants or have a heavy concentration of coal-fired power plants. Michigan is a vulnerable state because of its twenty coal-fired power plants. A Clean Air Task Force study puts Consumers Energy Monroe plant, located in Monroe Michigan at the top of the list for the single plant with the highest health impact; the same study ranks Michigan number five in states with the highest annual health impact (Schneider & Banks, 2010).

The costs associated with coal go beyond costs of health care; Michigan's reliance on coal-fired power plants is potentially reaching the tipping point of economic solvency. Changes in federal energy policy have become a certainty in the near future, strongly impacting coal's ability to compete. The most common policy change proposals are cap and trade or paying for CO₂ emission allowances. Either policy would drastically increase the cost of operating a new coal-fired power plant. Cost projections indicate that a particular power plant could pay between \$166 million and \$414 million by 2030 to operate a coal-fired power plant (Schlissel et al., 2008). These would be potentially unsustainable cost for energy that would likely result in higher energy prices for the ratepayer. However, alternative, renewable energy infrastructure and manufacturing also has economic implications as states move away from coal. The economic impact of energy is complex and polarizing; however, it will be the final determining factor of federal and state energy policies in the future.

For the full text of this article visit: <http://www.mipaforum.org/MiCAPAbstracts.html>

MICHIGAN CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER
 AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
 JUNE 30, 2010 TO JULY 1, 2011

Note: This report follows the ASPA required format as found online in their web site. Only the lines with entries are shown below. Attached is a printed copy of the full report format from the ASPA web site with hand-entries and original signatures of two Chapter Board Members who reviewed the Annual Report. The information below will be entered in the ASPA web site on line after the Report is approved. Accounting is on a cash basis.

Assets

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| Cash | 442.72 |
| Investments | 3,058.24 |
| Total Assets | 3,500.96 |

Worth

[No entries]

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Total Liabilities and Fund Balance | 3,500.96 |
|------------------------------------|----------|

Revenues

| | |
|----------------|--------|
| Rebates | 426.00 |
| Interest | 31.53 |
| Total Revenues | 457.53 |

Expenses

| | |
|--|----------|
| Postage | 35.00 |
| Printing | 186.94 |
| Chapter Meetings: | |
| MPLP | 300.00 |
| Student Membership | 75.00 |
| Pelleran Meet & Greet Food | 98.56 |
| Workshops | 939.85 |
| Miscellaneous Expense | |
| Liquid Web | 164.50 |
| Pre Printed Deposit Slips | 9.99 |
| Total Expenses | 1,810.13 |
| Revenue in Excess of Expenses- | 1,352.60 |
| Fund Balance, beginning of year | 4,853.56 |
| Fund Balance, end of year | 3,500.96 |

Respectfully Submitted,
 George Orban

Secretary/Treasurer
 July 17, 2011
 Corrected, July 22, 2011



**Mid-Michigan's
Voice for Public
Service
Since 1951**

2010/2011 Board of Directors

- President:** Veronica A. Wilkerson Johnson
Vice President for Programs: Leo F. Kennedy
Vice President for Membership:
 L. Robert McConnell
Secretary/Treasurer: George Orban
Board Member: Dr. Davia C. Downey
Board Member: Dr. David W. Winder
Board Member: Diontrae E. Hayes
Board Member: Chad Rogers
Board Member: Regina Crudup
Board Member: Dr. Sandra K. Schneider

MiCAP Mission Statement

- Advances the art, science, teaching, and practice of public and non-profit administration.
- Promotes the value of joining and elevating the public service profession.
- Builds bridges among all who pursue public purposes.
- Provides networking and professional development opportunities to those committed to public service values.
- Achieves innovative solutions to the challenge of governance.

Contact Us:

*Veronica A. Johnson
 Director, Lansing Service Center
 The University of Michigan
 101 S. Washington Square, Suite 730
 Lansing, MI 48933-1708
 (517) 372-7801 veronicj@umich.edu*

Calendar of Events

**August date to
be announced:**

Monthly MiCAP Meeting

September 30, 2011:

MiCAP Statewide Conference
 Cooley Law School Temple Conference Center
 217 South Capitol Avenue
 Lansing, MI

**Quick Reference to
Public Service Jobs on
the Web:**

www.PublicServiceCareers.org

www.publictechjobs.com

*Put your Internet browser
to work for you!*



www.mipaforum.org