

Southwest Clean Air Agency

Board of Directors Minutes

August 3, 2017

The regular meeting of the Southwest Clean Air Agency Board of Directors was held in the Southwest Clean Air Agency office, Vancouver, Washington on August 3, 2017.

Those present were: Don Jensen, Chair, City of Longview
Bob Hamlin, Director, Skamania County
Ben Shumaker, Director, City of Stevenson
Arny Davis, Member at Large
Eileen Quiring, Director, Clark County
Joe Gardner, Director, Cowlitz County
Ryan Smith, Director, Town of Cathlamet
Lee Coumbs, Director, City of Centralia
Alishia Topper, Director, City of Vancouver
Bobby Jackson, Director, Lewis County

Excused: Blair Brady, Director, Wahkiakum County

Also Present: Staff: Uri Papish, Executive Director
Traci Arnold, Office Administrator

Guests: Rachel O'Malley, WA Department of Ecology

Call to Order

Mr. Jensen called the meeting to order. A quorum was confirmed to exist.

Board of Directors Minutes

Mr. Jensen asked for consideration of the July 6, 2017 minutes. Mr. Smith moved and Mr. Shumaker seconded that the minutes for the July 6, 2017 Board meeting be approved. Motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Jensen asked for approval of the Consent Agenda including voucher numbers 16 through 44 and 46 through 51, in the amount of \$6,379.88 which have been approved for payment by the Executive Director and voucher numbers 45, 52 and 53 in the amount of \$8,792.55, June 2017 Salaries in the amount of \$91,417.32, June 2017 Benefits in the amount of \$37,046.59, and the June 2017 Activity Report. Mr. Hamlin moved and Ms. Topper seconded approval of the Consent Agenda. Motion passed.

Changes to Agenda

Mr. Papish said he wanted to discuss the vice-chair position on the SWCAA Board. Mr. Jensen said he would open discussion under new business.

Info Items & Public Comment

None.

Unfinished Business/New Business

Mr. Jensen opened discussion on the vice-chair position on the SWCAA Board and recognized Mr. Papish. Mr. Papish said that Ms. Canaday has stepped down from her position with the City of Centralia and Lee Coumbs has taken her position. Mr. Coumbs will also serve on the SWCAA Board effective this month. Mr. Papish said Ms. Canaday was the vice-chair of the SWCAA Board, so that position is now vacant. Mr. Jensen asked Mr. Papish to add elections for a new vice-chair to the next meeting.

Public Hearing

None.

Executive Session

None.

Control Officer Report

Mr. Papish offered to answer any questions in the Control Officer Report.

House Appropriations Subcommittee Votes to Maintain Level Funding in FY 2018 for State and Local Air Grants (July 12, 2017) – The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies marked up and approved, by voice vote, a bill containing EPA’s funding for FY 2018. The bill provides level funding (compared to the FY 2017 enacted level) – \$228.2 million – for state and local air grants under Sections 103 and 105 of the Clean Air Act (the Administration requested \$159.5 million for FY 2018). The bill also provides \$75 million for grants under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) program (the Administration requested \$10 million; the FY 2017 appropriation was \$60 million) and \$40 million for the Targeted Airshed Grant program (the Administration proposed eliminating this; the FY 2017 appropriation was \$30 million). For EPA’s budget, the bill calls for \$7.5 billion in FY 2018 (the Administration requested \$5.7 billion; the FY 2017 appropriation was \$8.1 billion). As part of the bill, the Subcommittee approved a legislative rider to postpone implementation of the 2015 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The bill will now go to the full House Appropriations Committee for markup and approval. For further information: http://www.4cleanair.org/sites/default/files/Documents/FY2018_AppropsEPA_Memo_on_House_Subcomm_Markup-071217.pdf and

http://www.4cleanair.org/sites/default/files/Documents/FY2018_AppropsBill_Full_Comm_Print-071017.pdf

G20 Statement on Climate Isolates U.S. Among Leading World Economies (July 8, 2017) –

The Group of 20 (G20) summit in Hamburg, Germany concluded with the release of a joint declaration document which singled out the U.S. for withdrawing from the Paris Agreement. In a section describing shared energy and climate priorities among the group, the 15-page document notes the U.S. decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement and to halt efforts to achieve its pledged greenhouse gas emission reductions. The remaining 19 country block describes the Paris Agreement as “irreversible” and reaffirms the remaining countries’ commitment to achieving the agreement’s goals, including providing funds for mitigation and adaptation activities in developing countries. For further information:

<http://www.4cleanair.org/sites/default/files/Documents/2017-G20-leadersdeclaration.pdf>

Colorado Sets State Climate Goals and Joins U.S. Climate Alliance (July 11, 2017) –

Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper signed an executive order committing Colorado to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions and announcing that the state would join the U.S. Climate Alliance. Colorado is the thirteenth state to join the Alliance, which was formed in response to President Trump’s decision to withdraw the U.S. from the Paris Agreement. The group’s members have pledged to take action to help reduce U.S. greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 26 to 28 percent below 2005 levels by 2025. With the addition of Colorado, the group accounts for nearly 20 percent of total U.S. GHG emissions. The executive order mirrors that ambition with a state goal to reduce GHG emissions to at least 26 percent below 2005 levels by 2025. In addition, the order calls for power sector CO₂ emission cuts of 25 percent from 2005 levels by 2025, power sector CO₂ emission cuts of 35 percent by 2030 and annual electricity savings of 2 percent per year by 2020. For further information:

https://www.colorado.gov/governor/sites/default/files/executive_orders/climate_eo.pdf

Mr. Papish said there are over 100 fires burning in British Columbia and the wind is pushing the smoke into Washington. The weather service predicts this wind pattern is going to continue for at least another seven days. There is a slight chance of some off-shore winds to develop, but the smoke is going to remain in our area. He said SWCAA has issued an air quality advisory for all five counties in SWCAA’s jurisdiction. There has also been a complete ban on all burning in Clark County including recreational fires. Mr. Jensen asked if the smoke could push SWCAA into violation with air quality standards. Mr. Papish said there has been a PM_{2.5} exceedance and there is a high probability more will occur. He said there is a process for having the data excluded when there are exceptional events and SWCAA will request to have the monitoring data excluded from this because of the forest fires.

Mr. Hamlin asked how bad the air quality is in the valley. Mr. Papish responded that it gets worse the farther north; however, the standard is being exceeded all along the valley. In some areas, the fine particulate matter is close to double the health standard. Mr. Papish said there is also a possibility for ozone exceedances due to the high temperatures. Ozone exceedance data would be counted despite the fires because ozone levels are driven by other non-smoke related factors.

Mr. Papish said SWCAA is continuing to look at all options for the upcoming building lease

renewal including staying in the current location, moving to another space in the current business park or moving to a new location.

Board Policy Discussion Issues

None.

Issues for Next Meeting

A. Public Hearing.

1. As Necessary.

B. New Business/Unfinished Business.

1. As Necessary

C. Board Policy Discussion Issues.

1. As Necessary.

D. Meeting Date and Location.

1. September 7, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. Southwest Clean Air Agency, 11815 NE 99th Street, Vancouver, Washington.

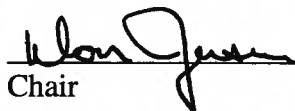
The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on September 7, 2017 at 3:00 p.m., Southwest Clean Air Agency, Vancouver, Washington.

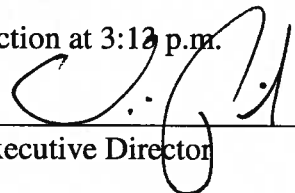
Board Meeting Attendance:

JURISDICTION	J 2017	F 2017	M 2017	A 2017	M 2017	J 2017	J 2017	A 2017	S 2016	O 2016	N 2016	D 2016
Clark County	0	+	0	C	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	C
Cowlitz County	+	+	+	C	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	C
Lewis County	+	+	0	C	+	+	0	+	A	+	0	C
Skamania County	+	+	+	C	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	C
Wahkiakum County	0	+	A	C	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	C
Cathlamet	+	+	+	C	+	0	C	+	0	+	+	C
Centralia	+	+	+	C	+	0	C	+	0	+	+	C
Longview	+	+	+	C	+	+	C	+	+	+	+	C
Stevenson	+	+	+	C	+	+	C	+	+	+	+	C
Vancouver	+	+	+	C	+	0	C	+	+	0	0	C
Member-At-Large	+	+	+	C	+	+	C	+	+	+	+	C

+ = regular member present; 0 = unrepresented; A = alternate present; C = cancelled meeting

Mr. Jensen adjourned the meeting without objection at 3:13 p.m.


Chair


Executive Director