

Southwest Clean Air Agency

Board of Directors Minutes

January 4, 2018

The regular meeting of the Southwest Clean Air Agency Board of Directors was held in the Southwest Clean Air Agency office, Vancouver, Washington on January 4, 2018.

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

Excused: Lee Coumbs, Director, City of Centralia

Also Present: Staff: Uri Papish, Executive Director  
Paul Mairose, Chief Engineer  
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 November 2, 2017 minutes. Mr. Jackson moved and Mr. Smith seconded that the minutes for the November 2, 2017 Board meeting be approved. Motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Jensen asked for approval of the Consent Agenda including voucher numbers 603 through 635 in the amount of \$7,041.88 which have been approved for payment by the Executive Director and voucher number 636 in the amount of \$488.66, October 2017 Salaries in the amount of \$90,711.83, October 2017 Benefits in the amount of \$38,815.32, November 2017 Salaries in the amount of \$90,895.93, November 2017 Benefits in the amount of \$38,374.49, the

October 2017 Activity Report, and the November 2017 Activity Report. Ms. Topper moved and Mr. Jackson seconded approval of the Consent Agenda. Motion passed.

Changes to Agenda

None.

Info Items & Public Comment

Mr. Jensen opened discussion on NASA Goddard's Video on Particulate Air Pollutants and recognized Mr. Papish. Mr. Papish said the video shows the power of the latest air quality modeling technology and shows how widespread the smoke from the wildfires this past summer was. It also highlights other particulates including dust and sea salt, as well as, how they travel across the globe. SWCAA uses similar models from the forest service and universities called Blue Sky to help predict where the smoke from the wildfires is likely to go. The data on the Blue-Sky website is shown in real time.

Mr. Jensen opened discussion on citizen air monitoring and recognized Mr. Papish. Mr. Papish said citizen air monitoring is becoming more and more popular. The monitors can be purchased by anyone for a reasonable cost. The monitors are placed on the citizen's home and connected to the internet. One of the more promising technologies available is called Purple Air Monitor. The web site reflects several monitors in the Portland area. There are concerns around the accuracy of the monitors and how the data from the monitors will be used. Some agency's have purchased monitors and set them next to the federal reference monitors to gauge their accuracy. A test done in Tacoma, WA by Ecology setting a Purple Air Monitor next to the federal reference monitor shows a very similar pattern, but the readings from the Purple Monitor were about twice as high for pollution. Mr. Hamilton asked how expensive the monitors are. Mr. Papish said they are approximately \$200 each. The monitors are collecting data on particulates only and have two sensors which alert the user if there is a malfunction. As the technology evolves and becomes more reliable the monitors could be very useful to the agency and public. SWCAA will continue to follow this trend and may purchase monitors in the future.

Unfinished Business/New Business

None

Public Hearing

None.

Executive Session

None.

## Control Officer Report

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

### **Study Finds Connection Between Fine Particulates and Birth Defects (December 11, 2017)**

– A study from researchers based at the University of Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital has found an increased risk of birth defects for mothers who are exposed to fine particulates (PM2.5) around the time of conception. The study estimated PM2.5 exposure levels from two months prior to conception through the first two months of pregnancy by correlating PM2.5 data collected from 57 monitoring stations throughout Ohio with the residential addresses of new mothers. The researchers found the highest defect risks for exposures occurring between one month prior to and one month after conception. The study, entitled Periconception Exposure to Air Pollution and Risk of Congenital Malformations, was published in the Journal of Pediatrics. For further information:

[http://www.4cleanair.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Periconception\\_PM\\_Exposure\\_Study\\_Dec\\_2017.pdf](http://www.4cleanair.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Periconception_PM_Exposure_Study_Dec_2017.pdf)

### **State AGs, Environmental and Public Health Groups Sue EPA for Failure to Designate All Areas Under 2015 Ozone NAAQS (December 4 & 5, 2017)**

– In separate complaints, 15 state attorneys general (AGs) and 10 environmental and public health groups asked the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California to compel EPA to fulfill its statutory obligation to designate all areas of the country under the 2015 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards promulgated on October 1, 2015. The Clean Air Act requires that EPA make final area designations within two years following promulgation of new NAAQS unless it determines that there is inadequate data to do so. EPA, however, missed the October 1, 2017 designations deadline and subsequently designated a subset of areas last month; all of those areas were deemed by EPA to be attainment/unclassifiable. In their complaint, the state AGs note that more than two years after the 2015 ozone NAAQS were established EPA has yet to designate all areas of the country. For further information:

[http://4cleanair.org/sites/default/files/resources/Litigation-Ozone\\_DesigsStates\\_Complaint-120517.pdf](http://4cleanair.org/sites/default/files/resources/Litigation-Ozone_DesigsStates_Complaint-120517.pdf) and [http://4cleanair.org/sites/default/files/resources/Litigation-Ozone\\_DesigsEnviro\\_Complaint-120417.pdf](http://4cleanair.org/sites/default/files/resources/Litigation-Ozone_DesigsEnviro_Complaint-120417.pdf)

### **Senate Approves William Wehrum to Be Nation’s Top Air Official (November 9, 2017)**

– The U.S. Senate voted, 49 to 47, to confirm William Wehrum as Assistant Administrator (AA) of EPA’s Office of Air and Radiation (OAR). Wehrum was most recently an attorney with Hunton & Williams in Washington, DC and previously served for two years as acting AA of EPA OAR in the George W. Bush administration. The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee held a hearing on Wehrum’s nomination on October 4, 2017. For further information:

<https://www.congress.gov/nomination/115thcongress/994?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22%5C%22calendar+407%5C%22%22%5D%7D&r=1and>

<https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=37CC8314-16F14D4F-9A26-297EF3D8E49D>

**EPA Administrator Signs NRPM to Repeal Emission Requirements for Gliders (November 9, 2017)** – EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt signed a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to

repeal the emission requirements for glider vehicles, glider engines and glider kits included in the October 2016 final Phase 2 truck rule. According to EPA, this action is “based on a proposed interpretation of the Clean Air Act (CAA) under which glider vehicles would be found not to constitute ‘new motor vehicles’ within the meaning of CAA section 216(3), glider engines would be found not to constitute ‘new motor vehicle engines’ within the meaning of CAA section 216(3), and glider kits would not be treated as ‘incomplete’ new motor vehicles. Under this proposed interpretation, EPA would lack authority to regulate glider vehicles, glider engines, and glider kits under section 202(a)(1).” The agency notes in the NPRM that “[t]his proposed interpretation is a departure from the position taken by EPA in the Phase 2 rule. There, EPA interpreted the statutory definitions of ‘new motor vehicle’ and ‘new motor vehicle engines’ in CAA section 216(3) as including glider vehicles and glider engines, respectively. The proposed interpretation also departs from EPA’s position in the Phase 2 rule that CAA section (202)(a)(1) authorizes the Agency to treat gliders kits as ‘incomplete’ new motor vehicles.” A glider vehicle is made from a glider kit, which includes the entire tractor chassis, cab, tires, body and brakes, into which a used powertrain (the engine, transmission and, usually, rear axle) is installed. EPA will hold a public hearing on the proposal to repeal the glider requirements on December 4, 2017. The deadline for public comments is January 5, 2018. For further information: <https://www.epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-andengines/proposed-rule-repeal-emission-requirements-glider>

#### 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. February 1, 2018 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 February 1, 2018 at 3:00 p.m., Southwest Clean Air Agency, Vancouver, Washington.

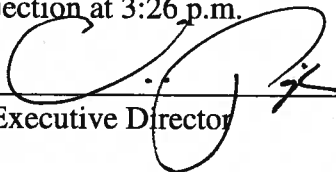
Board Meeting Attendance:

JURISDICTION	J 2018	F 2017	M 2017	A 2017	M 2017	J 2017	J 2017	A 2017	S 2017	O 2017	N 2017	D 2017
Clark County	+	+	0	C	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	C
Cowlitz County	+	+	+	C	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	C
Lewis County	+	+	0	C	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	C
Skamania County	+	+	+	C	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	C
Wahkiakum County	+	+	A	C	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	C
Cathlamet	0	+	+	C	+	0	C	+	+	+	+	C
Centralia	+	+	+	C	+	0	C	+	+	+	+	C
Longview	+	+	+	C	+	+	C	+	+	+	+	C
Stevenson	+	+	+	C	+	+	C	+	+	+	+	C
Vancouver	+	+	+	C	+	0	C	+	+	+	0	C
Member-At-Large	+	+	+	C	+	+	C	+	+	+	0	C

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

Mr. Jensen adjourned the meeting without objection at 3:26 p.m.

  
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 Chair

  
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 Executive Director