

Southwest Clean Air Agency

Board of Directors Minutes

August 2, 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 August 2, 2018.

Those present were: Don Jensen, Chair, City of Longview
Ben Shumaker, Director, City of Stevenson
Ryan Smith, Director, Town of Cathlamet
Eileen Quiring Director, Clark County
Dan Cothren, Director, Wahkiakum County
Lee Coumbs, Director, City of Centralia
Bob Hamlin, Director, Skamania County
Joe Gardner, Director, Cowlitz County

Excused: Alicia Topper, Vice-Chair, City of Vancouver
Bobby Jackson, Director, Lewis County
Army Davis, Member at Large

Also Present: Staff: Uri Papish, Executive Director
Paul Mairose, Chief Engineer
Traci Arnold, Office Administrator

Guests: Rachel O'Malley, WA Department of Ecology
Bonnie Canaday, Resident, Lewis County

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 June 7, 2018 minutes. Ms. Quiring moved and Mr. Hamlin seconded that the minutes for the June 7, 2018 Board meeting be approved. Motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Jensen asked for approval of the Consent Agenda including voucher numbers 16 through 48 and 50 through 52 in the amount of \$4,798.47 which have been approved for payment by the Executive Director and voucher numbers 49 and 53 in the amount of \$31,820.42, May 2018 Salaries in the amount of \$101,481.57, May 2018 Benefits in the amount of \$42,931.61, June 2018 Salaries in the amount of 96,848.62, June Benefits in the amount of \$41,977.45, the May

and June 2018 Financial Statement, and the May and June 2018 Activity Report. Mr. Coumbs moved and Mr. Smith approval of the Consent Agenda. Motion passed.

Changes to Agenda

None.

Info Items & Public Comment

Ms. Canaday informed the board that Bill Schulte passed recently. He was a member of the SWCAA Board for several years. The Board and Mr. Papish expressed their sympathies.

Public Hearing

None.

Executive Session

None.

Unfinished Business/New Business

None.

Control Officer Report

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

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt Resigns (July 5, 2018) – President Donald J. Trump announced on Twitter that he had accepted the resignation of EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, effective July 6, 2018. President Trump tweeted that Assistant Administrator Andrew Wheeler will become the Acting Administrator, effective Monday, July 9, 2018. In his resignation letter, Pruitt offered that “unrelenting attacks on me personally, my family, are unprecedented, and have taken a sizable toll on all of us.” Pruitt is subject to 14 investigations into his spending and allegations of his misuse of office. Under the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 the President has 210 days to confirm a permanent replacement for Pruitt. Prior to being confirmed as Assistant Administrator on April 12, 2018, Wheeler was, since 2009, a principal at Faegre Baker Daniels Consulting where he advised clients on federal regulatory and legislative environmental and energy issues. Wheeler previously served as General Counsel to Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) and as Staff Director and Chief Counsel for the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Subcommittee for Clean Air, Wetlands and Nuclear Safety. He also served in EPA’s Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics during the George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton Administrations. For further information:

<https://www.politico.com/story/2018/07/05/scott-pruitt-resignation-letter-695292>

Study Links PM2.5 Exposure Below the NAAQS to Diabetes (July 2, 2018) – A health study published in *The Lancet* finds a significant connection between PM2.5 exposure and diabetes at concentration levels below the NAAQS. The study analyzed health environmental data for 1.7 million U.S. veterans and reviewed prior research conducted in other countries on the linkage between diabetes and air pollution. In the U.S. alone, the study estimates that 150,000 cases of diabetes are associated with PM2.5 exposure. Globally, the researchers calculated that the share of air pollution-related diabetes cases is about 14 percent. The study further finds that the risk of diabetes begins to increase substantially at exposures as low as 2.4 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), well below the NAAQS threshold of $12 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. For each $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ increase in PM2.5 exposure, the study estimates that the risk of developing diabetes increases by about 15 percent. For further information: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpla/article/PIIS2542-5196\(18\)30140-2/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpla/article/PIIS2542-5196(18)30140-2/fulltext)

Mr. Jensen asked how PM2.5 exposure is connected to diabetes. Mr. Papish responded that fine particulate air pollution gets in the blood stream and triggers inflammation in cells which is thought to causes cellular insulin resistance and affect the pancreas.

EPA Publishes Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Cost Benefit Analysis Reform in Federal Register (June 13, 2018) – EPA published in the Federal Register (83 Fed. Reg. 27,524) an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) requesting comments on whether and how the agency should reform the assessment of costs and benefits during the regulatory process. A draft pre-publication version of the ANPRM was released last week. The ANPRM identifies three topic areas on which the agency seeks input: 1) “The Nature of Potential Concerns Regarding Perceived Inconsistency and Lack of Transparency” in EPA rulemakings; 2) “Potential Approaches for Increasing Consistency and Transparency in Considering Costs and Benefits in the Rulemaking Process”; and 3) “Potential for Issuing Regulations to Govern EPA’s Approach in Future Rulemakings.” Comments are due July 13, 2018. For further information: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-06-13/pdf/2018-12707.pdf>

SWCAA awarded \$240,000 in Woodstove Grant Money (June 12, 2018) – Money granted from the Department of Ecology through a competitive process will be used to continue SWCAA’s Woodstove Changeout Program designed to reduce fine particulate emissions in the Vancouver area. In the upcoming year the program will focus on three components 1) the "changeout" of Washington unapproved wood stoves and fireplace inserts to cleaner heating devices, 2) a "bounty" which provides a cash incentive for removal of devices without replacement with a different device, and 3) a "drying rack" which will provide wood drying racks to residents who continue to burn cord wood to facilitate cleaner burning with their existing device. The area of eligibility for this program is the Vancouver Urban Growth Boundary.

Mr. Papish said SWCAA will need to do a budget amendment to allow for the spending of this money. The grant is only for one year, so the agency is planning a large outreach campaign. Mr. Hamlin asked how many uncertified stoves are left in the area. Mr. Papish said it’s unknown, but SWCAA is going to contact the building department to request fuel type information and then do a targeted mailing to homes with wood stoves. Mr. Hamlin suggests contacting Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to get wood cutting permit information. He said he sees a lot of people come into Skamania County, cut wood and

then haul it out. It's possible some of these people are from the target area. Ms. Quiring asked if this grant is only for residents within the urban growth boundary. Mr. Papish confirmed the grant is only for residents within the urban growth boundary. Mr. Jensen asked if the grant is only for stoves within a residence verse a stove in a garage/workshop. Mr. Papish said he was unsure if the grant covered wood stoves outside the main residence, but he would research. Mr. Shumaker suggested contacting home inspectors to help get the word out.

Group Compares U.S. Automakers Based on Environmental Performance (June 7, 2018) –

The Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) released Automaker Rankings 2018 in which the group ranks automobile manufacturers based on the environmental performance of the vehicles they sell. To prepare the report, the seventh of its kind since 2000, UCS examined vehicle emission levels, the technologies used to reduce emissions and ways to ensure continued progress. In announcing the report, UCS stated, "What we've seen is that major automakers have achieved a record low in vehicle emissions, and they've done it without even taking full advantage of the suite of proven fuel efficient technologies at their disposal, but the pace of these improvements is slowing. They've made significant progress over the past few years, but automakers must do more to offer cleaner cars in a rapidly-changing market." For further information: https://www.ucsusa.org/clean-vehicles/fuel-efficiency/automaker-rankings-2018?_ga=2.72276307.1192169428.1528473916-1924716422.1528473916&_gac=1.49482642.1528473916.EAIAIQobChMI8OKog7nE2wIVUlmGCh0o7gH7EAAYASAAEgLeFfD_BwE#.W1EA8NJKhaR

DOE Plan Contemplates Emergency Coal, Nuclear Subsidies (June 1, 2018) - White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said in a statement that President Trump has directed US Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Rick Perry to prepare "immediate steps" to halt the loss of "fuel-secure power facilities." A draft DOE plan that is under consideration by the President's National Security Council today calls for DOE to require grid operators and utilities to purchase electricity from a DOE list of financially threatened power plants. This "strategic electric generation reserve" list would primarily include coal and nuclear power plants in the Midwest, South, Mid-Atlantic, and West (though not California.) This plan hinges on DOE exercising emergency authority under the Defense Production Act of 1950 and Federal Power Act. No dates have been set for DOE to take action. For Further Information: http://www.4cleanair.org/sites/default/files/resources/DOE%205_29_18.pdf

Mr. Coumbs asked why the air monitor in Lewis County shows a higher reading than Vancouver on the June Activity Report. Mr. Papish responded the report shows the highest reading for the month, it is unknown what triggered the high reading, but it was likely related to wildfire smoke.

Mr. Papish reported SWCAA issued a civil penalty to TransAlta Centralia Generation. He said TransAlta had four separate violations including three exceedances of the federal mercury standards. They also have a requirement to operate controls for NOx emissions and they were not operating those controls correctly. The civil penalty was issued in June 2018 for \$331,000. There have been several meetings discussing a settlement verse an appeal with the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB). SWCAA also received a large public records request from TransAlta in connection with the civil penalty. Mr. Hamlin

asked if SWCAA has an outside attorney on retainer. Mr. Papish said SWCAA is using an outside attorney for this civil penalty.

Mr. Papish said SWCAA issued an Air Quality Advisory on July 24, 2018 due to the continued hot weather and stagnant conditions. When the temperature exceeds 90 there is a higher chance of an ozone exceedance. He said Portland did have an exceedance during that time, but the Vancouver area did not.

Mr. Papish said the agency adopted Asbestos Rules at a prior meeting, however there is a change that did not get incorporated into the rule. The change is related to how many samples need to be taken based on the size of the material. There may be an additional rule adoption to incorporate this into the rule.

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 6, 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 September 6, 2018 at 3:00 p.m., Southwest Clean Air Agency, Vancouver, Washington.

Board Meeting Attendance:

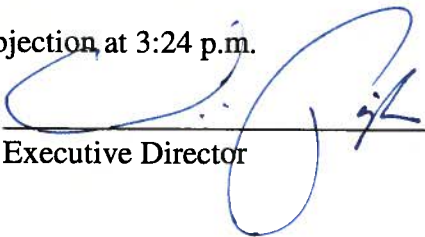
JURISDICTION	J 2018	F 2018	M 2018	A 2018	M 2018	J 2018	J 2018	A 2018	S 2017	O 2017	N 2017	D 2017
Clark County	+	+	+	A	+	+	C	+	+	+	+	C
Cowlitz County	+	+	+	A	+	0	C	+	+	+	+	C
Lewis County	+	+	0	+	+	+	C	0	+	0	+	C
Skamania County	+	0	+	0	+	+	C	+	+	+	0	C
Wahkiakum County	+	0	+	A	+	+	C	A	0	+	+	C
Cathlamet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

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

Mr. Jensen adjourned the meeting without objection at 3:24 p.m.



 Chair



 Executive Director