

OLYMPIC REGION CLEAN AIR AGENCY
2940 Limited Lane NW
Olympia, Washington 98502

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – Hybrid via Zoom
March 13, 2024

A video recording of this meeting is available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/ORCAA>

Files discussed at this meeting are available at:

<http://board.orcaa.org/>

Members present: Jim Cooper, City of Olympia (Chair) (via Zoom)
Greg Brotherton, Jefferson County (Vice Chair) (via Zoom)
Randy Neatherlin, Mason County (via Zoom)
Joan Cathey, City of Tumwater (via Zoom)
Jill Warne, Grays Harbor County (via Zoom)
Dave Tobin, Pacific County (via Zoom)
Emily Clouse, Thurston County (via Zoom)

Members absent: Mike French, Clallam County
Michael Steadman, City of Lacey

Legal Counsel: Jeff Myers, Mike Throgmorton, Matthew Sonneby and Jakub Kocztorz of
Law, Lyman, Daniel, Kamerrer and Bogdanovich (via Zoom)

Staff Present: Jeff Johnston, Ph.D., Executive Director; Mike Shults, Compliance Manager;
Jennifer DeMay, Engineering Supervisor; Abi Roberts, Engineer; Odelle
Hadley, Ph.D., Senior Monitoring Specialist; Dan Nelson, Communications
Manager; and Debbie Moody, Office Manager/Public Records Officer (all via
Zoom)

Cooper called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. and asked for roll call.
Johnston introduced Abi Roberts, Engineer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (4:49)

Cooper asked for approval of the agenda. Tobin moved approval, the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

CHAIR REPORT (5:20)

Cooper reminded the Board the April meeting will be in person and followed by a field trip to Silver Springs Organics composting facility near Rainier.

PUBLIC COMMENT (8:44)

There was no public present.

CONSENT AGENDA (9:07)

Cooper asked approval of the Consent Agenda. Brotherton moved approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Establish Board By-Law Committee (9:35)

Johnston explained our current By-Laws state a committee will be established to update the By-Laws every three years. He noted there were some small items that we could update. Cooper noted the committee will include Mike French as Chair, Greg Brotherton and Emily Clouse.

Updating ORCAA's Penalty Matrices 1 of 3 (13:45)

Johnston gave a brief explanation noting the explanation regarding the importance of the matrices.

Shults explained we will be going over two of our six matrices, Solid Fuel Burning Devices (woodstove) and Outdoor Burning today. He briefly went over the process staff goes through to ensure the matrices continue to reflect an equitable and fair penalty per violation.

Shults went over the updates and explained the reasons for the changes on both the Solid Fuel Burning Device matrix and the Outdoor Burn matrix.

Brotherton, on the Outdoor Burn matrix, asked about burning green wood. After some discussion, it was decided to update the terminology to clarify the issue.

Shults stated staff is requesting approval of the matrices.

Brotherton asked if these matrices would be impacted by the passage of the SSB6121. Shults noted it would not affect these matrices, however it could come up under agricultural violations. Brotherton added, he would like to offer "natural vegetation" as the change to the language on the Outdoor Burn matrix.

Cooper requested approval of the matrices and the amendment to the Outdoor Burn matrix. Warne moved approval. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Compliance Manager Update (52:15)

Shults' noted the inspectors have been busy and will be gearing up for more field time. We are still trying to fill the Inspector Supervisor position. We hope to set up interviews in the next couple of weeks.

The engineers have been working on a couple of larger cases, Pacific Northwest Renewable Energy in Grays Harbor and Weyerhaeuser in Raymond. We are thankful to have Abi Roberts join our team to help us keep up with the other projects.

Senior Air Monitoring Specialist Update (57:19)

Hadley went over the February air quality data, noting we did end up missing a few days in Port Townsend due to a power outage.

Hadley shared new aethalometer data from the Lacey monitoring site and gave a brief explanation as to what the data means.

Other monitoring activities were highlighted by Hadley. Hadley gave a brief update on the new PM2.5 Nation Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), noting that the annual standard was lowered from 12 to 9 µg m³, effective May 6, 2024.

Communications Manager Update (1:08:45)

Nelson noted the agency has been working to improve the digital accessibility of our documents.

Nelson stated he has been busy with events and recently set up ORCAA booths at home shows in Port Townsend and Port Angeles. Both events were well attended by the public and we had a lot of questions related to asbestos and burning. Nelson added we will be attending the Olympia Master Builder's home show in April.

We are getting some great participation in the Clallam County area on our woodstove program, Nelson stated. The overall program is going very well, and we have many applications for the Replacement and Recycling programs in the works.

Ecology held a public hearing on March 12 regarding ORCAA's rule change last year to allow campfires in Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater. The hearing was part of the process to incorporate ORCAA's updated rules into the State Implementation Plan (SIP) which Ecology will then submit to the EPA.

Warne offered the Grays Harbor Master Gardeners show in May. Johnston noted ORCAA will be present.

Executive Director Update (1:18:29)

Johnston, noting Harding was out, stated we have interviews set next week for the Financial Specialist position. Harding also asked to share that ORCAA was awarded the WellCity award again this year, and that we will bring a draft FY2025 budget to the Finance Committee in April.

Johnston explained our previous Records Clerk, Tiffany Flores, left the agency in December; however, due to circumstances she will be rejoining us as the new Records Specialist in April.

Some legislative issues, starting with SSB6121 which was originally focused on biochar has been renamed and now covers Flame Capped Kilns. Johnston noted these are used for agricultural and silvicultural purposes. The bill establishes Ecology and local air agencies as the permitting authority for agricultural uses and DNR as the permitting authority for silvicultural uses. There are many implementation questions.

Brotherton explained his use of a homemade biochar burner.

Johnston explained the just signed federal budget included cuts of about 5% to EPA's 103 and 105 funds. These are part of the funds we receive from EPA and Ecology and we use these 'core' funds to help pay for unfunded work. We don't yet know the timing or the exact size of the potential reductions our grants.

Johnston noted we are very excited to have the Board come and enjoy our new conference room furniture at the April meeting. Johnston also reminded the Board to check on the Agenda Planner linked at the bottom of the agenda. We will be starting a new planner for the next fiscal year.

GOOD OF THE ORDER (1:31:52)

Cooper asked if there was a good of the order. Myers the ACT Puget sound case which is in regards to the board issuing permits. The court of appeals denied the appeal and it is under review by the supreme court and must be in by March 24, so we should have more information by our next meeting.

Cooper also reminded everyone the April meeting is in person and we hope to have everyone in attendance.

Cooper noted April is also our annual meeting and we will have votes for chair/vice chair.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (per RCW 42.30.110)

There was no Executive Session.

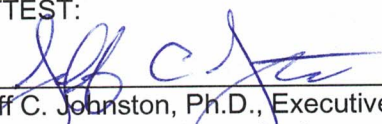
ADJOURNMENT (1:34:15)

Cooper adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the ORCAA Board of Directors held on March 13, 2024, in Olympia, Washington.

ATTEST:



Jeff C. Johnston, Ph.D., Executive Director
Olympic Region Clean Air Agency



Jim Cooper, Chair
ORCAA Board of Directors

DATED: 4/10/2024