

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 13, 2019

Members present: Jim Cooper, City of Olympia (Chair)
Carolyn Cox for Cynthia Pratt, City of Lacey (Vice Chair)
Mike Runyon, Pacific County
Tye Menser, Thurston County
Wes Cormier, Grays Harbor County
Mary Ellen Winborn, Clallam County
Randy Neatherlin, Mason County
Greg Brotherton, Jefferson County

Members absent: Joan Cathey, City of Tumwater

Legal Counsel: Jeff Myers of Law, Lyman, Daniel, Kamerrer and Bogdanovich

Staff Present: Fran McNair, Executive Director; Robert Moody, Compliance Manager;
Mark Goodin, Engineering Manager; Odelle Hadley, Air Monitoring
Supervisor; Dan Nelson, Public Information Officer; and Debbie Moody,
Office Manager/Recorder

Cooper called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Cooper asked for approval of the amended Agenda. Cormier moved approval of the amended Agenda. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

CHAIR REPORT

Cooper stated there was no Chair report, however wanted to remind the Finance Committee they will be meeting in April at 9:00 am to review the draft budget for the upcoming year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

DIRECTORS REPORT

Compliance Program Update

R. Moody asked if anyone had any questions or concerns with regards to the report. Brotherton asked about Port Townsend Paper Mill. R. Moody explained we do not regulate the paper mill. R. Moody explained there are some things our agency does not have jurisdiction over; Tribal lands,

Port Townsend Paper and Cosmo Specialty Fibers. The 2 facilities are handled by Ecology's Industrial Section. Ecology took control of chemical pulp mills (and a few other types of mills) in the 80's because they felt they could deal with these types of sources better through the industrial section. Brotherton requested contact information for the Industrial Section at Ecology.

Engineering Program Update

Goodin noted two permits were finalized and sent since the last meeting and he has two permits worth mentioning; BHP and McKinley. BHP is a proposal for a large potash facility in Grays Harbor. We are currently waiting on SEPA related issues but continue to process the permit. McKinley Paper Company, Goodin noted, is in Port Angeles. McKinley purchased the company from Nippon and are converting the mill to exclusively use recycled paper to produce cardboard. Goodin explained the Notice of Construction application is to modify the paper end of the mill to accommodate the changes they want to make. McNair added we have suggested they do community outreach to let the community know what they are doing.

Cox asked about emissions increases and whether they would be more or less hazardous than the previous business. Goodin explained it was too early to assess that information; however, he did note there will be some increases in formaldehyde and one other air toxic. The increase was enough to trigger modeling from Ecology.

Winborn, noting the dates on the reports, asked the average amount of time to complete a permit. Goodin explained that it depends on the type of permit. By law, Goodin stated, we have 60 days from receipt of a complete application to render a final determination or a preliminary determination followed by public process. Goodin explained the reason some of these have been on the list for so long has to do with not receiving a complete application, they haven't paid their fees, or we are hung up on a technical issue. Winborn asked when the 60 days starts. Goodin noted once we determine the application is complete. Menser asked if it is clear to the applicant what they need from the outset or do they have to wait for staff to request information. Goodin explained we review it and then proactively let them know if their application is complete.

Goodin explained for AOP permits, we have 12 months to issue a permit. There are various reasons, depending on the source, for a permit to sit longer than 12 months. They are very complicated permits.

Brotherton asked if there is fine for the 'after-the-fact' permits. Goodin stated we can issue violation notices, however our priority is to get the application in. Winborn asked how many people work on a permit. Goodin explained one engineer is assigned to the permit; however, it does go through different hands for review. Cooper asked when McKinley will be running. Goodin stated it sounds like it will be December.

Air Quality Program Update

Hadley stated we had mostly good air quality through February. We did have one moderate day in Lacey, Shelton, and Port Angeles. Port Angeles also had one day of unhealthy for sensitive groups. We had a couple of power outages which resulted in a few lost days, Hadley explained.

We do have data coming in from our Mason County Saturation Study. We have switched out our instruments for Purple Air Monitors. One Purple Air Monitor is co-located with our Shelton nephelometer and the graph shows they are highly correlated. Hadley showed where the monitors are currently located, explaining we have one last site to secure. We are trying to locate at Bordeaux Elementary but with the snow, they had other priorities. Hadley explained she is trying to

connect with their IT person and will continue to try so we can get the monitor located as soon as possible. Hadley did note a delay isn't critical, our 1-year timeline will not start until we have all the sites up and running.

Hadley stated she continues working with her students on the Community Toxics Grant. The students are scheduled to present their findings to EPA soon. We have not been able to get up to Cheeka Peak due to the snow and ice.

Cox asked if Hadley could give them a preliminary report on what the students' presentation will show. Hadley explained they started sampling last July, which means they picked up the wildfire days as well as winter woodstove emissions. What they are finding is, the amount of carbon monoxide and toxics associated with the wildfires is much less compared to the residential woodsmoke we see in the winter. They are still looking at why that is, so this is very preliminary information. Brotherton asked if we can quantify, not just for me but other rural residents, how much better sequestering the carbon from burning, rather than let it sit. Hadley said there are a lot of factors to consider. Nelson added, from an air quality standpoint, we would certainly prefer you don't burn. Cooper added Goodin has a biomass presentation that explains it very well.

Winborn noted she had a question regarding the ozone being depleted by the satellites. She had heard they will be deploying thousands of satellites for 5G technology and people said it will mess up the ozone layer. Hadley stated she could do a little research and get back to her on that issue.

Education and Outreach

Nelson stated he has been working on the woodstove buyback/changeout program. We have a grant from Ecology to encourage the replacement of older, uncertified woodstoves with cleaner technologies. The grant has historically been restricted to those areas most likely to exceed the state standard; however, we are working with them to expand that area and it appears we will be able to do that. We will be looking at extending our current program to all of Thurston County. In future grant cycles we will be requesting expansion to Mason and Clallam County, at the very least, hoping they allow us to do this regionwide.

Nelson wanted to expand on the 'completed permit application' issue that Menser mentioned. We know there are some unique processes, however for the most part, the businesses we regulate have standardized processes and procedures. Nelson stated he worked closely with the engineers to make the permitting page on our website easy to navigate and have the application forms in one location. Nelson showed the website to the Board, noting the different categories and forms for each. We tried to make it a one stop shop so applicants can get the information and forms they need prior to submission.

Nelson stated he has been working on direct outreach for residents. Our outdoor burning program in Thurston County is well used and the number of requests from residents in 'no burn areas' is down about 80% from last year. We continue to work with smoke complainants, doing direct mailings to neighborhoods, as appropriate. We are preparing for upcoming home shows as well, Dan noted.

Cooper asked if we have texting capabilities. Nelson stated not at this time. Cooper thought perhaps when out at home shows, if we had the capability to have people text to a number to be added to our mailing list, it would be easier and generate more email notifications. Nelson explained we have several ways to sign up on for our email service and adding the texting would be a greater cost. Cooper asked if sign-in sheets were available at these meetings. Nelson stated they are, and they can opt in to our email lists. Nelson did note we have about 9,000 email subscribers.

Finance/Administrative Update

McNair noted Harding was out of the office. We are just beginning our budget process for fiscal year 2020, which begins July 1, 2019. McNair stated the Finance Committee will meet in April to see the preliminary draft; the draft will then be brought to the full Board in May. McNair did explain the budget can be passed in May, however we post it for May and June, in case we have any changes. The budget must be passed no later than the June meeting. McNair stated we are doing fine with our current budget. We are still down one Air Quality Specialist; however, we are in the interview process now.

Executive Director's Report

McNair stated in 2018 the legislature didn't pass the capital budget, so we got 2 years of funding to spend in one year, for the woodstove buyback grant. We are hoping we get additional funding next year. McNair did explain in Thurston County we are not allowing people to put in new wood burning devices at all; however, if we are able to expand to Clallam, for instance, we will have to allow some alternatives as they do not have gas service in that area.

McNair explained the woodstove fee bills have not moved, we will see if it makes it through next session. There is a bill that will allow DNR burns in UGAs. We are trying to get amendments on it that would have them contact the local airs prior to burning, not just Ecology.

We have a gas station meeting coming up, McNair noted. We are trying to streamline our gasoline permitting process and are making changes to our rule. We like to get those that are affected involved in the process, so we have sent out postcards to all our gasoline facilities, as well as people who expressed interest. After the meeting, we will gather comments and update the draft, if necessary. Once we have a complete draft we will bring it to the Board for review.

McNair stated she and staff met with Gary Nelson of the Port of Grays Harbor to discuss things that are happening and how we can work together.

Cooper requested links or synopsis of the bills (DNR burn especially) to be sent to the Board. There were questions as to why someone would support the burn legislation. McNair explained the concern is wildfires and the underbrush and biomass. McNair added, with McKinley starting up soon, we hope to see much of the biomass be transported to them.

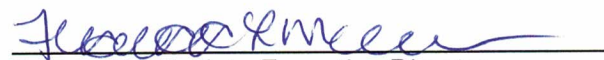
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:09 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, 2019, in Olympia, Washington.

ATTEST:


Francea L. McNair, Executive Director
Olympic Region Clean Air Agency


Jim Cooper, Chair
ORCAA Board of Directors

DATED: April 10, 2019