

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 10, 2019

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

Members absent:

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; Lynn Harding,
Administrative Services; and Debbie Moody, Office Manager/Recorder

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

Cooper asked for approval of the Agenda. Cormier moved approval with the request the Presentation be moved to occur after the agency business (Director's Report). The motion with the amendment was seconded and carried unanimously.

CHAIR REPORT

Cooper stated the Finance Committee met prior to this meeting and we have begun the budget process. Cooper added there will not be an evaluation on the director this year as one was completed last year. We will need to discuss her salary and determine any changes, if appropriate. Pratt stated the Finance Committee looked at the current budget and everything looks good. The 2020 budget has minimal changes, Pratt noted. Pratt stated the new budget does include a 2.9 increase for fees and the COLA. Cooper added we do have a vacancy on the other side of the building.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

DIRECTORS REPORT

Compliance Program Update

R. Moody noted now that Spring has arrived, outdoor burning is keeping his staff busy. R. Moody stated his team is now fully staffed and he introduced Seamus Shevlino who started with us on April 1. The Board welcomed Shevlino.

Engineering Program Update

Goodin updated the Board on the 2 large projects that are currently in our queue. McKinley Paper in Port Angeles is retooling the paper end of their mill and will be producing heavier grade paper products. Goodin stated Ecology is also involved in permitting (water), but as far as our permitting, we are on track. We expect to get a completeness determination out to them shortly, followed by a preliminary determination which will go out for public comment and possibly a hearing.

The other large project is BHP in Grays Harbor. This is a large potash facility where the potash comes in, they dump it and then load it onto barges.

Neatherlin asked for a briefing on the Sierra Pacific permits, wondering if the permit process is slowing their progress. Goodin stated it is not. Neatherlin stated that is all he needed to know.

Air Quality Program Update

Hadley stated March showed good air quality across the board with only 2 moderate days in Lacey. We had close to 100% data, except South Bend, where we found our inlet had been disconnected from outside. Hadley noted we will be looking for a new site in South Bend this summer.

The Mason County Saturation Study is moving along. Our last site, Bordeaux Elementary, should be set up this week. Purple Air data, at all the sites, have been corrected to be consistent with our Shelton Nephelometer. Correlation for March was almost identical for February and the linear relationship was almost identical as well.

The students are doing a great job on our Community Toxics project. They went to EPA and gave a presentation in March and it went very well. They are currently preparing to attend the Air & Waste Management conference in Quebec City this June.

Hadley noted she made it to Cheeka Peak in late March and things were running properly. She will be going up this week and again in 2 weeks for an audit. Hadley also noted she did give a wildfire presentation to the AWMA group in Lacey the previous evening. Grant has been busy with IT issues but has been keeping up with the quarterly quality checks.

Winborn asked if the students could be utilized for public education at some point. Nelson stated we have discussed that possibility, once they complete the project and have useful data.

Cathey asked what the students presented to EPA. Hadley explained they are looking at different compounds that have been identified as hazardous pollutants associated with wood burning (fire places/woodstoves). One of the pollutants, acrolein, has been deemed to pose no risk by EPA at a low level, but if it goes above that level it may be a risk for those with a lifetime exposure. Most of the measurements are above that line, however; measuring that compound is very difficult and within the 'noise' (detection limits) capabilities of the method. One of the primary projects they are working on is to improve the method for measuring that compound.

Cathey also asked if, when we get a complaint or deal with air issues, do we work with Fish & Wildlife that deal with animals and creatures. McNair stated our contacts are more with Ecology and DNR. Goodin added we don't issue final permits until SEPA has been done, and SEPA does deal with animals/creatures as well. R. Moody added that our mission does note we are here to protect humans and flora and fauna as well. The standards Hadley discusses each month let us know if we are doing ok.

Brotherton asked ORCAA deal with indoor air. McNair stated we do not, that would be Department of Health.

Education and Outreach

Nelson noted one of our engineers and one of our inspectors, both young women, participated in the "Expanding Your Horizons" group this year. This group encourages young girls and women to pursue careers and study in the fields of science.

We are gearing up for the annual home shows. The North Peninsula Home Show was cancelled due to weather, and they rescheduled however Nelson was unable to attend. Rather than refund our fee, they have agreed to put a ¼ page advertisement in their newsletter, which will be included in the Peninsula Daily News. Nelson stated the Olympia Home Show is at the end of the month and is held at St. Martin's University.

We have been working with Ecology on the woodsmoke reduction grant and we were able to get the contract revised to include a 5-mile radius outside the Thurston County UGAs. We will be meeting with Ecology and are hoping to be able to expand our future program to Clallam and Mason Counties.

Finance/Administrative Update

Harding noted we are doing well during our 3rd quarter of our budget. We believe we will not be using any of our unreserved funds this year, to balance the budget. Harding explained the Federal and State are changing the term lengths of several of our contracts. For example, Cheeka Peak contract is currently a 2-year contract and they will be doing a 5-year contract instead.

Harding noted we have gotten word we were awarded the 2% reduction for our health benefits, by way of the AWC Well City award. This award will cover calendar year 2021. Harding added, since 2012, Well Cities have saved more than \$17,000,000 in medical costs alone (for employers and employees). It has saved ORCAA \$4200/yr. Our Wellness committee works hard and currently has a walking challenge going for staff this month.

Harding stated we still have one rental space available. Cooper asked for the link to the advertisement. Nelson noted it is on the homepage of our website.

Runyan questioned how we arrive at our fee structure. He noted the significant increase (assessments) since 2016. What is it based on? McNair explained we had been at \$.45 for approximately 10 years, and in 2016 we did a study and it warranted an increase. Since that time, we increase the assessment by the CPI each year.

Executive Director's Report

McNair explained we had a constituent that sent in a card thanking our compliance staff for doing a great job. McNair stated, my staff works hard all the time, but it is special when we get a "thank you"

from a constituent. McNair noted, Goodin took on a huge project with EFSEC writing Grays Harbor Energy's AOP. Goodin has been working on this very detailed permit for quite some time and he recently sent it out the final draft to EFSEC. McNair thanked Goodin for doing a phenomenal job and presented him with a small gift. Nelson noted because Goodin's project was an energy project, his gift would remind him of the work he did. Nelson noted it is a portable powerpack (energy source) and backup battery. McNair noted she had a voicemail she received from Derek Kilmer regarding McKinley she wanted to share with the Board. Kilmer noted he had met with McKinley staff and they expressed their gratitude of ORCAA's staff working with them on their project.

McNair wanted to note how pleased she is that Dave Grant is working with the woodstove bounty program. Grant wants to be creative about solving problems and she is appreciative of that aspect. We will be meeting with him to help in evaluating the program.

McNair stated we will be bringing the preliminary budget to the full Board in May. We hope to have the budget passed by May or June as our Fiscal Year begins July 1.

PRESENTATION

Understanding Climate and Climate Change

Hadley explained the science of climate is very complicated and her presentation is simplified basics of why we have climates where we have them and how climate change may be affecting that. Hadley went through her presentation.

Cooper thanked Hadley for her presentation.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Cooper noted it has been 2 or 3 years since we discussed a fee for open burning permits (Thurston County). Is the time right to update the Board on how we are doing and take another look at whether we are in the right place to have a discussion again? McNair noted we can put it on a future agenda.

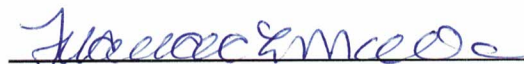
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 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 April 10, 2019, in Olympia, Washington.

ATTEST:


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


Jim Cooper, Chair
ORCAA Board of Directors

DATED: 5/8/2019