

Southwest Clean Air Agency

Board of Directors Minutes

October 6, 2022

The regular meeting of the Southwest Clean Air Agency Board of Directors was held in the Southwest Clean Air Agency office, Vancouver, Washington on October 6, 2022.

Those present were: Bob Hamlin, Chair, Skamania County
Ryan Smith, Vice-Chair, Member at Large
Dr. Alan Melnick, Director, Clark County
Ben Shumaker, Director, City of Stevenson
Lee Tischer, Director, Wahkiakum County
Sean Swope, Director, Lewis County
Kim Harless, Director, City of Vancouver
Jeanne Hendrickson, Director, Town of Cathlamet
Arne Mortensen, Director, Cowlitz County

Excused: Ruth Kendall, Director, City of Longview
Max Vogt, Director, City of Centralia

Also Present: Staff: Uri Papish, Executive Director
Traci Arnold, Office Administrator

Guests: None

Call to Order

Mr. Hamlin called the meeting to order. A quorum was confirmed to exist.

Board of Directors Minutes

Mr. Hamlin asked for consideration of the September 1, 2022 minutes. Dr. Melnick moved and Mr. Smith seconded that the minutes for the September 1, 2022, Board meeting be approved. Motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Hamlin asked for approval of the Consent Agenda including voucher numbers 78 through 114 and 116 through 118 in the amount of \$15,617.22 which have been approved for payment by the Executive Director, voucher 115 in the amount of \$10,485.30, August 2022 Salaries and Benefits in the amount of \$168,516.42. Mr. Shumaker moved and Dr. Melnick seconded that the Consent Agency be approved. Motion passed.

Changes to Agenda

None

Info Items & Public Comment

Mr. Papish gave an overview of upcoming changes to SWCAA's IT staffing and planning. He said SWCAA's long term goal is to become a paperless office. SWCAA has determined Lazerfische software is the best fit for an electronic document database. The purchase of this software will be partially funding by a grant award of \$30,000. The current SWCAA database programmer is going to retire December 2023. This employee does a little bit of everything which will be difficult to replace, therefore SWCAA is going to pilot outsourcing a portion of the IT support while the current employee is still on staff to ensure this is the correct decision before opening a recruitment. SWCAA is also going to convert the Access database to a Sequel platform.

Public Hearing

None

Unfinished Business/New Business

None.

Executive Session

None.

Control Officer Report

Mr. Papish summarized the information provided in the Control Officer Report and offered to answer any questions.

Senate Ratifies Kigali HFC Treaty (September 21, 2022) - In a bipartisan 69-27 vote, the U.S. Senate has voted to ratify an amendment to the Montreal Protocol that would cut the use of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), a major greenhouse gas (GHG). The vote clears the way for the U.S. to join 136 other nations and the European Union in approving the deal. The vote ratified the 2016 Kigali amendment to the 1987 Montreal Protocol on ozone depleting substances and includes specific targets and timetables to replace HFCs with climate-friendly alternatives and prohibits trade in in HFCs. The amendment requires countries to reduce their use of HFCs by 85 percent over 15 years, mirroring requirements adopted domestically by the U.S. Senate in the AIM Act of 2021 For further information: <https://ozone.unep.org/all-ratifications>

DOE Launches Industrial Earthshot (September 21, 2022) The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) launched a sixth "Earthshot" effort to significantly cut emissions associated with energy-intensive industrial heating by 2035. DOE aims to develop cost-competitive decarbonization

technologies to help cut emissions from industrial heating by at least 85 percent by 2035. Industrial heating is used in manufacturing of materials including plastics, cement and steel and accounted for 9 percent of U.S CO2 emissions. The new Earthshot will be focused on three key pathways: Electrifying heating operations; integrating low-emission heat sources such as geothermal energy, concentrated solar power or nuclear energy; and developing low- or no-heat process technologies. According to DOE, this would reduce 575 million metric tons of CO2 from the U.S. industrial sector, equivalent to the annual emissions from all passenger cars currently on the road. For further information: <https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2022-09/earth-shot-industrial-heat-fact-sheet.pdf>

CASAC Ozone Panel Restarts NAAQS Review (August 29, 2022)-The 18-member panel charged with advising EPA’s Clean Air Science Advisory Committee (CASAC) restarted their review of EPA’s 2015 Ozone standards, after a 3 ½ month pause. The May 2022 pause in the work of the CASAC Ozone Review Panel had come after concerns from members of the panel with the pacing and conclusions of EPA’s Integrated Science Assessment (ISA) that had recommended no change to the 70 ppb limit set by EPA in 2015, on the grounds that “a fuller discussion of the science” was needed to assess that finding. The CASAC panel has scheduled three meetings in September 2022 and is expected to offer recommendations to EPA Administrator Michael Regan in early 2023 on whether any change to the current 70 ppb exposure limit is warranted. For further information: https://casac.epa.gov/ords/sab/f?p=113:19:12009722973712:::RP,19:P19_ID:976 and <https://www.4cleanair.org/wp-content/uploads/CASAC-Ozone-Panel-Chair-Memo-05-13-22.pdf>

Study Predicts Locked-In Greenland Melting Will Result in Large Sea Level Rise (August 29, 2022) - Global temperature increases that are already forecast to occur thanks to historical greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions will cause a massive ice sheet in Greenland to raise global sea levels by nearly a foot by 2100, in a melting event driven by human-caused climate change, according to a study published on Monday. The study, “Greenland ice sheet climate disequilibrium and committed sea-level rise”, was published in the journal *Nature Climate Change*. It predicts that “regardless of twenty-first-century climate pathways”, existing emissions mean at least 3.3% of Greenland’s ice sheet will melt by 2100, the equivalent of 110 trillion tons of ice, leading to a minimum of 10 inches of sea level rise from current levels. The study noted that this is more than twice what was predicted in previous modeling efforts, but that these were based on “imprecise atmospheric and oceanic couplings. Here, we present a complementary approach resolving ice sheet disequilibrium with climate constrained by satellite-derived bare-ice extent, tidewater sector ice flow discharge and surface mass balance data.” Their study focused on the average melting trajectory for 2010-2019, but noted that 2012 was an outlier with extraordinary melting occurring in Greenland. “The high-melt year of 2012 applied in perpetuity yields an ice loss commitment of [seven times as much sea level rise], serving as an ominous prognosis for Greenland’s trajectory through a twenty-first century of warming.” For further information: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-022-01441-2>

Board Policy Discussion Issues

None.

Issues for Next Meeting

A. Public Hearing.

1. As Necessary.

B. New Business/Unfinished Business.

1. CPI Fee Increase Decision
2. SWCAA 400 Rule Revisions Decision
3. Executive Director Evaluation Process
4. Air Toxics Rulemaking Proposal

C. Board Policy Discussion Issues.

1. As Necessary.

D. Meeting Date and Location.

1. November 3, 2022 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 November 3, 2022 at 3:00 p.m., Southwest Clean Air Agency, Vancouver, Washington.

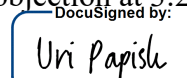
Board Meeting Attendance:

JURISDICTION	J 2022	F 2022	M 2022	A 2022	M 2022	J 2022	J 2022	A 2022	S 2022	O 2022	N 2021	D 2021
Clark County	+	+	+	+	+	+	C	+	+	+	+	C
Cowlitz County	+	+	+	+	+	+	C	0	+	+	0	C
Lewis County	0	0	+	0	0	+	C	+	+	+	+	C
Skamania County	+	+	+	+	+	+	C	+	+	+	+	C
Wahkiakum County	+	+	0	0	+	+	C	A	+	+	+	C
Cathlamet	0	+	+	+	+	0	C	+	+	A	+	C
Centralia	0	+	+	+	0	+	C	0	+	0	0	C
Longview	+	+	+	+	+	0	C	+	+	0	+	C
Stevenson	+	+	+	+	+	A	C	+	+	+	+	C
Vancouver	0	+	+	+	+	0	C	+	+	+	+	C
Member-At-Large	+	0	+	+	+	+	C	+	+	+	+	C

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

Mr. Hamlin adjourned the meeting without objection at 3:21 p.m.

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 Chair

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 Executive Director