

MINUTES
LANE REGIONAL AIR PROTECTION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2019
1010 MAIN ST, SPRINGFIELD, OR 97477

ATTENDANCE:

Board: Joe Pishioneri – Vice Chair – Springfield; Mysti Frost - Eugene; Betty Taylor – Eugene; Jeannine Parisi – Eugene; Charlie Hanna – Eugene; Joe Berney – Lane County

Absent: Mike Fleck - Chair - Cottage Grove; Kathy Nichols – Oakridge

Staff: Merlyn Hough–Director; Debby Wineinger; Nasser Mirhosseyni; Jo Niehaus; Max Hueftle

Others: Jim Daniels – CAC Chair; Justin Overdevest – Good Company

OPENING: Pishioneri called the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:** *Advisory Committee was moved ahead of Status Report on Oakridge Woodsmoke Mitigation Project*
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None**

A. Comments on an Item on Today’s Agenda

B. Comments on a Topic Not Included on Today’s Agenda (Note: This is an opportunity for the public to bring up unscheduled items. The board may not act at this time but, if it deems necessary, place such items on future agendas. Issues brought up under this agenda item are to be limited to three minutes’ speaking time by the person raising the issue. If additional time is necessary, the item may be placed on a future agenda.)

C. Comments from Board Members (Note: This is an opportunity for Board Members to bring up unscheduled items regarding today’s public comments, and/or written/electronic comments they have received. The board may not act now but, if it deems necessary place such items on future agendas.)

4. ACTION ITEMS:

Consent Calendar:

- A. Approval of Minutes of July 11, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting
- B. Approval of Expense Reports Through July & August 2019

MOTION: Taylor MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar; Frost SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE ON MOTION: UNANIMOUS

5. ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Daniels said they did not meet in August. During their July meeting they had a presentation from Jo Niehaus on Wildfire Smoke preparedness.

There were a few members that had scheduling conflicts in September, so they cancelled that meeting. The next CAC meeting will be in October.

Parisi asked if they meet in October, would they have an opportunity to participate in the Directors evaluation. **Daniels** said that would be welcomed.

6. STATUS REPORT ON OAKRIDGE WOODSMOKE MITIGATION PROJECT:

Justin Overdeest – Good Company presented/reviewed the report and he spoke about the project's accomplishments, objectives, and outputs.

Parisi asked if Oakridge was going to be receiving all of the TAG (Targeted Airshed Grant) of \$4,938,190. **Hough** said it would come into LRAPA, as it needed to be an air agency that receives the funds. There is a lot of work that would be done; certified woodstoves, ductless heat pumps, insulation, education, just to name a few things. **Hanna** asked if there were any risks/concerns about not receiving the grant. **Hough** said LRAPA is increasingly optimistic of receiving the grant. **Parisi** asked what the duration of the grant was. Justin Overdeest said it was for 5 years. **Berney** asked if LRAPA would be receiving an administration fee for the project. **Hough** said the target is 5% of several staff for a total in salaries of about \$248,000 over five years or approximately \$50,000 per year. **Pishioneri** said that was nice to hear because so many agencies gouge grants to supplement their own needs. **Parisi** asked if LRAPA would be hiring a grant administrator. **Hough** said we have designed this grant, so we are not in a position of having to hire additional staff. There would be some subcontracted work for some of the key oversight of the project. This will go through an RFQ (request for qualifications) process.

Parisi commented that this is a good news story for Oakridge. She was at a meeting with Lane Workforce Partnership folks yesterday and was telling them that this is one of those unsung good news stories and it doesn't get as much play as it should. This has been a significant partnership. She wants to continue to look for opportunities to share this story. She also wanted to thank Laticia Comer and Merlyn Hough for participating in the EV Ride and Drive this past weekend.

Berney asked if Good Company is using this report to make the basis for a more quantitative impacts in this arena. Justin Overdeest said there is an internal mission with everyone at Good Company to see implementation, not just with air quality, but other elements of sustainability in general. **Berney** commented that if there was anyway the Board or himself as a Board member could help, he would love to.

Berney also said he and Merlyn Hough left an Emergency Managers Meeting this morning to join the Board meeting. He wanted to share that emergency management and community resilience and sustainability kept ringing in his ears loud and clear. It seems many communities are looking at rebuilding bridges, roads and seismic retrofitting. He wanted to share with this group that there are other avenues and they do relate to sustainability. Use gymnasiums or churches facilities, simply retrofitting them not just for seismic but more net-zero facilities. It's a view that would have air quality implications, that is the only reason he brings it up.

Parisi said EWEB is building emergency water stations and they are trying to build them at schools. One of the things they have learned is that brand new schools are not built to the level of seismic resiliency for as long as they may be occupiable. There are a few schools in the Hillsboro area that took extra money and at least made their gymnasiums and cafeterias a seismically level 4 standard. The cost was only 2-3 percent more in the total cost of the school. She believes 4J has adopted a policy looking at seismic standards. The schools don't consider themselves to be shelters. But when something bad happens that's where people naturally congregate. The emergency water stations are places with big parking lots and fields. Because schools are not built for seismic resiliency, we expect that National Guard are going to bring tents and people are going to be sheltered outside under cover. She wondered if Joe Berney had connections with 4J Board and thought they had a policy that a portion of new schools would be seismically built.

7. DIRECTORS REPORT:

Hough reviewed the Director's Report.

Frost said she has been asked about ecological burning as folks are concerned about the damage to the areas. **Hough** said it would a good time to invite the Rivers to Ridges group to come and give a presentation to the Board. We invite them in every few years to remind everyone of the purposes of the program.

Hough spoke about his air pollution engineering courses at he teaches at the University of Portland on Tuesday evenings.

Hough mentioned that in the section on National Issues, he changed the format a little. It's now a bullet list with links to the issues.

Hough said over the last several months the agency has put a lot of work into the TAG (Targeted Airshed Grant).

Hough noted that Colleen Wagstaff has added copies of the industry complaints to the report for the Boards' review.

Parisi asked when is information sent to the auditors? **Hough** said they have been doing their field work. **Mirhosseyni** added that the annual audit is usually later in the year, but we have to file the Federal Financial Report to EPA, so we expedited the process. They started the field audit in August and are done with that process and are working on the final reports.

8. REVIEW DIRECTOR'S EVALUATION SURVEY/FORM TO STAFF:

Parisi thought that the Director's evaluation form would also be included with this information. She had emails with Nasser Mirhosseyni back in July, that the form that the board uses for Directors evaluation would be included with this agenda item. They had made some changes on the form and she asked that it be brought to the meeting for discussion.

Parisi said what is included with this agenda item is to see if the Board agrees with the form for the staff survey. She will start working with Debby Wineinger to get the form out to staff She noted that they had all agreed they would provide postage stamped envelopes for the staff to mail the forms. **Parisi** will forward the completed surveys to all Board members.

Hanna suggested adding a question regarding the Director's involvement with local and state government, and the community. **Pishioneri** suggested asking how comfortable staff is being able to represent LRAPA in different venues.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

Frost asked if LRAPA and the Board would be open to having a community meeting with other groups such as the Human Rights Committee or County Representatives. She has noticed a lot of our leaders that are making decisions, don't know much about LRAPA. She would like to get more information out to the general public about LRAPA and their functions. **Taylor** said there is no way you would get all of the elected people to one meeting, it's just not possible. She has in the past asked the Director to come and speak at City Council to update what LRAPA is doing.

Parisi asked when the annual report is put out. **Niehaus** said it was usually around the same time budget meetings start in the Spring. **Parisi** thought that it might be good to be able to share the annual report with elected representatives.

Berney thought it sounded like with a minimum amount of effort, can LRAPA's mission be shared with the maximum amount of constituents that ought to know? Maybe start with getting the key information to groups that pay LRAPA dues. That could help the case to increase dues.

Pishioneri said he concurred with Betty Taylor you are not going to be able to get all the representatives together for a meeting. Maybe get something together that can be provided to all the elected officials and committees. An overview or highlight information could be provided and then check if those bodies would be interested in a short presentation in the future. This would also give them the chance to ask questions.

Frost said the Sustainability Commission is coming up with a petition and it has a lot to do with clean air. They may ask for stuff that LRAPA is already doing.

Frost said all these groups have monthly meetings. So maybe LRAPA can also go to these smaller group meetings and have a more intimate discussion and answer their questions.

Berney said he is hearing full Board support for it; the question is, what is the most effective way to do it.

Parisi suggested that if Board members want to go out and represent LRAPA they should be sure they have current literature to present. **Pishioneri** added that if Board members do go to meetings and speak be clear they are there as an individual and not speaking on behalf of the Board. **Berney** commented that all the Board should have the same LRAPA information. Someone should be tracking who speaks to what group, and when. What is the desired outcome, so, everyone goes into a meeting with the same intent. He would volunteer if it strategically made sense to use the County Board of Commissioners as a nerve center because they are spread out in a lot of different places.

Hough said currently the 5 partners are the ones we do and should initiate. However, we are open to be on anyone's agenda within the 4 cities and the county. Between himself and Jo Niehaus they speak to a lot of groups, but if there is someone else, we should be addressing, please encourage them to invite us.

10. OLD BUSINESS: None

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debby Wineinger