

BOARD MEETING DATE: February 6, 2015

AGENDA NO. 14

REPORT: Administrative Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Administrative Committee met on Friday, January 16, 2015. The Committee discussed various issues detailed in the Committee report. The next Administrative Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 13, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive and file.

Dr. William A. Burke, Chair  
Administrative Committee

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**Attendance:** Attending the January 16, 2015 meeting were Committee Members Mayor Dennis Yates and Supervisor Josie Gonzales at SCAQMD headquarters, and Chairman William Burke and Dr. Clark E. Parker, Sr. via videoconference.

**ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Board Members' Concerns:** None
2. **Chairman's Report of Approved Travel:** Chairman Burke reported that Councilmember Judith Mitchell will be traveling to Sacramento to attend the Low Carbon Fuel Summit and the monthly CARB Board meeting.
3. **Approval of Compensation for Board Member Assistant(s)/Consultant(s):** None to report.
4. **Report of Approved Out-of-Country Travel:** None to report.

5. **Overview of District Authority with Respect to Mobile Sources:** Assistant Deputy Executive Officer Henry Hogo provided an overview of District authority in response to the Board’s inquiries regarding the need to reduce mobile source emissions. Staff conducted an analysis of the District’s mobile source authority, which included a comparison of the District’s authority with that of CARB and U.S. EPA. The District has primary authority over setting emissions limits on all stationary sources except motor vehicles as well as indirect source authority over sources such as ports, railyards, and airports. CARB and U.S. EPA have primary authority over tailpipe emissions from motor vehicles. Staff has been working closely with CARB on the need for additional mobile source controls in order to meet the federal ozone air quality standard in 2032 and the annual PM2.5 standard in the 2025 timeframe.

Mayor Yates inquired whether we had authority over trains, ships and airplanes. Chief Deputy Counsel Barbara Baird responded that there are two possible areas where we would have authority. One area is the ability for the District to impose operational limits on those types of equipment, such as anti-idling provisions. The other area is under Indirect Source Review where this type of authority can apply to facilities that attract any type of mobile source, whether motor vehicles, off-road construction, ports, or railyards, which are all indirect sources. Mayor Yates asked if airplanes would be included in that group. Ms. Baird responded that airplanes are very difficult to control because the Clean Air Act gives the authority for emissions standards over them explicitly to U.S. EPA. In the past, staff has explored the concept of something called the “airport bubble” regulation which would be similar to an indirect source rule; however, we had an enormous amount of opposition from the local airports, but that could be explored again if the Board desires it. Mayor Yates inquired that if we do not have control over the airplanes, are we prohibited from controlling the airports. Dr. Wallerstein responded that one of the things discussed in the AQMP context is for the airlines to route their “clean air jets” to our District, much like the railroads expedited the implementation of Tier II locomotives in our region as a means of cleaning the air. That is a topic staff plans to examine in developing the 2016 AQMP and bring back to the Board for a more detailed discussion.

Dr. Burke commented that he had expected to get a report on what we can do, where we can do it, and how we can do it; however, he did not feel that was reported. Ms. Baird responded that the Board would be getting a more detailed confidential memorandum from General Counsel Kurt Wiese that details more of the issues related to the various things we can potentially do. Dr. Burke remarked that the airports are an important economic engine in the City of Los Angeles and the State of California, but emphasized that if we are really going to accomplish our mission, we need to carefully look at everything that is economically viable and find out where we can control the last remaining sources of relatively uncontrolled emissions to finish the job sooner. Dr. Burke directed staff to come

back to the Committee in March with specific actions that can be taken to further reduce emissions.

Dr. Parker commented that San Joaquin has Rule 9510 on indirect source review and inquired whether the District had a similar rule. Dr. Wallerstein responded that at this point we do not have a similar rule; however, he suspects that as we go through the 2016 AQMP there will be some community groups and environmental organizations that will encourage us to consider adoption of something similar since under state law we are required to have all feasible measures.

Supervisor Gonzales commented that she agrees with Dr. Burke that we need to look at every source and with the state and federal mandates which this agency and other environmentally-charged agencies have to meet, whether CARB or U.S. EPA, that there is an identification of each agency's responsibilities and the scope of their responsibilities. Where we find that we have no authority, we need to identify where there is authority, and if there is no authority to be identified, then address those issues with our state and federal representatives as a high means-assessment priority that needs to be done in order to help us meet their mandates.

6. **Overview and Discussion of the Review and Assessment Report of the Website Redesign and Content Management System Initiative:** Assistant Deputy Executive Officer Chris Marlia reported that about a month prior to the release of our new website, an independent design firm was hired to take a fresh, independent look at what the actual design company had designed and see if there were any major problems that would delay the website from going live. The independent contractor gave specific comments page-by-page as to minor things that could be fixed, such as spacing, formatting, and broken-link issues. However, her overall conclusion was that all these things were fairly minor and there was no real reason to delay deploying the website. She did, however, have a couple of areas that she thought we should address as we go further. One of those areas was better compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act for people who have difficulty reading. There are tools that can be used to read our website and translate it into verbiage so people with disabilities can access it. In converting our site, the design firm incorporated a tool called "alt text" which can be put into the code behind our content that allows disabled web readers to read "behind the scene" descriptions. However, the alt text is not displayed on the browsers that non-disabled people can see and read when they view the website. These tools will make it easier for people with disabilities to read our web content.

Dr. Burke inquired whether staff had an ongoing conversation with the contractor on how to implement her suggestions. Mr. Marlia responded that there was not much dialogue because it was a short-term contract for a month before going live with the new website and staff already knew that there were tools available on the web that could be implemented to help us with this effort. Dr. Burke expressed

his concern as to why staff felt the pressure to go live if we had not complied with the disability aspects of the website. He asked why the contract was short-term if in a one-month analysis a significant problem was found with the website. He also asked how much the contract was for the firm who did the analysis and how much is spent on the system annually. Mr. Marlia responded that the contract was for \$6,000 to \$8,000 and significant resources are expended on the system each year. Dr. Wallerstein added that he will work with staff to address these issues.

Supervisor Gonzales commented that she went on our website and was specifically looking for the webcasts, wanting to add them to her Facebook page to increase viewer interest and participation at the local level. She had difficulty locating the webcasts or anything that referred to the meetings; she did, however, eventually find them under the category called "Library." For the average person, the library is a place where you go to find information, not to view meetings. We need to look at the website in a very simple manner and make it easy for anyone, especially the handicapped, to get to where they need to go in a very quick, direct manner, and maybe in one or two clicks.

Dr. Burke emphasized that we have to correct these problems because we live in a web-based society. If we are going to be part of the community, doing community outreach, we have to have the ability to interconnect with people in a logical, easy manner.

7. **Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group Minutes for the October 10, 2014 Meeting (written report):** Attached for information only are the minutes from the October 10, 2014 meeting of the Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group.
8. **Review of the February 6, 2015 Governing Board Agenda:** There were no questions regarding the February 6, 2015 Governing Board Agenda.
9. **Other Business:** None
10. **Public Comment:** None

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

#### **Attachment**

Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group Minutes from the October 10, 2014 Meeting



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dennis Yates, Mayor, City of Chino and LGSBA Chairman  
Paul Avila, P.B.A. & Associates  
Geoffrey Blake, Metal Finishers of Southern California/All Metals  
Todd Campbell, Clean Energy  
John Hill, Riverside County Representative  
Maria Elena Kennedy, Kennedy Communications  
Rita Loof, RadTech International

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Ben Benoit, Councilman, City of Wildomar and LGSBA Vice Chairman  
Felipe Aguirre  
Mary Ann Lutz, Mayor, City of Monrovia  
Kelly Moulton, Paralegal  
Lupe Ramos Watson, Councilmember, City of Indio

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Mark Abramowitz, Board Member Assistant (*Lyou*)  
David Rothbart, Los Angeles County Sanitation District

### **SCAQMD STAFF:**

Sam Atwood, Media Manager  
Nancy Feldman, Principal Deputy District Counsel  
Elaine-Joy Hills, AQ Inspector II  
Lori Langrell, Secretary  
Fred Minassian, Director of Science & Technology Advancement  
Guillermo Sanchez, Sr. Public Affairs Manager  
Jill Whynot, Asst. Deputy Executive Officer

### **Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order/Opening Remarks**

Mayor Dennis Yates called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

### **Agenda Item #2 – Approval of September 12, 2014 Meeting Minutes/Review of Follow-Up/Action Items**

Chair Yates called for approval of the September 12, 2014 meeting minutes. The Minutes were approved unanimously.

Mr. Guillermo Sanchez noted Ms. Rita Loof's request for an update on the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) test method and it would be agendaized at a later meeting.

**Agenda Item #3 – Check Before You Burn Program and Outreach Update**

Mr. Sam Atwood provided an overview of the SCAQMD's wintertime Check Before You Burn program and outreach efforts for the 2014-15 season.

Mr. Paul Avila asked if there were still areas that use incinerators to burn trash. Mr. Atwood indicated not in our air district, but, for example, in San Luis Obispo County, they are able to burn trash, but must obtain a permit first. Mr. Avila further asked if there are still incinerators that remain active today. Mr. Atwood replied no since incinerators were banned in the 1950's.

Ms. Rita Loof asked if the SCAQMD has quantified the emissions reductions with cost. Mr. Atwood indicated that he will check with staff.

*Action Item: Determine emissions reductions achieved through the Check Before You Burn program.*

Mr. Avila inquired whether the ban is for residential only, or if businesses refrained from wood burning as well. Mr. Atwood responded the ban is on residential burning only.

Mr. Avila asked how are "no burn" days decided. Mr. Atwood indicated that the methodology is written into Rule 445. If the district Meteorologist forecasts particulate matter of 2.5 microns (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) to exceed 30 micrograms per cubic meter, a no burn day is declared.

**Agenda Item #4 – Potential Changes to Carl Moyer Program**

Mr. Fred Minassian provided a report on discussions with the California Air Resources Board (ARB), the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), and other stakeholders to improve the effectiveness of the Carl Moyer Program.

Mr. Avila asked if the program assisted buses primarily. Mr. Minassian replied that the program assists mobile sources with over 14,000 gross vehicle weight. When compared to the Carl Moyer Program implemented in the other air districts, SCAQMD has had the most variety in types of vehicles helped, from locomotives, marine vessels, buses to trucks, and construction equipment.

Mr. Todd Campbell indicated that he attended the Incentive Program Advisory Group (IPAG) meeting held on October 9<sup>th</sup>, and was curious why no paperwork on the presentations were offered. He asserted that better input could have been provided if they had received background materials and proposals in a timely fashion. Mr. Minassian indicated that this was merely the initial session and ARB Board Member Sandra Berg Burke wanted to enhance the group discussions to bring up additional comments and ideas from the stakeholders prior to more detailed reports being drafted for dissemination.

Mr. Avila asked what type of changes was ultimately being sought. Mr. Minassian indicated the intent is to update the program to make it more effective. Some of the changes being discussed include such as leveraging funds and adjusting the cost-effectiveness determination, incorporating greenhouse gas emission reductions as a factor, and to allow the Moyer Program to be applied to a broader range of engine types.

**Agenda Item #5 –Monthly Report on Small Business Assistance Activities**

No comments.

**Agenda Item #6 - Other Business**

Mr. Geoff Blake asked for further information on the Rule & Control Measure Forecast informational attachment, and how can he find out more information about upcoming activities pertaining to a particular rule that is on the forecast. Ms. Jill Whynot indicated that a staff contact should be listed on each rule, and instead of searching through the website for upcoming activities, a request can be made to be placed on the mailing list for notification.

**Agenda Item #7 - Public Comment**

No comments.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:14 p.m.