

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 6, 2017

AGENDA NO. 5

PROPOSAL: Special Meeting of the Brain & Lung Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation

SYNOPSIS: This item is to replace one director of the Brain & Lung Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation. Judith Mitchell has indicated a willingness to replace Michael D. Antonovich.

COMMITTEE: No Committee Review

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Ratify the appointment of Judith Mitchell as a Foundation Director, replacing former Board Member Michael D. Antonovich.

Wayne Natri
Executive Officer

KRW:ML

Background

For this item, the Board is conducting a special meeting of the Brain & Lung Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation to replace Michael D. Antonovich as a director of the Foundation.

In February 2003, the Board established the Brain Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation. In March 2004, the Foundation amended its Articles of Incorporation to change its name to Brain & Lung Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation (Foundation) and to specify that its purpose is related to the effects of air pollution on brain tumors and lung cancer. The mission of the Foundation is to support research studies on the association between air pollution and brain and lung tumors, as well as research for the development of novel therapeutics for such tumors. To carry out its purpose, the Foundation has funded research projects investigating the links between air pollution and brain and lung tumors.

The Foundation has sponsored over \$5.6 million in studies with leading medical researchers in Southern California. As a result of these studies, it has been learned that exposure of laboratory animals to particulate pollutants is associated with biochemical changes in the brain tissue that are consistent with the biochemical pattern found in human brain tumors. Another project found preliminary associations of particulate matter levels and the risk of childhood brain tumors.

The SCAQMD Board authorized in June 2015 the transfer of an additional \$2,500,000 from the Health Effects Research Fund to the Foundation. The Foundation released an RFP to solicit researches within the purposes of the Foundation and, at its December 2016 meeting, selected three proposals for awards. These research proposals include an epidemiologic study of brain tumors among ethnically diverse men and women, and two toxicological studies investigating the impacts of different components of particulate matter and the biological responses in mice induced with brain tumors, as well as the responses in cancer cells.

The Directors of the Foundation serve at the pleasure of the SCAQMD Board. The Chairman of the SCAQMD recommends individuals for Board approval to be Directors of the Foundation. Three of the current directors are SCAQMD Board Members: Ben Benoit (Foundation Vice Chair), Dr. William A. Burke, and Dr. Clark E. Parker, Sr. The Foundation's bylaws require that the Foundation have four Directors. This action would replace former SCAQMD Board Member Michael D. Antonovich with current SCAQMD Board Member Judith Mitchell, as recommended by Chairman Burke.

Proposal

Approve the replacement of Foundation Director Michael D. Antonovich with Judith Mitchell.

Resource Impacts

None.