

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 5, 2020

AGENDA NO. 1

MINUTES: Governing Board Monthly Meeting

SYNOPSIS: Attached are the Minutes of the May 1, 2020 meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve Minutes of the May 1, 2020 Board Meeting.

Faye Thomas
Clerk of the Boards

FT:cmw

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2020

Notice having been duly given, the regular meeting of the South Coast Air Quality Management District Board was conducted remotely via videoconference and telephone. Members present:

William A. Burke, Ed.D., Chairman
Speaker of the Assembly Appointee

Council Member Ben Benoit, Vice Chairman
Cities of Riverside County

Supervisor Kathryn Barger
County of Los Angeles

Supervisor Lisa A. Bartlett
County of Orange

Council Member Joe Buscaino
City of Los Angeles

Council Member Michael A. Cacciotti
Cities of Los Angeles County – Eastern Region

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.)
Senate Rules Committee Appointee

Gideon Kracov
Governor's Appointee

Mayor Larry McCallon
Cities of San Bernardino County

Council Member Judith Mitchell
Cities of Los Angeles County – Western Region

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez (Left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.)
County of Riverside

Council Member Carlos Rodriguez
Cities of Orange County

Supervisor Janice Rutherford
County of San Bernardino

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Burke called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

- Opening Comments

Chairman Burke thanked Board members for the work they are doing in their communities during these unprecedented times.

Council Member Buscaino echoed Chairman Burke's sentiments and acknowledged Supervisor Barger's leadership in Los Angeles County during the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted that the National League of Cities is advocating for cities to ensure that public health and safety needs are addressed.

Supervisor Barger thanked fellow Board members for their work in their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic and acknowledged Council Member Buscaino for his work with the homeless.

Chairman Burke announced the retirement of Marian Coleman, DEO/Compliance and Enforcement and acknowledged her 34 years of dedicated service to the South Coast AQMD. He noted her accomplishments and leadership abilities and expressed appreciation for her dedication to the clean air mission on behalf of the Board.

Mr. Nastri noted that staff is recommending that Item No. 25 be continued due to a noticing issue.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve Minutes of April 3, 2020 Board Meeting
2. Set Public Hearings June 5, 2020 to Consider Adoption of and/or Amendments to South Coast AQMD Rules and Regulations
 - A. Determine That Proposed Amendments to Rule 1117 – Emissions from Container Glass Melting and Sodium Silicate Furnaces, Are Exempt from CEQA and Amend Rule 1117
 - B. Determine That Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification for 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard, Are Exempt from CEQA, and Approve RACT Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification

Budget/Fiscal Impact

3. Amend Contract for Tier 4 Passenger Locomotives
4. Amend Award and Execute Contract for Stationary Fuel Cells
5. Recognize Revenue and Transfer and Appropriate Funds for Air Monitoring Programs, and Issue an RFQ and Purchase Orders for Air Monitoring Equipment and One Vehicle
6. Approve Compensation Adjustments for Board Member Assistants and Board Member Consultants for FY 2020-21
7. Authorize Purchase of OnBase Software Support
8. Approve Allocation of Funds as Approved by MSRC

Items 9 through 14 – Information Only/Receive and File

9. Legislative, Public Affairs and Media Report
10. Hearing Board Report
11. Civil Filings and Civil Penalties Report
12. Lead Agency Projects and Environmental Documents Received
13. Rule and Control Measure Forecast
14. Status Report on Major Ongoing and Upcoming Projects for Information Management

Supervisor Barger and Mayor McCallon noted that they do not have a financial interest in Item No. 3 but are required to identify for the record that they are on the Board of Directors of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority, which is involved in this Item.

Anna Christensen of the Long Beach Area Group commented on a letter she sent to Board members regarding the health risks associated with wood burning smoke and prescribed burns, especially during the COVID-19 crisis. She requested that staff provide educational materials to communities about the risks of wood smoke and that the no-burn periods be extended. (Submitted Written Comment)

Agenda Items 3, 5 and 13 were withheld for comment and discussion.

MOVED BY BUSCAINO, SECONDED BY BENOIT, AGENDA ITEMS 1, 2, 4, 6 THROUGH 12 AND 14 APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: Barger, Bartlett, Benoit, Burke, Buscaino, Cacciotti, Delgado, Kracov, McCallon, Mitchell, Perez, Rodriguez and Rutherford

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

15. Items Deferred from Consent Calendar

3. Amend Contract for Tier 4 Passenger Locomotives

Council Member Cacciotti expressed support for the contract and asked where the new Tier 4 locomotives would be deployed, which lines will be extended, and what zero emission locomotives will be purchased in the future.

Mayor McCallon responded that 35 Tier 4 locomotives are already in service, with five yet to be delivered, and that the cleaner locomotives are being used on several Metrolink lines.

Supervisor Barger noted that Metrolink was recently awarded funding for infrastructure improvement projects on the Burbank and Antelope Valley lines.

MOVED BY CACCIOTTI, SECONDED BY MITCHELL, AGENDA ITEM 3 APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: Barger, Bartlett, Benoit, Burke, Buscaino, Cacciotti, Delgado, Kracov, McCallon, Mitchell, Perez, Rodriguez and Rutherford

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

5. Recognize Revenue and Transfer and Appropriate Funds for Air Monitoring Programs, and Issue an RFQ and Purchase Orders for Air Monitoring Equipment and One Vehicle

Council Member Cacciotti expressed support for the program and inquired about the type of vehicles that will be purchased and if there are state guidelines that apply in the purchasing decision.

Dr. Jason Low, Assistant DEO/Science and Technology Advancement, responded that state guidelines, are followed. but the driving range of the vehicle has to meet the mileage-intensive needs of field staff that drive long distances to various monitoring stations. Clean vehicles with the lowest possible emissions are considered in all vehicle purchases.

Council Member Cacciotti expressed concern that while people are encouraged to buy electric vehicles there is a lack of adequate infrastructure to support greater EV use. He also asked if a vehicle that gets 230-240 miles in one charge would qualify.

Dr. Low noted that the charging infrastructure for EVs is improving and vehicle purchases are carefully reviewed so that the cleanest vehicles are purchased while balancing operational needs and the corresponding clean air benefits. He noted that Dr. Matt Miyasato, DEO/Science and Technology Advancement, is aware of current technologies and helps guide vehicle purchasing decisions.

Senator Delgado shared challenges she has experienced with not having enough access to efficient chargers on the east side of Los Angeles. This is a problem, especially in underserved areas, and she recommended that the Board work with public-private partnerships to improve the charging infrastructure.

Chairman Burke concurred that EV infrastructure needs to improve, particularly in disadvantaged communities, and recommended that staff prepare a report to the Board on the status of EV charging infrastructure and disparities within the various communities in the South Coast.

Mr. Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer, commented on information regarding electric infrastructure and electric vehicles and stated that staff would provide an update to the Board. He commented on the Enhanced Fleet Modernization Program (EFMP), an incentive program branded as Replace Your Ride, that is targeted towards disadvantaged communities. He also commented on efforts with Southern California Edison on the rapid deployment of charging stations in AB 617 communities. Mr. Nastri added that staff looks at the operational needs, including equipment resources, duty cycle and driving range of the vehicle for purchases. He also stated that electric utility vehicles are a challenge because they currently do not have a long driving range.

Chairman Burke inquired if a car or utility vehicle is being purchased.

Dr. Low responded that a utility van with cargo space to carry equipment in the field would be purchased and reiterated that staff considers other clean vehicle options based on the application and use.

Council Member Rodriguez concurred that there is a need to improve electric infrastructure and is interested in staffs' recommendations. He also requested that staff evaluate electric vehicle battery waste and recycling options.

Council Member Cacciotti commented on a company that recycles electric car batteries for secondary uses and noted that a recycled car battery has an additional life of 7-10 years beyond its primary use. Since EV options for vans and light-duty vehicles are limited at this time, superior plug-in electric vehicles might be an option for staff to consider for these types of uses to set a good example.

Mr. Nastri noted the importance of balancing priorities during the COVID-19 crisis and commented on staff working with other agencies that have the lead responsibility for battery waste recycling. He noted that Council Member Mitchell serves on the CARB board, and can provide input to them, as CARB is in a better position to address this issue from a statewide perspective. He added that recycled batteries can adequately serve stationary source applications but not mobile.

Chairman Burke asked if AB 617 monies could be used to build charging stations.

Mr. Nastri responded that AB 617 monies are directed and prioritized by the communities. During the AB 617 process, the communities identified air quality priorities specific to their community and light-duty charging stations were not identified as a top priority.

Dr. Philip Fine, DEO/Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources, responded that during the AB 617 process the community steering committees prioritized air quality concerns for the Community Emission Reduction Plans. Light-duty electric vehicles and charging stations were discussed but were not considered top priorities for some communities; however, incentive programs such as Replace Your Ride and grant funds help toward the deployment of electric vehicles and providing incentives for charging stations in AB 617 communities.

Council Member Mitchell commented that the CARB Board, at their April 23, 2020 meeting, heard an update on the implementation of the 2017 CARB Scoping Plan. The Scoping Plan includes measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as pollution, and would be the appropriate place to address recycling of lithium-ion batteries. At the CARB meeting, she also brought up the important issue of SB 1383, which will require the recycling of organic waste. She thanked everyone for raising awareness about battery recycling which will become more important as we move toward more all electric transportation options.

Supervisor Perez commented on the needs of the Coachella Valley and noted the importance of providing incentives to allow individuals to afford EVs while at the same time improving electrical infrastructure. He noted that issues of immediate priority for the residents of the Coachella Valley include road paving improvements, suppression of dust at the Salton Sea, and incentive programs that assist gardeners and landscapers with the transition to electric lawn care equipment.

Jessica Craven, North East Los Angeles (NELA) Climate Collective, commented that she has been driving an EV for several years and range varies depending on the type of driving. She expressed support for EV use in city, state and airport rental agencies and expansion of electric infrastructure. She commented on the challenges of finding adequate charging stations and noted this as one of the biggest obstacles in buying an EV. She added that while Tesla has adequate charging stations, there is a lack of electric infrastructure for other EVs.

Ranji George thanked the Board for supporting zero emission technologies and the need for battery recycling programs. He commented on funding issues at national laboratories and federal agencies for new zero emission technologies and urged the Board to take a leadership role and incorporate battery recycling into the South Coast AQMD's Technology Advancement Office plan.

Emily Spokes, NELA Climate Collective, stated that she has experienced difficulty in accessing chargers at South Coast AQMD's headquarters because all the chargers are in use. She added that the lack

of adequate charging facilities disincentivizes the use of electric vehicles.

(Supervisor Barger left the meeting at 9:53 a.m.)

Council Member Benoit noted the importance of purchasing zero emission and plug-in hybrid vehicles for staff. He suggested looking into purchasing low-cost chargers that will allow recharging at facilities that are frequently visited by staff.

Dr. Miyasato responded that when vehicles are purchased, priority is given to the cleanest vehicles. Staff will investigate recharging options at facilities that are frequented by staff.

Harvey Eder, Public Solar Power Coalition, commented on several books by economists and the movie "Who Killed the Electric Car". He added support for the Solar New Deal.

MOVED BY CACCIOTTI, SECONDED BY
BARTLETT, AGENDA ITEM 5 APPROVED AS
RECOMMENDED, BY THE FOLLOWING
VOTE:

AYES: Bartlett, Benoit, Burke, Buscaino,
Cacciotti, Delgado, Kracov,
McCallon, Mitchell, Perez,
Rodriguez and Rutherford

NOES: None

ABSENT: Barger

13. Rule and Control Measure Forecast

Supervisor Rutherford expressed concerns about amendments to Rule 1111 - Reduction of NOx Emissions from Natural-Gas-Fired, Fan-Type Central Furnaces, as meetings with stakeholders have not been held to discuss alternatives that apply to furnaces in high elevation communities. She noted that the Board unanimously supported a motion in December 2019 to have staff meet with industry to discuss the hybrid dual fuel furnace technology, and bring proposed rule amendments for the Board's consideration in the fall of 2020.

Susan Nakamura, Assistant DEO/Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources, responded that monthly and bi-monthly meetings have been held with manufacturers in anticipation of the October 2020 compliance dates under Rule 1111. She noted that meetings have been held with

manufacturers separately due to concerns about the disclosure of proprietary information. A working group meeting and additional stakeholder meetings are planned prior to a briefing to the Stationary Source Committee in June.

Mr. Nastri added that staff would provide Supervisor Rutherford with periodic status updates on this item.

Jerry Desmond, Metal Finishers Association of Southern California, commented on Rules 1469.1 - Spraying Operations Using Coatings Containing Chromium, and 1426 - Emissions from Metal Finishing Operations, regarding issues related to COVID-19 that are impacting members. He shared that 30-40 percent of businesses have furloughed or laid off employees. Emissions from these facilities are down and they remain in constant contact with staff about proposed rule amendments that affect their industry. He added that while they continue to participate in working groups, the focus for these businesses, at this time, is employee safety.

MOVED BY RUTHERFORD, SECONDED BY
CACCIOTTI, AGENDA ITEM 13 APPROVED
AS RECOMMENDED, BY THE FOLLOWING
VOTE:

AYES: Bartlett, Benoit, Burke, Buscaino,
Cacciotti, Delgado, Kracov,
McCallon, Mitchell, Perez,
Rodriguez and Rutherford

NOES: None

ABSENT: Barger

BOARD CALENDAR

16. Administrative Committee

17. Legislative Committee

Written Comment Submitted by:
Henry Feng

18. Mobile Source Committee

19. Stationary Source Committee

20. Technology Committee
21. Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee
22. California Air Resources Board Monthly Report

MOVED BY CACCIOTTI, SECONDED BY BENOIT, AGENDA ITEMS 16 THROUGH 22, APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED, RECEIVING AND FILING THE COMMITTEE, MSRC AND CARB REPORTS, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: Bartlett, Benoit, Burke, Buscaino, Cacciotti, Delgado, Kracov, McCallon, Mitchell, Perez, Rodriguez and Rutherford

NOES: None

ABSENT: Barger

Staff Presentation

23. Update on Pending Application Status Dashboard (*Presentation in lieu of Board Letter*)

David Ono, Senior Air Quality Engineering Manager, gave the staff presentation on Item No. 23.

Supervisor Rutherford commended staff for their efforts in developing the dashboard to improve transparency for the public. She commented on a meeting she attended in July 2016 with Mr. Nastri at the Bay Area AQMD. The Bay Area AQMD staff shared their permitting automation efforts and facility-related online tools.

Supervisor Bartlett thanked staff for the development of the dashboard and commented on the milestones that were reached with the permit backlog. She inquired if a lower backlog reduction target should be set to further reduce the backlog.

Mr. Nastri commented on the tremendous efforts to develop the dashboard and noted that preliminary data indicates that the actual number of permit applications filed this year is slightly higher but we are only in April. He also noted

that staff will continue to provide a monthly report on the number of permit applications filed and, if there is a reduction in filing, look at the backlog and report back to the Board in three to six months.

Chairman Burke commented that the numbers for the backlog include applications that require a longer period for processing due to required review by other agencies and therefore does not necessarily reflect an in-house backlog.

RECEIVE AND FILE; NO ACTION NECESSARY

(Supervisor Barger rejoined the meeting at 10:25 a.m.)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

24. Adopt Executive Officer's FY 2020-21 Proposed Goals and Priority Objectives and Proposed Budget

Chairman Burke commented on the global economic uncertainties related to the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted that the federal and state government are having difficulty forecasting the financial impacts of the pandemic and he had asked staff to bring forth a fiscally conservative operational budget. In addition, he asked staff to bring monthly updates to the Board for the next 6-7 months on the financial condition of the budget.

(Supervisor Perez left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.)

Ian MacMillan, Planning and Rules Manager and Sujata Jain, DEO/Chief Financial Officer gave the staff presentation on Item No. 24.

Supervisor Barger thanked staff for their work on the budget in light of the many economic uncertainties due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She inquired if the South Coast AQMD is considering short-term relief measures for small businesses that are struggling.

Chairman Burke commented on a rendering facility that is struggling to pay employees while investing in facility upgrades to meet new rule requirements. He noted that this is only one example of the many challenges facing businesses during these challenging times.

Supervisor Barger commented on the decrease in revenues from restaurants in Los Angeles and the impacts to the city's budget. She stressed the importance of looking at short- and long-term consequences of lost revenue and noted that short-term subsidies and assistance can help businesses not close permanently.

Chairman Burke commented on the fixed costs at the South Coast AQMD and stressed the importance of finding a balance during economic uncertainties. He proposed working with staff to establish a subcommittee of the Budget

Committee to work on these concerns.

Supervisor Barger commented on the decline in passenger travel at Burbank and LAX airports which will affect revenue. She acknowledged the clean air benefits as a result of a decrease in traffic; however, she expressed caution about revenue impacts and noted the difficult decisions that must be made when revenues decline.

Mr. Nastri commented that staff is monitoring permit applications and other revenue streams and staff projects that South Coast AQMD's revenue will not be impacted as much as cities and counties. He also noted that most of the Annual Emissions Reporting (AER) revenue that was expected for this calendar year has been received. The South Coast AQMD is sensitive to the challenges currently facing businesses and an advisory was recently sent out offering assistance to facilities who may be experiencing difficulties paying their AER fees. Mr. Nastri stated that through normal attrition and a hiring freeze labor costs will be reduced. Staff will continue to monitor fiscal changes and report any impacts to the budget on a monthly basis.

The public hearing was opened, and the following individuals addressed the Board on Item 24.

Chris Chavez, Coalition for Clean Air, urged the Board to not cut back on enforcement or the rulemaking process given the economic uncertainties due to COVID-19. He expressed concern about delays in Indirect Source Rules (ISRs) and Rule 1109.1, the refinery equipment rule, which are needed to meet emission reductions in disadvantaged communities. He added concern in relying on incentive funding from the State if the AQMP and air quality standards are to be achieved.

Chairman Burke commented on his conversation with a legislator about similar concerns.

Mr. Chavez added that the Coalition for Clean Air is actively engaging in advocacy for clean transportation and noted the difficult challenges.

Emily Spokes, NELA Climate Collective, commented that frontline communities cannot afford delays in cleaning the air and urged the Board to continue efforts on a strong warehouse ISR. She commented on the health effects of pollution which may increase the risk of contracting COVID-19.

Jessica Craven, NELA Climate Collective, expressed concerns about more deregulation or delays in environmental laws due to COVID-19. She expressed support for a strong warehouse ISR and expressed appreciation to Chairman Burke for his continued efforts to fight for clean air.

Anna Christensen expressed concerns regarding delays in adopting ISRs for warehouses and read a statement regarding the need to reduce air pollution emissions from warehouses. She commented that ISRs should be connected to CEQA compliance and urged the Board to not allow owners and operators of warehouses to use future actions to reduce emissions that are detrimentally impacting communities. She added support for zero emission technologies.

Mr. Eder urged support for complete and equitable solar transition. He commented on the economic predictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic and expressed concerns about the economic impacts to small businesses. He added concern about the underreported numbers of deaths related to COVID-19.

Curtis Coleman, Southern California Air Quality Alliance, expressed support for the work plan and budget and noted that it is a responsible proposal considering the COVID-19 pandemic.

Frances Keeler, California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance, expressed support for the budget proposal and thanked staff for their work on preparing a balanced budget during these difficult times.

Bill LaMarr, California Small Business Alliance, commended staff for bringing forth a balanced budget during the COVID-19 global pandemic. He commented on the financial difficulties impacting small businesses and asked the Board to consider deferring the new Flat-Rate Device Fee for toxics emissions, to assist small businesses in reducing costs during the COVID-19 pandemic. He thanked the Board and staff for their consideration and sensitivity to the financial consequences impacting small businesses. (Submitted Written Comment)

There being no further testimony on this item, the public hearing was closed.

MOVED BY MCCALLON, SECONDED BY
BUSCAINO, AGENDA ITEM 24 APPROVED
AS SET FORTH BELOW:

- 1) REMOVE FROM RESERVES AND DESIGNATIONS ALL AMOUNTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FY 2019-20 BUDGET;
- 2) APPROVE TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS OF \$172,988,981;
- 3) APPROVE REVENUES FOR FY 2020-21 OF \$172,988,981;

- 4) AUTHORIZE STAFF TO FORGO THE CPI-BASED FEE INCREASE OF 2.8 PERCENT THROUGH A ONE-TIME CREDIT TO FEE PAYERS ON ALL APPLICABLE FEES TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF ANY FEE INCREASE IN LIGHT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC;
- 5) APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S FY 2020-21 GOALS AND PRIORITY OBJECTIVES;
- 6) APPROVE A PROJECTED JUNE 30, 2021 FUND BALANCE FOR TOTAL RESERVED AND UNRESERVED DESIGNATIONS OF \$23,631,673 AND TOTAL UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE OF \$49,454,307;
- 7) ADOPT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION AMENDING ARTICLE 7 OF THE SOUTH COAST AQMD SALARY RESOLUTION TO REVISE ONE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER CLASS TITLE TO INCLUDE CHIEF TECHNOLOGIST; AND
- 8) INSTRUCT STAFF TO ACTIVELY REVIEW AND ASSESS FISCAL CHANGES AND REPORT MONTHLY TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD.

BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: Barger, Bartlett, Benoit, Burke, Buscaino, Cacciotti, Delgado, Kracov, McCallon, Mitchell, Rodriguez and Rutherford

NOES: None

ABSENT: Perez

25. Determine That Proposed Amendments to Rule 445 – Wood-Burning Devices, Are Exempt from CEQA and Amend Rule 445

Chairman Burke announced that staff requested that the public hearing on this item be continued to the June 5, 2020 Board meeting.

Written Comment Submitted by:
Anna Christensen

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – (Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3)

Emily Spokes, NELA Climate Collective, expressed concerns about recent air quality alerts and noted that the Los Angeles skyline is no longer visible from the Ventura freeway. She urged the Board to not delay regulatory efforts that will clean up harmful air pollution. She expressed concerns about the lack of charging stations and commented that the Zoom meeting format is eco-friendly and a good option to consider moving forward. She also suggested that the public comment period be moved to the beginning of the agenda and a scrolling side-bar be added to display current agenda items being discussed.

Chris Chavez, Coalition for Clean Air, suggested that the Mobile Source Committee discuss telecommuting options in Rule 2202 and noted the air quality benefits and cost savings for businesses.

Council Member Cacciotti commented on the teleworking schedule that has been adopted at the South Coast AQMD and Attorney General's office, and the City of South Pasadena within a few weeks had 90 percent of their workforce teleworking. He commented on the improvements to air quality and expressed support for agendaing Rule 2202 to discuss teleworking options.

Mr. Nastri noted that 90 percent of the South Coast AQMD workforce is teleworking and staff is assessing work efficiency and the benefits to air quality due to a decrease in vehicle traffic. He added that staff is also quantifying the benefits to air quality from meetings that are conducted via teleconference, and working with the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association and CARB to address these issues on a larger scale.

Anna Christiansen read a letter she emailed Board Members regarding smoke from wood burning and its negative effects on public health. She asked for educational materials, shared comments from community members and urged the Board to take action to ban all wood burning during the COVID-19 pandemic. (Submitted Written Comment)

Chairman Burke noted that he would have a staff member contact Ms. Christiansen to discuss her concerns and share information about wood burning.

Meghan Aftosmis, NELA Climate Collective, expressed concerns regarding the roll-back of environmental regulations and urged the Board to support regulations to clean the air. She noted concerns about air pollution that has aggravated and exacerbated respiratory illnesses during the global COVID-19 health crisis. She expressed support for continued virtual Board meetings.

Laura Shady, NELA Climate Collective, thanked the Board for their hard work during these unprecedented times. She expressed concerns for communities with the worst air pollution and urged the Board to continue working on regulations to clean the air. She also expressed an interest in studies related to improvements in air quality as a result of COVID-19 stay-at-home orders. She added concern that air pollution will become much worse once businesses return to normal operations.

Elease Stemp, NELA Climate Collective, thanked the Board for their service and expressed support for the continuation of virtual Board meetings which would increase public participation. She encouraged the Board to continue working for clean air regulations and commented that even with less cars on the road due to COVID-19 the air quality is still unhealthy, and she cannot allow her young daughter to play outside. She added concerns regarding the relationship between the health effects of pollution and COVID-19.

Leta Warner commented on wood burning smoke from the Auburn restaurant in Los Angeles that impacted her neighborhood for one year. She noted that the restaurant recently closed but there is still concern that another restaurant will move in and use the existing wood burning oven. She urged the Board to adopt stricter regulations for wood burning ovens in restaurants near residential areas and other sources of wood burning smoke. (Submitted Written Comment)

Mr. Eder commented on the need to study pneumonia vaccines and their effectiveness in reducing the mortality rate in COVID-19 cases, the higher death rate from COVID-19 in environmental justice communities and his litigation against the South Coast AQMD, CARB and federal agencies.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board recessed to closed session at 11:45 a.m., pursuant to Government Code sections:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

- 54956.9(a) and 54956.9(d)(1) to confer with its counsel regarding pending litigation which has been initiated formally and to which the South Coast AQMD is a party. The actions are:

People of the State of California, ex rel. SCAQMD v. Exide Technologies, Inc.,
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC533528; and

In re: Exide Technologies, Inc., U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Delaware, Case No.
13-11482 (KJC) (Bankruptcy Case); Delaware District Court, Case
No.: 19-00891 (Appellate Case).

Following closed session, Bayron Gilchrist, General Counsel, announced that a report of any reportable actions taken in closed session will be filed with the Clerk of the Board's office and made available to the public upon request.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mr. Gilchrist at 12:00 p.m.

The foregoing is a true statement of the proceedings held by the South Coast Air Quality Management District Board on May 1, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Faye Thomas
Clerk of the Boards

Date Minutes Approved: _____

Dr. William A. Burke, Chairman

ACRONYMS

AQMP = Air Quality Management Plan

CARB = California Air Resources Board

CEQA = California Environmental Quality Act

EV = Electric Vehicle

FY = Fiscal Year

ISR = Indirect Source Rule

MSRC = Mobile Source (Air Pollution Reduction) Review Committee

PM2.5 = Particulate Matter < 2.5 microns

RFP = Request for Proposals

RFQ = Request for Quotations

U.S. EPA = United States Environmental Protection Agency