

BOARD MEETING DATE: December 3, 2021

AGENDA NO. 21

REPORT: Administrative Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Administrative Committee held a hybrid meeting on Friday, November 12, 2021. The following is a summary of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Ben J. Benoit, Chair
Administrative Committee

JW:cb

Committee Members

Present: Chair Ben Benoit, Committee Chair
Senator (Ret.) Vanessa Delgado, Vice Chair
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Cacciotti
Board Member Gideon Kracov
Supervisor Janice Rutherford

Call to Order

Chair Benoit called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **Board Members' Concerns:** There were no concerns to report.
2. **Chair's Report of Approved Travel:** There was no travel to report.
3. **Report of Approved Out-of-Country Travel:** There was no travel to report.
4. **Review December 3, 2021 Governing Board Agenda:** There were no issues to report.

5. **Approval of Compensation for Board Member Assistant(s)/Consultant(s):**
There was no information to report.
6. **Update on South Coast AQMD Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Efforts:**
Dr. Anissa Heard-Johnson, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer, provided an update on South Coast AQMD efforts. She highlighted several cultural remembrances taking place in November, and reported on the first Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (J.E.D.I.) Think Tank and provided an update on the book club. A second round of the book club is occurring to accommodate 40 additional participants.

The J.E.D.I. Think Tank will begin meeting next month. Employee resource groups continue to meet and provide updates.

Harvey Eder, Public Solar Power Coalition, provided public comment on activities happening internationally and a trip to Washington, D.C.

7. **Budget and Economic Outlook Update:** Jill Whynot, Chief Operating Officer, highlighted continuing trends. She reported that we are monitoring our revenues, expenditures and all economic indicators closely. Trends are similar to what has been reported for the last several months. She reported that we have hired new classes of engineers and inspectors that have lowered our vacancy rate.
8. **Status Report on Major Ongoing and Upcoming Projects for Information Management:** Ron Moskowitz, Chief Information Officer/Information Management, reported that a new version of Rule 1180 community air monitoring site and notification system has been deployed. Staff also made enhancements to the Clean Air Award Reservation website to support this year's hybrid format. Mr. Moskowitz acknowledged staff for their job well done in putting together hybrid meetings.
9. **Annual Audited Financial Statements for FY Ended June 30, 2021:** Sujata Jain, Chief Financial Officer/Finance, introduced Helen Chu and Rusty Cabilin who are part of the audit firm BCA Watson Rice, LLP who presented the results of the fiscal year 2021 financial audit. They concluded that the financial statements were presented fairly in all material respects and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Mr. Eder provided public comment on the cost-effectiveness of solar power.

10. **South Coast AQMD's FY 2021-22 First Quarter ended September 30, 2021 Budget vs. Actual (Unaudited):** Sujata Jain, Chief Financial Officer/Finance, presented a summary of the 2021 first quarter unaudited budget versus actual

results, which ended on September 30, 2021. Ms. Jain also provided a revenue and expenditure comparison, and a five-year projection based on these results. The revenue comparison between last fiscal year and this fiscal year was within budget. The expenditures compared to last fiscal year are similar. The five-year projection looks better than the 20 percent level that is the goal. There are uncertainties such as lower annual operating fees and retirement costs.

Mr. Eder provided public comment requesting a sensitivity analysis that includes worst case for small business closures.

ACTION ITEMS:

11. **Recognize Revenue, Transfer and Appropriate Funds, Amend Contract, Issue Solicitations and Purchase Orders for Air Monitoring Equipment and One Vehicle:** Dr. Jason Low, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer/Science & Technology Advancement, reported that this is a routine annual item to recognize \$100,000 from U.S. EPA for the PAMS Program and to appropriate funds when they are available to the Science & Technology Advancement 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 budget. In addition, this action is to amend contracts for technical support, issue solicitations and execute purchase orders for air monitoring and laboratory equipment and for one vehicle.

Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti inquired if any vehicles currently exist that meet our duty requirements of 150 or more miles per day to monitor this equipment and expressed concern about purchasing another gasoline-powered vehicle. Dr. Low reported that there are vehicles on the list ranging from gas to hybrid. He mentioned that we are looking forward to the 2022 California list in order to see if there are promising vehicles, such as the Ford Lightning that may be able to get over 200 miles range. Staff continues to look at all available options including OEM Certified as a preference.

Chair Benoit supported Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti's concerns and noted if OEM Certified is just a preference, we find something that meets our demands.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Rutherford, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Delgado, Kracov, Rutherford
Noes: None

12. **Interview Firms and Recommend Execution of Contract(s) for Legislative Representation in Washington, D.C.:** Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer/Legislative, Public Affairs & Media, reported that this action is a result of an RFP for our legislative consultants in Washington, D.C. Five firms

submitted proposals and all five were deemed qualified. The five firms to be interviewed in alphabetical order are: The Carmen Group, Cassidy & Associates, DWG&P, Kadesh & Associates, and The Monares Group.

Supervisor Rutherford inquired how outreach was done for the RFP. Mr. Alatorre responded that we advertised in Washington, D.C. and reached out to several caucuses at the federal level to see if they wanted to forward the RFP to any possible firms.

Vice Chair Delgado commented that out of the five applicants, one of them had a higher price than we can sustain and recommended we only interview the four within our price range. She inquired on the number of years South Coast AQMD has had the same consultants. Mr. Alatorre responded that Kadesh & Associates since approximately 2007, The Carmen Group and Cassidy & Associates since approximately 2015.

Mr. Nastri inquired with Chief Deputy Counsel, Barbara Baird, if it was okay to interview four instead of the five. Ms. Baird confirmed that the committee could make that decision.

The committee interviewed four candidates: The Carmen Group, Cassidy & Associates, Kadesh & Associates, and The Monares Group. They considered their respective professional backgrounds and experience and discussed legislative efficiency issues.

Mr. Eder provided public comment on solar tax credits.

Jeff Genzer from Duncan Weinberg Genzer & Pembroke provided public comment on the firm's proposal and clarified their price range.

Chair Benoit inquired if the budget for consulting in Washington, D.C. was clear in the RFP. Mr. Alatorre stated that the budget of \$400,000 was made clear but not whether we were going to choose one or multiple firms. Mr. Alatorre further clarified that the budget for consulting in Washington, D.C. is \$400,000 but the Board allocated an additional \$200,000 for the past 3 to 4 years.

After discussion among committee members, Supervisor Rutherford moved to extend contracts to three firms: The Carmen Group, Cassidy & Associates, and Kadesh & Associates; seconded by Cacciotti, unanimously approved.

Board Member Kracov and Vice Chair Delgado asked staff to communicate with the firms to discuss price range and negotiate to stay within the budget, to not

exceed \$630,000.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Delgado, Kracov, Rutherford

Noes: None

13. **Recommend Approval of New Member for South Coast Young Leaders Advisory Council (YLAC):** Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer/Legislative, Public Affairs & Media, reported that Jack Symington was recommended by Board Member Kracov to join the Young Leaders Advisory Council and staff requests approval of his appointment.

Board Member Kracov mentioned his support for this appointment and that Mr. Symington will be a good contribution to the agency.

Moved by Benoit; seconded by Cacciotti, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Kracov

Noes: None

Absent: Delgado, Rutherford

14. **Transfer and Appropriate Funds from Two Special Revenue Funds to the General Fund for Information Management and Compliance and Enforcement Projects and Purchases to Support South Coast AQMD Operations and Close Two Special Revenue Funds:** Ms. Jain reported that this item is to transfer \$508,900 from two Special Funds into the General Fund, in order to purchase some much needed capital assets. These two funds are the Dry Cleaner Program Fund and our Public Benefit Oversight Fund, and it is not anticipated that either of these funds will have additional activities going forward.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Kracov, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Kracov

Noes: None

Absent: Delgado, Rutherford

15. **Revise Procurement Policy and Procedure:** Ms. Jain reported that this action is to revise the procurement policy in two areas. Currently, the Executive Officer has up to \$75,000 each fiscal year to spend on purchasing capital assets during interruption of operations or an emergency. Staff requests to increase this authority from \$75,000 to \$350,000. The second area is requesting authority for the Executive Officer for up to \$500,00 per fiscal year, during periods that a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) is implemented. The COOP has currently

been in place for approximately two years. A report to the Administrative Committee will be made every six months for the expenditures in both of these categories.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Benoit, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Kracov
Noes: None
Absent: Delgado, Rutherford

16. **Receive and File Annual Report on 457 Deferred Compensation Plan:** John Olvera, Deputy Executive Officer/Administrative & Human Resources, reported that this is a receive and file item for the annual report to the Board on South Coast AQMD's Deferred Compensation Plans for the year ending June 2021. A general summary was provided which includes over 1,000 participants and approximately \$220 million in assets in the plans. The annual report provides detailed information regarding assets, demographics, committee actions and plan performance.

Moved by Benoit; seconded by Cacciotti, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Kracov
Noes: None
Absent: Delgado, Rutherford

WRITTEN REPORT:

17. **Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group Minutes for the August 13, 2021 Meeting:** The report was acknowledged and received.
18. **Environmental Justice Advisory Group Minutes for the August 27, 2021 Meeting:** The report was acknowledged and received.

OTHER MATTERS:

19. **Other Business:** There was no other business to report.
20. **Public Comment:** Mr. Eder commented on the Constitution.
21. **Next Meeting Date:** The next regular Administrative Committee meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Attachments

- Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group Minutes for August 13, 2021
- Environmental Justice Advisory Group Minutes for August 27, 2021



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Supervisor Janice Rutherford (Board Member)
Felipe Aguirre
Mayor Rachelle Arizmendi, City of Sierra Madre
Paul Avila, P.B.A. & Associates
Geoffrey Blake, Metal Finishers of Southern California
John DeWitt, JE DeWitt, Inc.
Bill LaMarr, California Small Business Alliance
Rita Loof, RadTech International
Eddie Marquez, Roofing Contractors Association
David Rothbart, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mayor Pro Tempore Carlos Rodriguez, LGSBA Chairman (Board Member)
Todd Campbell, Clean Energy
LaVaughn Daniel, DancoEN
Randon Lane, Brylan Enterprises, Inc.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Abramowitz
Erin Berger
Harvey Eder
Debra Mendelsohn, Board Member Consultant (*Rutherford*)
Jennifer Rio
Mark Taylor, Board Member Consultant (*Rutherford*)
Janet Whittick
Ross Zelen

SOUTH COAST AQMD STAFF:

Jill Whynot, Chief Operating Officer
Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer
Lisa Tanaka O'Malley, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer
Daphne Hsu, Principal Deputy District Counsel
Kathryn Higgins, Senior Public Affairs Manager
Dan Garcia, Planning & Rules Manager
Kelly Trainor Gamino, Program Supervisor
Nicole Silva, Program Supervisor
Diana Thai, Program Supervisor

Anthony Tang, Information Technology Supervisor
Ricardo Rivera, Senior Staff Specialist
Van Doan, Air Quality Specialist
Paul Wright, Senior Information Technology Specialist
Evangelina Barrera, Senior Public Information Specialist
Alicia Lizarraga, Senior Public Information Specialist
Arlene Farol Saria, Senior Public Information Specialist
Ryan Stromar, Senior Public Information Specialist
Daniel Wong, Senior Public Information Specialist

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Supervisor Janice Rutherford called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of June 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Supervisor Rutherford called for approval of the June 11, 2021 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 – Review of Follow-Up/Action Items

Mr. Derrick Alatorre reviewed the follow-up and action items from the previous meeting and stated that staff provided a link to the Cap-and-Trade Program report to the advisory group via email on June 18, 2021. In response to public records requested by Ms. Rita Loof, Mr. Alatorre stated he spoke with Public Records and Engineering & Permitting (E&P) staff, and cannot query for facilities using ultraviolet (UV) coatings that were previously exempt pursuant to Rule 219. Mr. Alatorre recommended to use the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (South Coast AQMD) Facility Information Detail (FIND) tool to search for specific facilities. Ms. Loof clarified that her request was for any facilities made to obtain permits when installing UV equipment. She said South Coast AQMD staff identified 108 facilities and is requesting facility names to access the information on FIND. Mr. Alatorre responded that Ms. Loof's original request was for Fender Guitar and was later expanded to include additional facilities. E&P responded that they cannot query for UV coatings operations. Ms. Loof said when she worked at South Coast AQMD, there was an equipment description code "BCAT", which stands for "basic category" used to track equipment types. She offered to provide the number. Mr. Alatorre replied that he will discuss with E&P.

Follow-up Item #1: Discuss with E&P regarding facility names request and query for UV equipment using the BCAT code.

Mr. Alatorre noted another action item includes a Rule 219 update, which will be presented at the next meeting in September.

A request was previously made to research the possibility to have the Home Rule Advisory Group (HRAG) transferred to this advisory group. Mr. Alatorre said there have been discussions with Chair Carlos Rodriguez and need to determine how many HRAG members would like to be added to this advisory group as the charter limits the number of members. Mr. David Rothbart said that he has spoken with several HRAG members and the consensus was to keep it as a separate group. Mr. Alatorre stated he will discuss with Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources (PRDAS).

Follow-up Item #2: Discuss with PRDAS regarding the transfer of HRAG to LGSBA.

Mr. Bill LaMarr expressed support for Mr. Rothbart's recommendation to maintain HRAG as a separate advisory group.

Agenda Item #4 – Update on Assembly Bill (AB) 617 for 2021

Mr. Daniel Wong presented an update on the Assembly Bill (AB) 617 program for 2021.

Mr. Paul Avila referenced a slide on data-gathering and inquired about the types of data gathered and how they are accumulated. Mr. Dan Garcia stated that at the initial selection of a community, there is already a sense of the types of sources. When the community boundaries are defined, technical staff

conducts an in-depth review of sources within the boundaries, which provides the baseline emissions and help identify emission reductions.

Ms. Loof commented that RadTech has a program to sponsor startups in the UV industry.

Mr. LaMarr referenced slide #7 and asked what the average number of people on a Community Steering Committee (CSC) is. Mr. Wong said it depends on the community. For example, San Bernardino/Muscoy has about 25 members and the largest is Eastern Coachella Valley (ECV) with around 45 members. Mr. LaMarr asked how many of those are local business owners or workers and mentioned that businesses are underrepresented. Mr. Wong said that five local businesses are on the ECV CSC and six are on the Wilmington CSC. Mr. LaMarr mentioned joining an AB 617 consultation group recently and the existing animosity between members and businesses. Mr. Wong stated that South Coast AQMD conducted a lot of the initial outreach to business representatives, who are always at the table, invited, and welcomed to provide input. As to animosity between the CSC and businesses, staff tries to work through it and resolve the issues. Mr. Alatorre said that the ECV community did not want any businesses on the CSC, but businesses are allowed to participate under the program guidelines and the South Coast AQMD is supportive of that. Mr. LaMarr mentioned that he addressed the Governing Board (GB) at a previous event and mentioned that trade associations should be allowed to participate at these meetings. Mr. Wong indicated that it is mandated that 50% of the CSC members be residents of that community and urged Mr. LaMarr to stay in contact. Supervisor Rutherford said that it was a challenge to find business representatives who were available and interested in participating in her area.

Ms. Loof expressed support for Mr. LaMarr's comments and asked if trade associations' eligibility could be reconsidered. Mr. Alatorre stated that he will consult with Mr. Wayne Nastri.

***Action Item #1:** Consult with Mr. Nastri if trade associations could be allowed to participate on the CSC.*

Supervisor Rutherford inquired about the funding for this program. Mr. Alatorre said that South Coast AQMD continues to advocate for sustained funding for this program and hopes that it would increase this year, however, fund allocation is dependent on the budget trailer bills. Ms. Jill Whynot added that Mr. Nastri and others has been aggressively advocating for sustained and additional funding and have been unsuccessful the past several years. Supervisor Rutherford commented on the lack of funding to implement this program.

Mr. Harvey Eder made public comments on business and trade groups.

Agenda Item #5 – Update on the Environmental Justice Community Partnership

Ms. Alicia Lizarraga provided an update on the Environmental Justice Community Partnership and indicated one of the keynote speakers for the 7th Annual Environmental Justice Conference is Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Ms. Loof supported Supervisor Rutherford's comments made at the Administrative Committee meeting that the Clean Air Program for Elementary Schools (CAPES) should be accessible to as many schools as possible. Ms. Loof mentioned the Who to Call guide and suggested that it should be expanded to include trade association resources for the business community to contact when help or solutions are needed in addition to compliance problems. Ms. Lizarraga stated that the program is available to any schools that are interested, including charter schools and tribal groups. Supervisor Rutherford

mentioned that there was a lengthy discussion at the Administration Committee meeting today on how to expand the outreach program to include more schools and make the program more effective.

Mr. Rothbart mentioned Mr. Nastri's letter to the Environmental Justice groups and asked if those groups are not understanding the dilemma that South Coast AQMD is in. Mr. Alatorre responded that the South Coast AQMD has spoken to many environmental groups who understand the problem. However, many groups want zero-emission technology, and few groups understand the benefits of near-zero-emission technology. Mr. Rothbart said there are consequences of non-attainment. Chair Rutherford recommended reading Mr. Nastri's letter and requested it be sent to this group.

Action Item #2: Distribute to the advisory group the letter from Mr. Nastri to Environmental Justice groups about zero-emission versus near-zero-emission vehicles.

Mr. Harvey Eder made public comments on renewable natural gas and solar energy.

Agenda Item #6 – Monthly Report on Small Business Assistance Activities

No comments.

Agenda Item #7 – Other Business

Mr. LaMarr asked if there was any more information regarding the GB retreat. Ms. Whynot said it is still unknown if the retreat will be in a hybrid or in-person format. The retreat is scheduled for September 16-17 at the Renaissance Esmeralda Resort & Spa in Indian Wells. Supervisor Rutherford asked when we will know whether it will be in-person or hybrid and Ms. Whynot said by next week.

Agenda Item #8 – Public Comment

Mr. Harvey Eder commented about COVID-19.

Agenda Item #9 – Next Meeting Date

The next regular LGSBA Advisory Group meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 10, 2021 at 11:30 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.



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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), EJAG Chair (Board Member)
Supervisor Janice Rutherford, EJAG Vice Chair (Board Member)
Veronica Padilla-Campos (Board Member)
Elizabeth Alcantar, City of Cudahy
Rhetta Alexander, Valley Interfaith Council
Manuel Arredondo, Coachella Valley School District, Retiree
Angelica Balderas, Sierra Club
Dr. Lawrence Beeson, Loma Linda University, School of Public Health
Suzanne Bilodeau, Knott's Berry Farm
Kerry Doi, Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment
Dr. Afif El-Hasan, American Lung Association
Mary Figueroa, Riverside Community College
Angela Garcia, Department of Toxic Substance Control
Kareem Gongora, San Bernardino County Planning Commission
Ana Gonzalez, Center for Community Action and Environmental Service
Dr. Jill Johnston, University of Southern California
Humberto Lugo, Community Member
Daniel Morales, National Alliance for Human Rights
David McNeill, Baldwin Hills Conservancy
Rafael Yanez, Community Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Paul Choe, Korean Drycleaners & Laundry Association
Dr. Monique Hernandez, California State University, Los Angeles
Donald Smith, 136th Street Block Club

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Abramowitz, Community Environmental Services
Brian Sheridan, Coalition of Clean Air

SOUTH COAST AQMD STAFF:

Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer
Lisa Tanaka O'Malley, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer
Philip Crabbe III, Sr. Public Affairs Manager
Daphne Hsu, Principal Deputy District Counsel
Maryam Hajbabaei, AQ Specialist
Alicia Lizarraga, Public Affairs Manager
Dana Bernard, Senior Public Affairs Specialist
Stephano Padilla, Senior Public Affairs Specialist

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Chair Vanessa Delgado called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Ms. Dana Bernard read the housekeeping items and then took roll call.

Agenda Item #2: Approval of April 23, 2021 and the April 30, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Chair Delgado called for the approval of the April 23, 2021 and April 30, 2021 meeting minutes. Ms. Ana Gonzalez moved to approve the minutes and Mr. David McNeill seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Agenda Item #3: Review of Follow-Up/Action Items

Mr. Derrick Alatorre reviewed the action items from the April 23, 2021 meeting and April 30, 2021 special meeting:

Staff was asked to reach out to the group via email with an update on high speed rail. The email was sent out on July 2.

Staff was asked to coordinate with Chair Delgado regarding the scheduling of a special meeting. The special meeting was held on April 30.

Staff was asked to provide the website link to members for information on the Warehouse ISR. That link was shared on April 29.

Staff was asked to email the four EJAG authors to connect them for the purpose of drafting a letter to be sent to the South Coast AQMD Governing Board. The email was sent on April 30 and the letter was received by the Clerk of the Board on May 3.

Agenda Item #4: School Air Filtration Program Overview

Ms. Maryam Hajbabaei delivered a presentation on school air filtration programs.

Ms. Veronica Padilla-Campos requested a list of the 96 schools included in the program. Ms. Hajbabaei said we could provide the list.

Action Item: Staff to provide an update on the school air filtration program.

Action Item: Staff to send members list of the 96 schools in the program.

Dr. Afif El-Hassan asked if school attendance had been assessed in conjunction with the air filtration implementation. Ms. Hajbabaei stated the South Coast AQMD's program had not assessed for attendance, however other studies had been conducted which showed the use of the air filtration technology had a positive impact.

Mr. Rafael Yanez asked if the filtration equipment used was independent air monitors or retrofits applied to an existing air filtration system. Ms. Hajbabaei explained we either provide panel filters or use independent, standalone units.

Mr. Yanez asked for clarification of how certain funds were used for school or home filtration projects. He also asked if any funds would be used for the Inglewood Unified School District. Ms. Hajbabaei explained that projects' locations were often dependent on specifications by the funding sources, and by community members in the AB617 steering committees. No Inglewood school had been, but future projects could be considered for Inglewood, however.

Mr. Yanez asked if filtration projects were being pursued in temporary schooling and housing facilities. Staff responded they were not.

Ms. Mary Figueroa urged the South Coast AQMD to bring such projects to Riverside.

Ms. Angela Garcia asked how long the filters had been in place for the pilot study. Ms. Hajbabaei estimated they had been used for a period of three months. Ms. Garcia asked if the students and teachers reported any noticeable change in their air quality during the program. Ms. Hajbabaei stated they had. Ms. Garcia asked how she might suggest schools for inclusion in the program. Ms. Hajbabaei encouraged Ms. Garcia to reach out to district program staff.

Ms. Rhett Alexander asked whether the schools and districts identified on page 3 of the presentation were pilot study communities. Ms. Hajbabaei specified they were not only pilot program schools, but all schools funded during the life of the project.

Ms. Padilla-Campos asked for clarification on the time frame of the project. South Coast AQMD have been able to fund programs lasting between 1 and 10 years, depending on settlement funds.

Mr. Kareem Gongora asked if there were any efforts to extend the program to unincorporated communities who had no sustainable municipal sources to rely on. He also asked if there were any future studies planned regarding the outcomes of the air filtration projects in regard to student health. Ms. Hajbabaei stated program availability is often based on fund availability in a certain area. She was not aware of any upcoming health studies, but mentioned there was an upcoming study on residential air filtration programs.

Mr. Rafael Yanez commented on the importance of utilizing the budget to the best possible extent and suggested some alternative means of achieving program goals while maximizing budget efficiency.

Mr. Mark Abramowitz with Community Environmental Services suggested a potential funding resource for school filtration in state and federal funding for HVAC (including air filtration) systems.

Agenda Item #5: Environmental Justice Community Partnership Update

Ms. Alicia Lizarraga provided an update on the Environmental Justice Community Partnership.

Action Item: Staff to provide members with artwork details of EJ Conference

Ms. Padilla-Campos asked if the EJ Conference event is held in different locations annually, and if transportation options are available. Ms. Lizarraga stated that the goal is to take the event to locations in all four counties of the South Coast Air Basin in the future. Transportation to the event has not been arranged but is still possible dependent on budget.

Ms. Mary Figueroa suggested looking into setting up small, outdoor community gatherings similar to “Movies in the Park” setup to make the EJ conference accessible to more residents. She suggested several college campuses in Riverside County which could be used for future outreach events as well and reminded the group that CARB headquarters would soon be in Riverside. Chair Delgado asked if a special meeting could be called for members to brainstorm ways in which to help their communities be part of the EJ Conference. Mr. Alatorre suggested instead that group members send their suggestions to staff.

Ms. Garcia suggested increased efforts in reaching out to university students in environmental sciences to help expose them to career fields and current issues relevant to their studies.

Action Item: Staff to provide an update on the San Bernardino Valley College webinar and expanding to other colleges at a future meeting.

Agenda Item #6: Member Updates

Ms. Mary Figueroa requested a South Coast AQMD staff member speak at a community meeting regarding potential health impacts of a foam and polyurethane manufacturer. She also requested future discussion regarding an elementary school development in the East Side community which has been planned near major traffic and emissions sources.

Action Item: Staff to follow up with Ms. Figueroa regarding a speaker to discuss ER Carpenter at a community meeting.

Mr. Gongora requested future discussion by the group regarding housing, land use, greenhouse gas reduction benchmarks, and environmental justice communities.

Mr. Yanez expressed concern regarding rendering plant odors in the Boyle Heights and Commerce areas, and facility compliance with Rule 415. Mr. Alatorre suggested the topic be agenzized to be discussed in detail at a future meeting.

Action Item: Staff to request a presentation on rendering plants for a future meeting.

Agenda Item #7- Other Business

None

Agenda Item #8- Public Comment

Mr. Brian Sheridan shared information about the upcoming California Clean Air day, and invited members to visit the website and make a pledge for clean air.

Agenda Item #9: Next Meeting Date

The next EJAG meeting was announced for Friday, October 22, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.