PROPOSAL: Special Meeting of Health Effects of Air Pollution Foundation

SYNOPSIS: This item is to ratify and approve the appointments of Board Member Michael Cacciotti and Vice Chair Vanessa Delgado as Directors of the Health Effects of Air Pollution Foundation and to adopt a Resolution to reduce the number of Directors of the Foundation from four to three.

COMMITTEE: No Committee Review

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:
1. Ratify the appointment of Board Member Michael Cacciotti as a Foundation Director effective January 13, 2021;
2. Approve the appointment of Vice Chair Vanessa Delgado as a Foundation Director effective immediately; and
3. Adopt the attached Resolution reducing the number of fixed Directors of the Foundation from four (4) to three (3) effective immediately.

Wayne Nastri
Executive Officer

Background
In February 2003, the South Coast AQMD Board established the Brain Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation to implement an initiative by the Board Chairman to fund research into the potential connections between air pollution and brain cancer. In 2004, the Board changed the Foundation’s name to the Brain and Lung Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation and expanded the Foundation’s mission to support research related to the effects of air pollution on brain tumors and lung cancer. In 2017, the Board changed the Foundation’s name to the Health Effects of Air Pollution Foundation and further expanded the Foundation’s mission to support research on the incidence, detection, and causes and cures of various health conditions that may be caused or aggravated by air pollution.
pollution. To date, the Foundation has received contribution of almost $12.5 million and has funded studies with leading medical and public health researchers in Southern California.

The Directors of the Foundation serve at the pleasure of the South Coast AQMD Board. The Chair of the Board recommends individuals for Board approval to be Directors of the Foundation. The Foundation’s bylaws require that the Foundation have four Directors, but this number may be changed from time to time within the limits specified in the bylaws by a resolution adopted by the Board.

In February 2021, former Board Chair Dr. William Burke recommended Board Member Michael Cacciotti as a Foundation Director to replace former Board Member Judy Mitchell. Current Board Chair Ben Benoit concurs with this recommendation.

The terms of Dr. William Burke and Dr. Clark Parker expired, and Chair Benoit has recommended Board Vice Chair Vanessa Delgado as a Foundation Director.

Proposal
This action is to ratify the appointment of Board Member Michael Cacciotti as Foundation Director, with his term effective retroactively to January 13, 2021. This action is to also approve the appointment of Vice Chair Vanessa Delgado as Foundation Director effective immediately. To ensure the efficient performance of the duties of the Foundation’s Directors in carrying out the purposes of the Foundation, this action is to also adopt the attached Resolution reducing the number of fixed Directors of the Foundation from four (4) to three (3), effective immediately. With the actions taken herein, the Foundation will have three Directors, namely, Chair Ben Benoit, Vice Chair Vanessa Delgado and Board Member Cacciotti.

Resource Impacts
None.

Attachments
Resolution
A Resolution of the South Coast Air Quality Management District Governing Board Reducing the Number of Fixed Directors of the Health Effects of Air Pollution Foundation

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Air Quality Management District established the Health Effects of Air Pollution Foundation (Foundation) to support research projects regarding the incidence, detection, and causes and cures of various health conditions that may be caused or aggravated by air pollution;

WHEREAS, Article 3.1(A) of the Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Foundation (“Bylaws”) states that the authorized number of Directors of the Foundation shall be not less than three (3) nor more than nine (9); and

WHEREAS, Article 3.1(B) of the Bylaws states that the exact number of Directors shall be fixed at four (4) and may from time to time, within the limits specified in the Bylaws, be changed by a resolution adopted by the South Coast AQMD Governing Board; and

WHEREAS, the reduction in the fixed number of Foundation Directors from four (4) to three (3) will ensure efficient performance of the duties of the Board of Directors in carrying out the purposes of the Foundation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Coast AQMD Governing Board, during a special meeting assembled on March 4, 2022, does hereby reduce the fixed number of Foundation Directors to three (3) effective immediately.

Dated: ________________________ _________________________________

Faye Thomas, Clerk of the Boards