

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 7, 2022

AGENDA NO. 23

REPORT: Administrative Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Administrative Committee held a meeting remotely on Friday, September 9, 2022. The following is a summary of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:  
Receive and file.

Ben J. Benoit, Chair  
Administrative Committee

SN:cb

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### **Committee Members**

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

### **Call to Order**

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

For additional details of the Administrative Committee Meeting, please refer to the [Webcast](#).

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Board Members' Concerns:** Mayor Cacciotti inquired about having a meeting to discuss outreach efforts for funds becoming available for the commercial electric lawn equipment and Carl Moyer programs. Wayne Natri, Executive Officer, responded that staff will look into this. Chair Benoit commented on the large fires in Southwest Riverside and the climate with strong wind advisory. He thanked staff for sending alerts on the effects from the fires.

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 October 7, 2022 Governing Board Agenda:** There were no comments to report.
5. **Approval of Compensation for Board Member Assistant(s)/Consultant(s):** There was a proposal for Jackson Guze, Board Consultant to Councilmember Nithya Raman, to change from independent contractor to employee status.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Delgado, unanimously approved.

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

6. **Update on South Coast AQMD Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Efforts:** Dr. Anissa Heard-Johnson, Deputy Executive Officer/Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, provided an update on agency efforts and the direction for the upcoming year. Dr. Heard-Johnson highlighted Ruby Bridges for Fabulous Female Friday. For additional information on this update please refer to the [Webcast at 7:30.](#)

Mayor Cacciotti reported that San Gabriel Valley unveiled their first mobile crisis unit to address the mental health crisis in the community. He inquired about the mental health of staff in the workplace. John Olvera, Deputy Executive Officer/Administrative & Human Resources, reported that Human Resources has been promoting mental health resources and programs that are available to employees. For additional information on this update please refer to the [Webcast at 14:42.](#)

7. **Status Report on Major Ongoing and Upcoming Projects for Information Management:** Ron Moskowitz, Chief Information Officer/Information Management, reported software and database upgrades and other electronic enhancements to move away from paper and improve security and online payments for customers.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

8. **Issue Purchase Order for Ingress Relational Database Management System Software Support:** Mr. Moskowitz reported that this item is to renew licensing for our Ingress database with a three-year contract and a discount in pricing. Funds for this item is included in the budget.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Rutherford, unanimously approved.

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

9. **Appropriate Funds for Consultant Services for South Coast AQMD's Environmental Justice Outreach and Initiatives, Clean Air Program for Elementary Students and Why Healthy Air Matters Program (WHAM):** Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer/Legislative, Public Affairs & Media, reported that this item is to appropriate funds for consultant's services for Environmental Justice Outreach and Initiatives for the Clean Air Program for Elementary School Students (CAPES) and WHAM programs. The funding for these consultant contracts was provided by a percentage of the penalty funds received in excess of \$4,000,000. Sufficient funding is not available this year, so this item is asking for a little over \$80,000 for the CAPES program and \$1,000,000 for the WHAM program from the BP ARCO fund.

Supervisor Rutherford inquired if the consultants are the same. Mr. Alatorre confirmed that the consultants are the same and this is the last year of their three-year contract. Mr. Alatorre explained that if the Board chooses to move forward with the programs, an RFP would be issued next year. Supervisor Rutherford inquired and Mr. Alatorre confirmed that the curriculum is available online for students that are home schooled.

Chair Benoit inquired and Mr. Alatorre confirmed that these videos could be provided to the Board Members.

Vice Chair Delgado commented that this is one of her favorite programs and inquired if there has been an increase in participation. Mr. Alatorre confirmed that additional people are using the system and that over 6,000 elementary school students and over 10,000 middle and high school students participated this past year.

Mayor Cacciotti inquired about the list of schools involved, so he can work with other schools in his area to get them involved. Mr. Alatorre confirmed that we could provide an updated list of schools in these programs.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Delgado, unanimously approved.

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

10. **Amend FY 22-23 Budget By Adding and Deleting Positions in Various Divisions to Address Operational Needs:** John Olvera, Deputy Executive Officer/Administrative & Human Resources reported that this item seeks approval to amend the current year budget by adding and deleting positions throughout the agency. These proposed revisions are to address operational needs, such as succession planning, and to enhancing efficiency and productivity by providing additional support and resources throughout the agency. This action will result in an increased cost of \$5 million. Funding in the amount of \$4 million is being requested from the Undesignated, Unassigned Fund for this year and future budget requests will address costs going forward.

Areio Soltani, Air Quality Specialist, South Coast AQMD, provided public comment regarding staff professionals and compensation. For additional information on this update please refer to the [Webcast at 33:35](#).

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Benoit, unanimously approved.

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

#### **WRITTEN REPORT:**

11. **Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group Minutes for the June 10, 2022 Meeting:** The report was acknowledged and received.

#### **OTHER MATTERS:**

12. **Other Business:** There were no comments to report.
13. **Public Comment:** There were no public comments to report.
14. **Next Meeting Date:** The next regular Administrative Committee meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Carlos Rodriguez, LGSBA Chair (Board Member)  
Senator Vanessa Delgado (Board Member)  
Supervisor Janice Rutherford (Board Member)  
Felipe Aguirre  
Paul Avila, P.B.A. & Associates  
Geoffrey Blake, Metal Finishers of Southern California  
Todd Campbell, Clean Energy  
LaVaughn Daniel, DancoEN  
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:

Council Member Rachelle Arizmendi, City of Sierra Madre

### OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Abramowitz  
Harvey Eder  
Fernando Gaytan, Earthjustice  
Debra Mendelson, Board Member Consultant (*Rutherford*)  
Mark Taylor, Board Member Consultant (*Rutherford*)

### SOUTH COAST AQMD STAFF:

Susan Nakamura, Chief Operating Officer  
Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer  
Aaron Katzenstein, Deputy Executive Officer  
Sarah Rees, Deputy Executive Officer  
Lisa Tanaka O'Malley, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer  
Kathryn Higgins, Director of Community Air Programs  
Daphne Hsu, Principal Deputy District Counsel  
Philip Crabbe III, Senior Public Affairs Manager  
Mark Henninger, Information Technology Manager  
Anthony Tang, Information Technology Supervisor  
Van Doan, Air Quality Specialist  
Paul Wright, Senior Information Technology Specialist

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

Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer, Legislative, Public Affairs and Media, reviewed the housekeeping items for the virtual meeting and Chair Carlos Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

For additional details of the Local Government & Small Business Advisory Group Meeting, please refer to the Webcast at [Live Webcast \(aqmd.gov\)](https://aqmd.gov) at 0:06.

### **Agenda Item #2 – Approval of March 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Chair Rodriguez called for approval of the March 11, 2022 meeting minutes.

No public comment.

Motion to approve minutes made by Ms. Rita Loof with amendments; seconded by Supervisor Janice Rutherford; unanimously approved.

Ayes: Aguirre, Avila, Campbell, Daniel, Delgado, DeWitt, LaMarr, Loof, Marquez, Rothbart, Rodriguez, Rutherford

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Arizmendi, Blake (during voting)

For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](https://aqmd.gov) beginning at 6:00.

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

Mr. Alatorre reviewed the action item from the March 11, 2022 meeting, which was to provide the advisory group with Assembly Bill (AB) 617 and AB 8 information. The requested information was emailed to the advisory group on June 7, 2022.

No public comment.

For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](https://aqmd.gov) beginning at 10:06.

### **Agenda Item #4 – 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) Overview**

Sarah Rees, Deputy Executive Officer for Planning, Rule Development and Implementation, presented a summary of the overall process and work completed to date on the 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP).

John DeWitt asked if the national air quality standards are attainable. Dr. Rees replied that it is important the federal government develop and implement new regulations as a majority of the nitrogen oxides (NOx) come from ships, locomotives, aircrafts, and trucks.

David Rothbart referenced slide #10 and asked if the inventory includes the California Air Resources Board (CARB)-proposed reductions such as the Advanced Clean Fleet requirement. Dr. Rees responded that CARB's baseline includes previously adopted regulations up until October 2021. Mr. Rothbart asked if air quality standards are achievable if all federal and mobile sources were electrified. Dr. Rees replied that there would be barriers to full electrification and infrastructure is one of them. Our authority

is limited and would not meet the standards even if all stationary sources in our region were shut down. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 29:34.

Bill LaMarr expressed concern given the current state of the economy, businesses, and our region's inability to reach attainment under the Clean Air Act. Dr. Rees discussed South Coast AQMD's regulatory authority and rulemaking proceedings which require public input, including the business community, and support for science-based targets. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 33:11.

Rita Loof expressed concern with inconsistency of AQMP policy and actual implementation. She indicated that although the AQMP strategy relies on NOx emission reductions; volatile organic compound (VOC) sources are more heavily regulated. She encouraged regulatory flexibility to provide incentives for businesses to remain in operation in California. Dr. Rees responded that NOx reductions are important as it paves the pathway for attainment and VOC reductions are important due to the chemistry in the atmosphere, which forms ozone. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 40:42.

Todd Campbell expressed concern regarding the achievability of the zero-emission strategy in the AQMP. Dr. Rees discussed the availability of electrons, infrastructure, and power for widespread electrification. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 45:54.

Mr. LaMarr asked if there are any meetings scheduled for the AQMP Advisory Group. Dr. Rees replied that a meeting is scheduled for this summer.

Harvey Eder provided public comment and mentioned the Solar New Deal.

For additional details on the presentation and discussions, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 11:16.

#### **Agenda Item #5 – Update on Technology Advancement Office Clean Fuels Program, 2021 Annual Report and 2022 Clean Fuels Plan**

Aaron Katzenstein, Deputy Executive Officer, Technology Advancement Office, presented on the Clean Fuels Program, including the accomplishments made in 2021 and the plan for 2022.

Mr. Rothbart mentioned CARB's regulations on electric vehicles, expressed concern for electric vehicle availability, and asked about research funding and what could be done for attainment. Dr. Katzenstein responded that the Clean Fuels Program focuses on research for zero-emission technology and expressed the need for power availability and infrastructure. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 1:09:28.

Ms. Loof referenced slides #9 and #12 and asked for clarification on the different percentages for stationary sources. Dr. Katzenstein responded that it may be the same project and the difference in percentages is due to the different funding amounts in the pie chart. Ms. Loof mentioned restrictions for funding use. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 1:14:05.

Geoffrey Blake expressed concern that high fuel costs could lead to a reduction of drivers. He discussed liquified natural gas (LNG) as a fuel and need for incentive programs to convert older diesel engines to LNG. Dr. Katzenstein stated that there are programs available to trade in or retrofit diesel engines for natural-gas engines.

Mr. LaMarr indicated that sometimes trucks exceed city weight limits causing infrastructure damage and asked if there have been any discussions on how to address that issue. Dr. Katzenstein responded that so far there hasn't been any discussions relating to that issue. Mr. LaMarr mentioned that electric trucks need to be charged and asked about duty cycles and whether more ZE trucks would be needed to complete work. Dr. Katzenstein responded that it is dependent on the fleet. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 1:21:10.

Mr. Campbell and Dr. Katzenstein discussed battery-electric trucks, including performance, costs, and efficiency. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 1:25:10.

For additional details on the presentation and discussions, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 58:06.

#### **Agenda Item #6 – Other Business**

Ms. Loof expressed appreciation for the information received on AB 617 and requested that the topic be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

*Action Item: Place AB617 on a future LGSBA agenda.*

#### **Agenda Item #7 – Public Comment**

Mr. Eder commented on methane and climate change. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 1:32:40.

#### **Agenda Item #8 – Next Meeting Date**

The next regular LGSBA Advisory Group meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 12, 2022 at 11:30 a.m.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.