

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 2, 2014

AGENDA NO. 19

REPORT: Administrative Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Administrative Committee met on Friday, April 11, 2014. The Committee discussed various issues detailed in the Committee report. The next Administrative Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 9, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Dr. William A. Burke, Chair
Administrative Committee

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Attendance: Attending the April 11, 2014 meeting were Committee Members Mayor Dennis Yates and Supervisor Josie Gonzales at SCAQMD headquarters, and Chairman William Burke and Dr. Clark E. Parker, Sr. via videoconference.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **Board Members' Concerns:** None
2. **Chairman's Report of Approved Travel:** Executive Officer Barry Wallerstein advised that there were three trips reported. Supervisor Josie Gonzales traveled to Sacramento with staff to meet with members of the Legislature and their staff on April 2, 2014. Mayor Judith Mitchell anticipated a trip to Sacramento to attend the CARB Board meeting on April 23-25, 2014. Also, Mayor Miguel Pulido anticipated a trip to Dallas, Texas to attend the Conference of Mayors relative to air quality and energy on June 19-23, 2014.
3. **Approval of Compensation for Board Member Assistant(s)/Consultant(s):** None to report.

4. **Report of Approved Out-of-Country Travel:** None to report.
5. **Discussion of Reverse 911 Lines:** Assistant Deputy Executive Officer Chris Marlia reported that this item is in response to a discussion from last month's meeting where Dr. Parker inquired about AMBER Alerts and whether SCAQMD had the capability for those type-related alerts. Mr. Marlia provided a presentation describing our current capabilities and what has been done in the past with regard to outreach and Reverse 911 lines. They consist of blast emails using mailing lists we have available, alerts on social media through Twitter and Facebook, and phone messaging to designated areas.

We currently do not have authority to access the Reverse 911 list. However, FEMA has that capability and is the responsible agency for sending out AMBER Alerts. NOAA also has the capability to send out alerts over their radio network. Over the last decade when agencies were brought under the umbrella of the National Security Agency, efforts were taken to integrate these alert systems. FEMA created a system called IPAWS, an Integrated Public Alert and Warning System, for AMBER Alerts and emergency alerting. Local agencies may participate in IPAWS as alerting authorities if they conform to all its regulations and protocols. Interface IPAWS software may also be purchased and configured to conform to its reporting protocols to blast emergency messages. SCAQMD may apply to participate in IPAWS; however, the approval process is very stringent. Once approval is granted, a laptop can be configured to send out messages alerting the public.

Dr. Wallerstein mentioned that typically it is the Fire and Law Enforcement Departments who make the emergency announcements and, ultimately, make determinations about evacuations and sheltering in place after consulting with us on how the public should be advised. He suggested it might be more appropriate for us to work with those entities to put an agreement in place. Staff is seeking direction from the Board.

Rudy Eden, Lab Manager in Source Testing, described the process by which a portable gas chromatograph mass spectrometer is used to collect samples. The device is driven to the field and placed on the back of a fireman who is designated to go into the hot zone to collect a sample. The instrument is brought back out of the hot zone to our staff in the field within 20 minutes. The information is then downloaded and presented to the Fire Department as to what hazardous emissions are found present in the hot zone where the sample was collected.

Dr. Burke was concerned about the timeframe it would take to drive the device to the location of the fire. Dr. Wallerstein mentioned that in the past we have had some initial discussions with the Fire Departments about whether we should place some equipment strategically so that it was nearby some of the areas of highest concentration of chemical plants and places of that nature. Those discussions did not go very far, but may be something we should revisit.

Dr. Burke commented that this is one of the things that Supervisor Gonzales was referring to when she talked about us coordinating with local governments. He added that driving a piece of equipment to a fire does not sound very effective. Dr. Wallerstein indicated that we will revisit this with the other safety officials and agencies. There is an issue about who has the equipment, where you store it, are they properly trained on its use, and do they take care to calibrate the equipment. We are also dealing with multiple jurisdictions in our region.

Dr. Burke asked if a wireless chromatograph was available and what is the cost. Mr. Eden responded that he was not sure about wireless; however, we have the capability to transmit data, but it requires the instrument. The cost is \$125,000 each. Dr. Wallerstein added that, with Dr. Burke's approval, he plans to propose two agenda items for consideration at the Board Retreat which move us in the direction of having remote sensors that can provide real-time analysis and warning so that the data could be shared not only with our agency, but with our partners in the community.

Mayor Yates commented that SCAQMD has four gas chromatograph spectrometers that are proposed for use in the four counties. The Sheriff's Department in all four counties have helicopters. If the Fire Department is trained on the device when one is needed, the helicopter could immediately be dispatched with an instrument.

Supervisor Gonzales indicated that she wants to promote a positive, self-marketing, partnering with Cal Fire, Con Fire, County Fire, and Law Enforcement, to come together for a workshop to discuss and gain input regarding the obstacles they foresee that could be included in our approach. She added that within our region we know where the critical, dangerous locations are. We could begin by focusing on having a monitor on site, first identifying how many sites there are, how much money is needed, what training is involved, and then begin to provide a number of alternatives to consider. It gives us an opportunity to connect with local government allowing them to provide some answers and perhaps some funding.

Dr. Parker mentioned that he believes the County Fire Departments control probably 60 or 70% of small city fire departments since not many cities have their own fire department. It may be good for the four counties we represent to start at the County Fire Department level and work downward in order to refine them into a more manageable group to bring together and start the dialogue.

Mr. Eden responded that we have done that in the past. Post 9/11 we were working with the Fire Departments that had been given the same gas chromatograph mass spectrometer by the Department of Defense. Sadly, they were not able to keep up with the technology because of the technical detail that is required to keep that technology in real time. We have since trained different Fire Departments at the county and city levels where we would communicate with the different entities, let them know what our capacities and capabilities were, and what services we have available. It has been about four years since we last connected with those different departments, but we can certainly consider keeping that more current. Dr. Burke directed staff to look into doing that.

Supervisor Gonzales added that ideally at some point in the future the goal needs to be that we can address the mobile monitoring opportunities no different than what is done with fire extinguishers in places of business. They have an expiration point and are checked, recharged, and inspected. The goal should be, ultimately, working with technology that would lend itself to make that happen.

MAY AGENDA ITEMS

6. **Recognize Revenue and Appropriate Funds for PM2.5 Monitoring Program and Issue Purchase Orders for Air Monitoring and Analysis Equipment:** Assistant Deputy Executive Officer Laki Tisopulos reported that this item is to recognize funding from U.S. EPA for our PM2.5 Monitoring Network and to issue purchase orders for additional air monitoring and analysis equipment.

Moved by Yates; seconded by Gonzales; unanimously approved.

7. **Appropriate Funding and Authorize Enhancements to SCAQMD's Air Toxics Monitoring Program:** Dr. Tisopulos reported that this item is to transfer and appropriate funding to the Science & Technology Advancement Office FY 2013-14 and/or FY 2014-15 Budget and release RFQs and issue purchase orders for laboratory and field equipment.

Moved by Yates; seconded by Gonzales; unanimously approved.

8. **Amend Contract for Enhancement of New Annual Emissions Reporting System:** Deputy Executive Officer Elaine Chang advised that this item is delayed for one month.
9. **Report of RFPs and RFQs Scheduled for Release in May:** Chief Financial Officer Michael O’Kelly requests approval to release an RFP for carpet installation at Diamond Bar Headquarters.

Moved by Parker; seconded by Yates; unanimously approved.

10. **Review of the May 2, 2014 Governing Board Agenda**
11. **Other Business:** None
12. **Public Comment:** None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.