

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 8, 2021

AGENDA NO. 19

REPORT: Administrative Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Administrative Committee held a meeting remotely, Friday, December 11, 2020. The following is a summary of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Ben Benoit, Vice Chair
Administrative Committee

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Committee Members

Present: Council Member Ben Benoit/Vice Chair (videoconference)
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Cacciotti (videoconference)
Council Member Judith Mitchell (videoconference)

Absent: Dr. William A. Burke/Chair

Call to Order

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

The following items were taken out of order.

ACTION ITEMS:

11. **Approve Transfer of Monies from General Fund to Health Effects Research Fund:** Ms. Jain reported that the Board previously authorized the transfer of 20 percent of annual penalty money that exceeds \$4 million (\$1,635,636) to the Health Effects Research Fund. At the September 4, 2020 meeting, the Board approved funding amounts up to \$1 million for Why Healthy Air Matters (WHAM) and up to \$200,000 for the Clean Air Program for Elementary Students (C.A.P.E.S). The remaining funds of \$435,636 will be transferred to the Health Effects Research Fund. Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti asked about the total of penalty funds. Ms. Jain responded that the total

penalty funds are \$12,178,184. Council Member Mitchell asked if the \$4 million of the BP ARCO settlement funds were allocated to mitigation. Ms. Jain responded that the money does not go into the BP ARCO settlement fund, rather it goes into the Health Effects Research Fund and it is coming from the General Fund penalties.

Moved by Mitchell; seconded by Cacciotti, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Mitchell
Noes: None
Absent: Burke

12. **Appropriate Funds and Amend Existing Contract for Consultant Services for South Coast AQMD's Why Healthy Air Matters Program to Correct Funding:** Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer/Legislative, Public Affairs and Media, reported that at the September 4, 2020 meeting, the Board approved expansion of the WHAM program, but the September Board letter did not accurately identify all of the required appropriations to fund the program. The BP ARCO funds in the amount of \$1 million were to be spread over years two and three but were inadvertently omitted from the recommended actions. Staff recommends a transfer of BP ARCO funds to fully fund the WHAM program through September 2023. Council Member Mitchell commented that city officials are very interested in this successful program. Mr. Alatorre added that he has received positive feedback and has received commitments from school districts. Due to COVID restrictions, the program will be virtual this year, and a combination of virtual and classroom instruction will be done thereafter. Videos for teachers' use in classrooms will be produced which offers students the ability to learn about air quality and gives the teachers an opportunity to teach about air quality which wouldn't be typically taught in the classroom. Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti asked if there are still opportunities for other schools to participate. Mr. Alatorre responded that yes, there are opportunities for other schools to participate in this program.

Moved by Cacciotti; seconded by Mitchell, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Mitchell
Noes: None
Absent: Burke

13. **Execute a Sole-Source Contract for Planning, Organizing, and Facilitating South Coast AQMD's Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Forum and Cesar Chavez Day of Remembrance for 2022, 2023, and 2024:** Mr. Alatorre reported that the current contract with Lee Andrews Group for planning and organizing the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of

Remembrance and the Cesar Chavez events expire in September, 2021. This item is to request a three-year contract extension in the amount of \$450,000. Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti asked about staff involvement in this project. Mr. Alatorre responded that staff meets with the contractor twice a month and staff is actively involved.

Moved by Mitchell; seconded by Cacciotti, unanimously approved.

Ayes: Benoit, Cacciotti, Mitchell
Noes: None
Absent: Burke

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **Board Members' Concerns:** None to report.
2. **Chairman's Report of Approved Travel:** None to report.
3. **Report of Approved Out-of-Country Travel:** None to report.
4. **Review January 8, 2021 Governing Board Agenda:** Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti thanked staff for the item to transfer funds and amend contracts for commercial electric lawn and garden equipment incentive exchange program. He asked if there were any other sources if the program were to run out of funds. Mr. Nastri responded that we may be able to use BP ARCO settlement funds and other penalty funds. We could also apply for additional grants as that is where the funding originated from. If the money runs out, staff will return to the Board with recommendations.
5. **Approval of Compensation for Board Member Assistant(s)/Consultant(s):** There were no proposals to consider.
6. **Update on South Coast AQMD Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Efforts:** Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer, reported that he and a number of staff participated in the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) training which included people from across the United States, including a number of air agencies. Staff is following up with Puget Sound to learn more about their programs. Interviews are expected to begin next week, and it is anticipated to bring the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer on board towards the end of January. Recently, the Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Advisory (IDEA) panel hosted a lunch and learn session for over 100 employees. The topics of discussion were what they hope to accomplish, and the key focus areas identified. Council Member Mitchell asked how the DEI screening process will be conducted. Mr. Nastri responded that we have a review panel of internal staff, including himself and he is considering how

the IDEA panel can participate. Council Member Mitchell added that it is important that there is diversity on the panel, and she believes that Dr. Burke should be involved. Mr. Gilchrist added that he will be participating in the selection process as well. Council Member Cacciotti asked about the value of taking the GARE class and if he should recommend the class to his city manager and staff. Mr. Nastri responded that he regarded the class as beneficial as they introduced sessions that helped to intermingle people into groups for discussion providing some insight as to what others are doing to address this topic.

7. **Budget and Economic Outlook Update:** Jill Whynot, Chief Operating Officer, reported on key metrics that are tracked each month and. that refinery throughput continues to be down by 21 percent year to date. October was the busiest month for the combined ports and the Port of Long Beach had a 30 percent increase in November. Statewide unemployment is continuing to improve. For year to date, the Gross Domestic Product through October is down by 12 percent. The refineries are down 10 percent and the ports are down 1.4 percent. Our vacancy rate is at 16.6 percent. November had the lowest incoming permits at a 35 percent decrease compared to November 2019. Permit revenue was also down in November. The number of requests for payment plans or other relief through the Fee Review Committee are back to normal levels. Council Member Mitchell asked if the potentially expired permits are due to facilities going out of business or have businesses ceased operations? Ms. Whynot responded that staff would look into this and report back. About three dozen of these potentially expired permits are for dry cleaners that are not renewing their permits for perc equipment because they have until the end of the year to phase this out. Council Member Mitchell asked if all of the permittees have to renew by the end of the year? Ms. Whynot responded that once a facility operator is late in paying renewal fees, they have up to 12 months to reinstate that permit. Council Member Mitchell asked if everyone has a different renewal date. Ms. Whynot replied yes, and that staff is letting permittees know that they can get a payment plan for up to six months with no interest.
8. **Status Report on Major Ongoing and Upcoming Projects for Information Management:** Ron Moskowitz, Chief Information Officer/Information Management reported that a new web-based grant management portal was deployed for the lower emissions school bus incentive program. In addition, a major enhancement on our mobile app that features a grid map providing greater accuracy went live. U.S. EPA also notified us that our mobile app was selected for an U.S. EPA Clean Air Excellence Award and the ceremony will take place virtually in January.
9. **Coachella Valley (CV) Link Status Report from Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG):** Matt Miyasato, Deputy Executive

Officer/Technology Advancement reported that an award was previously provided to CVAG for its construction design build out of the CV link. At the time of the award, there was Board discussion to ensure that the interest on the award was tracked, but the disposition of the interest was to be decided later by the Board. Ms. Erica Felci, CVAG, provided a presentation on the history, progress and what is in store for CV Link. Vice Chair Benoit shared his recollection of growing up in the city of Palm Desert and remarked about golf carts being widely used. He is very supportive of this project and is excited that the next phase will get to 20 miles. Council Member Mitchell commented that it is a great project and it came out of the mitigation monies from the power plant in Desert Hot Springs. Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti commented that he is very supportive and remembered when Supervisor Benoit was working on the project and is excited to ride his bike there. Based on the comments from the Committee, staff will prepare the Board authorization request for approximately \$1.5 million that will come back to Administrative Committee before going to the full Board.

10. **Report of RFPs Scheduled for Release in January:** Sujata Jain, Chief Financial Officer/Finance reported that this item is to release an RFP to establish a prequalified list for outside counsel.

WRITTEN REPORTS:

14. **Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group Minutes for the November 13, 2020:** The report was acknowledged and received.
15. **Environmental Justice Advisory Group Minutes for August 28, 2020:** The report was acknowledged and received.

OTHER MATTERS:

16. **Other Business:** There was no other business.
17. **Public Comment:** There was no public comments.
18. **Next Meeting Date:** The next regular Administrative Committee meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Attachments

1. Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group Minutes for November 13, 2020
2. Environmental Justice Advisory Group Minutes for August 28, 2020



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Council Member Ben Benoit, LGSBA Chairman (Board Member)
Supervisor Janice Rutherford (Board Member)
Felipe Aguirre
Mayor Pro Tempore Rachelle Arizmendi, City of Sierra Madre
Paul Avila, P.B.A. & Associates
Geoffrey Blake, Metal Finishers of Southern California
LaVaughn Daniel, DancoEN
Bill LaMarr, California Small Business Alliance
Rita Loof, RadTech International
Eddie Marquez, Roofing Contractors Association
David Rothbart, Los Angeles County Sanitation District

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Todd Campbell, Clean Energy
John DeWitt, JE DeWitt, Inc.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Abramowitz
Tung Le, California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA)
Dan McGivney, SoCal Gas
Janet Whittick

SOUTH COAST AQMD STAFF:

Jill Whynot, Chief Operating Officer
Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer
Sarah Rees, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer
Teresa Barrera, Senior Deputy District Counsel
Mark Henninger, Information Technology Manager
Daniel Garcia, Planning & Rules Manager
Tracy Goss, Planning & Rules Manager
Zorik Pirveysian, Planning & Rules Manager
Anthony Tang, Information Technology Supervisor
Van Doan, Air Quality Specialist
Elaine-Joy Hills, Air Quality Specialist
Evangelina Barrera, Senior Public Information Specialist
Arlene Farol, Senior Public Information Specialist

Gina Triviso, Senior Public Information Specialist
Daniel Wong, Senior Public Information Specialist
Paul Wright, Senior Information Technology Specialist

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Chair Ben Benoit called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

Mr. Derrick Alatorre provided guidelines and general instructions for participation in the remote meeting for the Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group (LGSBA) meeting via Zoom webinar and teleconference.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of September Meeting Minutes

Chair Benoit called for approval of the September 11, 2020 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

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

Mr. Alatorre provided responses to the action items from the previous meeting and indicated that staff contacted Mr. David Rothbart and confirmed he was aware of the back-up generator bills, and no further staff follow-up was needed. Mr. Alatorre stated that a presentation on the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) is on the agenda for today's meeting, as requested.

Agenda Item #4 – Overview of California Air Pollution Officers Association (CAPCOA) Priorities

Mr. Tung Le provided an overview of CAPCOA's current priorities.

Mr. Bill LaMarr asked if funding is required to be used towards improving air quality or reducing health risks by reducing exposure to toxic air contaminants or if air districts and communities have the flexibility to use the funds as they wish. Mr. Le replied that one of the requirements in California Air Resources Board's (CARB) investment guidelines indicate that the funds invested must correlate with the reduction of air pollution, air toxics or criteria pollutants. Communities are interested in and have prioritized improving the quality of life, but it is difficult to quantify emissions reductions from factors such as windbreaks and sound barriers. CAPCOA has asked CARB for guidance on how to quantify emissions reductions for those projects but have not received a good response. However, CAPCOA will continue to work with CARB to address this. Mr. LaMarr suggested that CARB should have a publicly available annual report to show projects and amount of funds invested. Mr. Le stated that these are public funds and accountability will need to be shown; however, at this time, he did not know, but eventually when the questions are asked, data will be available to illustrate where the funds are going and what the benefits are. Mr. Alatorre stated that historically, the legislature funded both implementation and incentives; however, this year they did not fund the incentives. Therefore, the funds are insufficient and we are waiting for the carbon auction results. Certain things are predetermined to be funded, such as high-speed rail, housing, and water projects. South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) will continue to advocate for incentive funding to help communities address their concerns. As Mr. Le mentioned in the presentation, South Coast AQMD wants to get sustained, continued, and adequate funding; however, it is challenging as we have to ask for funding annually, unlike the predetermined projects. Mr. Le agreed that it has been a challenge to ask for continuous funding to have resources to implement programs.

Ms. Rita Loof asked if CAPCOA is involved in CARB's Criteria Pollutant and Toxics Emissions Reporting (CTR) regulation as South Coast AQMD and other air districts have provided input. Mr. Le replied that CAPCOA's role is to coordinate communication with the air districts. CAPCOA does not have an official position on the CTR; however, it has been coordinating communication and relaying concerns, ideas, and work between air districts, CARB, and stakeholders who are involved in the CTR regulation.

Mr. Rothbart stated that the proposed amendments to the CTR will include approximately 1,500 new compounds to be reported and most of them do not have any test methods nor toxicity factors. Mr. Rothbart stated that he's heard from different air districts that it is a burden to compile the requested information and suggested that it would be better use of public funds to use air monitoring stations to identify risks, locate, and fix problem areas. Mr. Rothbart asked if the CAPCOA board has had any discussion on this and if there are any feedback on air districts' positions on the best use of funds. Mr. Le stated that is a massive update and response to the CTR regulation will require a significant investment of time and staff resources. CAPCOA has been working closely with CARB to express concerns that the air districts have, such as resources and funding, and discussions are ongoing. CARB proposed a phased-in approach on the reporting requirement. The key is to communicate what is being done, why this data is being collected, and what it is used for. CARB's response is that the list hasn't been updated in over 10 years and the public is asking for this information to better understand what is in their communities and the environment. How the data is represented is important and further analysis is needed to ensure that it is presented to the public in the proper way. Cooperation and communication are key to ensure that the CTR regulation is implemented as smoothly and gracefully as possible. Mr. Rothbart encouraged feedback to CARB to ensure that there are no misunderstandings when the information is presented to the public.

Agenda Item #5 – Coachella Valley Extreme Area Plan for 1997 8-Hour Ozone Standard

Mr. Zorik Pirveysian presented the draft Extreme Area Plan for the 1997 8-hour ozone standard for Coachella Valley.

Agenda Item #6 – Update on the Development and Implementation of Assembly Bill 617 Community Plans

Ms. Evangelina Barrera provided an update on efforts made and the progress of Assembly Bill (AB) 617 implementation of 2018 designated communities and an update of the plans for 2019 designated communities.

Ms. Rachelle Arizmendi asked when planning will begin for recommended Year 3 communities. Ms. Barrera replied that recommended Year 3 community was presented to the Governing Board (GB) for approval at the last GB meeting; if approved, those communities will be presented to CARB for consideration in December. Planning proceeds with the presumption that the recommended community is approved. There will be an Incentive Strategies meeting next week, which the South Los Angeles (SLA) group is also invited. Mr. Alatorre stated that typically, outreach begins 6-7 months before communities are presented to the GB. During that time, South Coast AQMD conducts outreach and hosts meetings with the communities to provide information and the opportunity for communities to be nominated. Ms. Arizmendi asked if the key community groups in SLA have been outreached to. Mr. Alatorre replied that the SLA community was already presented to the GB for approval and then to CARB for consideration in December. Outreach for Year 4 will begin the 1st or 2nd quarter of 2021.

Mr. LaMarr asked what will be discussed at the next Incentives Strategies meeting since there are no incentives funding available. Mr. Alatorre stated that incentives funding is insufficient; however, planning continues to prepare for when funding becomes available. It is an opportunity for communities to get educated and provide input to identify and prioritize areas to allocate the funding. Mr. Daniel Garcia stated the funding cycle is slightly different for AB 617; funding was already available even before Year 1 communities were identified. At the October GB meeting, 70 million dollars were recognized for Year 3, which will be part of the Incentive Strategies discussion where the communities will have the opportunity to provide input. Mr. Garcia referenced an earlier question on accountability and stated that South Coast AQMD has annual progress reports, which identifies funds expended annually and associated emissions reductions. The 2019-20 annual progress report was submitted to the GB at the October meeting and was received and filed. CARB has guidelines for types of projects that can be funded, including mobile source emissions reductions and exposure reductions projects, such as school filtration systems. Under the Community Air Protection (CAP) Program guidelines, there are a variety of projects that can be funded and if a community prioritizes school filtration systems as an exposure reduction measure, then it is allowable.

Mr. Paul Avila asked if there are any funding for studies after a major fire event to see how it affects the atmosphere. Mr. Garcia stated that fires are on everyone's minds in communities throughout the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB) due to major fires this past summer. Some of the exposure reduction measures that communities prioritized, such as air filtration, can help address the concerns related to fires. There are primary and secondary particulate matter (PM). Secondary PM is PM_{2.5} resulting from atmospheric reactions and contributes to emissions in the SCAB. There isn't a focus on studies for fires, but in the Eastern Coachella Valley, there is a concern with opening burning. The AB 617 program is focused on emissions and exposure reductions, and not on studies requiring significant amount of time and might not bring the emissions reductions that the communities are looking for.

Agenda Item #7 – Written Report

Mr. LaMarr indicated that the numbers of fee review requests on the Small Business Assistance (SBA) Activities report is inconsistent with the numbers previously presented by Ms. Jill Whynot at the GB and Administrative Committee meetings. Mr. Alatorre replied that the higher numbers may not have accounted for requests submitted during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, where requests for payment plans or extensions of fees below \$10,000 were reviewed and approved by the Finance Department instead of the Fee Review Committee. Mr. Alatorre stated that staff will confirm and email Mr. LaMarr the response.

Follow-Up Item: Email Mr. LaMarr clarification on fee review request numbers on the Small Business Assistance Activities report.

Agenda Item #8 - Other Business

None.

Agenda Item #9- Public Comment

Mr. LaMarr thanked Chair Benoit for providing comments at an earlier Administrative Committee meeting regarding LGSBA minutes. Chair Benoit stated he reminded the committee that LGSBA previously made a recommendation and it was discussed.

Agenda Item #10 – Next Meeting Date

The next regular Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 13, 2020 at 11:30 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.



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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Council Member Ben Benoit, (Board Member)
Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), EJAG Chair (Board Member)
Supervisor Janice Rutherford, EJAG Vice Chair (Board Member)
Rhetta Alexander, Valley Interfaith Council
Manuel Arredondo, Coachella Valley School District, Retiree
Suzanne Bilodeau, Knott's Berry Farm
Kerry Doi, Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment
Paul Choe, Korean Drycleaners & Laundry Association
Dr. Afif El-Hasan, American Lung Association
Mary Figueroa, Riverside Community College
Dr. Monique Hernandez, California State University, Los Angeles
David McNeill, Baldwin Hills Conservancy
Daniel Morales, National Alliance for Human Rights
Rafael Yanez, Community Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dr. Lawrence Beeson, Loma Linda University, School of Public Health
Evelyn Knight, Long Beach Economic Development Commission
Dr. Jill Johnston, University of Southern California
Humberto Lugo, Community Member
Donald Smith, 136th Street Block Club

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Abramowitz
Scott Andrews
Mark Taylor
Patty Senecal
Tom Williams
Yvonne Watson

SOUTH COAST AQMD STAFF:

Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer
Fabian R. Wesson, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor

Victor Yip, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer
Teresa Barrera, Principal Deputy District Counsel
Ricardo Rivera, Senior Staff Specialist, Small Business Assistance
Hannea Cox, Air Quality Engineer, Small Business Assistance
Julie Franco, Senior Public Information Specialist
Alicia A. Rodriguez, Senior Public Information Specialist
Jeanette N. Short, Senior Public Information Specialist
Rainbow Young, Senior Public Information Specialist
Lindsay McElwain, Senior Administrative Secretary
Brandee Keith, Secretary

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Ms. Jeanette Short read the housekeeping items for the virtual meeting and then took roll call.

Agenda Item #2: Approval of January 24, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Chair Delgado called for the approval of the January 24, 2020 meeting minutes. Mr. Daniel Morales moved to approve the minutes and Ms. Mary Figueroa seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

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

Ms. Fabian Wesson provided a response to the January 24, 2020 action items:

- **Action Item:** Email EJAG the various EJCP meeting schedules, as they become available.
 - Emailed EJCP Advisory Council meeting schedule on April 10, 2020.
 - Emailed Inter-Agency Task Force meeting schedule on April 10, 2020.
- **Action Item:** Provide EJAG information on the Why Healthy Air Matters (WHAM) program.
 - E-mailed link to the WHAM Program on April 10, 2020.
<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/community/community-detail?title=wham>
- **Action Item:** Email EJAG Advisory Group the CARE program (now CAPES) meeting schedule when available, in the Summer of 2020.
 - Emailed response on April 10, 2020.
 - Due to the current stay at home order, schools are currently closed and therefore no CARE (CAPES) programs have been scheduled. However, we will provide a tentative schedule if any schools confirm for 2020.
- **Action Item:** Provide information to EJAG Chair on expansion of CARE (CAPES) program.
 - Emailed EJAG a response on April 10, 2020
 - Staff are currently working on bundling the program into a user friendly toolkit and list of potential schools to visit in 2020. We will share with the Chair to expand the program.
- **Action Item:** Provide list of dry cleaner facilities needing replacement before deadline and how much grant money is still available (requested by EJAG member Paul Cho)

- Emailed EJAG a response on April 10, 2020.
 - Approximately 297 facilities continue to operate using Perchloroethylene (Perc). Due to confidentiality, we are unable to provide a list with names of the dry cleaner facilities. There is approximately \$225,000 in grant funding remaining as of April 7, 2020.

Supervisor Janice Rutherford asked if the expansion of virtual and online learning might open opportunities to extend South Coast AQMD school programs to all schools. Councilmember Ben Benoit suggested the curriculum might also be uploaded to a public forum such as YouTube to make it available to all interested parties. Ms. Wesson agreed and said these and other ideas for expansion of the program would be explored.

Mr. Kerry Doi expressed approval over the developments and South Coast AQMD's efforts to offer grant funds to dry cleaning facilities. He also asked whether anything similar might be extended to restaurant facilities. Mr. Derrick Alatorre explained that dry cleaning facilities were offered grant funds to meet rule requirements going into effect in 2020, but that there are no such regulatory efforts affecting restaurants.

Agenda Item #4: Small Business Assistance & Incentive Programs

Ms. Hannea Cox provided a brief overview of South Coast AQMD's Small Business Assistance and Incentive Program.

Mr. Rafael Yanez asked if the grant funds cover the full cost of equipment, and whether phone calls or inspector visits have been made to remaining facilities that had not yet switched over to compliant equipment. Ms. Cox explained that grant funding could be applied to used equipment for facilities to save costs. Mr. Ricardo Rivera explained South Coast's AQMD grant offerings would cover \$10,000 out of a potential \$30,000-\$40,000 equipment cost, but that the California Air Resources Board also offered additional grant funds. He mentioned that South Coast AQMD had been engaged in extensive outreach to dry cleaning facilities including meetings, mailings, and demonstrations of the wet cleaning systems, to make them aware of the compliance deadline of December 31, 2020.

Mr. Kerry Doi asked if there are any qualifying factors to qualify for assistance. Ms. Hannea Cox explained that for dry cleaners, specifically, businesses would have to convert to a professional wet cleaning system to qualify for grant funds. Chair Delgado asked for a review of outreach efforts going out to those facilities which are still using PERC.

ACTION ITEM: Staff to provide outreach efforts to facilities still using PERC.

Mr. David McNeill asked whether there would be any grace period or extension available after the December 31st deadline for dry cleaning facilities to comply, and whether any remaining funds would simply be forfeit after that deadline. He also asked whether virtual inspections were being conducted. Ms. Cox replied that a rule extension would require approval from the board, and Mr. Alatorre stated there was no intention to budget additional incentive funds after the deadline. Ms. Cox stated that South Coast AQMD staff will work with facilities to accommodate them.

ACTION ITEM: Staff to request an update or presentation from the Compliance department regarding virtual inspections.

Agenda Item #5: COVID-19 Impacts on Environmental Justice Communities Discussion

Ms. Monique Hernandez, PhD lead a discussion on the impacts of COVID-19 on Environmental Justice Communities.

Chair Delgado and several committee members expressed concerns over the risks being faced by affected communities, especially regarding having poor health coverage, inability to take leave from work, and the increased need to provide family care to children and the elderly. Members also expressed concerns about the difficulties communicating the facts about COVID-19 in an environment where many are being targeted by false information and rising racial tensions. Some members also expressed frustration that legislative representatives and elected officials are not taking the situation seriously until it affects them personally.

Agenda Item #6: Environmental Justice Community Partnership Update

Tabled due to time constraints.

Agenda Item #7: Member Updates

Tabled due to time constraints.

Agenda Item #8 - Other Business

There was no other business.

Agenda Item #9- Public Comment

Dr. Tom Williams with the Citizens Coalition for Safe Communities expressed concerns over the severe air pollution impacts from the ports. He requested consideration regarding a discussion of equity as it applies to goods movement, warehousing, and railyards.

Agenda Item #10: Next Meeting Date

The next regular EJAG meeting is on Friday, October 23, 2020 at 12:00 pm.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.