

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
375 Beale Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, California 94105
(415) 749-5073

APPROVED MINUTES

Summary of Board of Directors
Climate Protection Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 15, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Climate Protection Committee (Committee) Chairperson, Teresa Barrett, called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

Present: Chairperson Teresa Barrett; Vice-Chairperson Hillary Ronen; and Directors John Gioia, Rebecca Kaplan, Doug Kim, Katie Rice, Mark Ross, and Brad Wagenknecht.

Absent: Directors Scott Haggerty, Rod Sinks, and Shirlee Zane.

Also Present: Board of Directors Chairperson, David Hudson

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

No requests received.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16, 2017

Public Comments:

No requests received.

Committee Comments:

None.

Committee Action:

Board Chair Hudson made a motion, seconded by Director Wagenknecht, to approve the minutes of November 16, 2017; and the motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Barrett, Gioia, Hudson, Kaplan, Kim, Ronen, and Wagenknecht.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Haggerty, Rice, Ross, Sinks, and Zane.

4. CLIMATE PROTECTION GRANT PROGRAM

Jack Broadbent, Executive Officer/Air Pollution Control Officer, introduced Abby Young, Climate Protection Manager, who gave the staff presentation *Climate Protection Grant Program*, including: goal and objectives; grant program structure; funding categories; outreach to stakeholders; stakeholder input/feedback; launch and outreach; next steps; and how you can help.

NOTED PRESENT: Director Rice was noted present at 9:39 a.m.

Public Comments:

No requests received.

Committee Comments:

The Committee and staff discussed that the Air District will not be earmarking any of the \$4.5 million of the Climate Protection Grant Program funds for certain categories or types of eligible projects, because of the District's desire to remain flexible to applicants; projects and activities that do not qualify for this program, and how the District will provide funding opportunities to research and development projects under its Technology Implementation Office; the source of funding for this program; whether projects in "existing" buildings that qualify for funding include multi-family dwellings and government buildings; the need to include local housing authorities and congestion management agencies as potential applicants; the request that the Committee be sent the District's list of agencies that were invited to apply; the need to ensure that the application is streamlined and efficient for applicants and provide examples of eligible projects to better indicate what activities qualify for this program; the suggestion to prioritize projects that offer local co-benefits; and the need for prioritization of projects in both highly-impacted *and* low-income communities, and ways in which the program's scoring criteria could be altered to prioritize projects serving these areas.

Committee Action:

At the consensus of the Committee, an eighth criterion was added to Section V (Evaluation and Scoring Criteria) of the program guidelines, adding five bonus points (making the total number of possible points of 105) for projects that benefit low-income communities. (Low-income communities include low-income, very-low and extremely-low income levels defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Bay Area.)

Vice Chair Ronen made a motion, seconded by Director Rice, to recommend Climate Protection Grant Program Guidelines, with the proposed amendment, be approved by the Board of Directors; and the motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES:	Barrett, Gioia, Hudson, Kaplan, Kim, Rice, Ross, Ronen, and Wagenknecht.
NOES:	None.
ABSTAIN:	None.
ABSENT:	Haggerty, Sinks, and Zane.

5. UPDATE ON THE AIR DISTRICT'S BASIN-WIDE METHANE STRATEGY

Greg Nudd, Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer of Policy, introduced Dr. Idania Zamora, Senior Engineer, who gave the staff presentation *Update on the Air District's Basin-Wide Methane Strategy*, including: outline; why focus on methane; methane in the Bay Area; basin-wide methane strategy: coordination framework, organics recovery strategy, regulatory efforts, and 2018 methane rules; methane emissions inventory; tier 1: estimating facility-wide emissions; tier 2; locating emissions inside facilities; and tier 3: measuring source emissions.

Public Comments:

Public comments were given by Jed Holtzman, 350 Bay Area.

Committee Comments:

The Committee and staff discussed that there are only three existing facilities that recover organics in the Bay Area; the need for a reduction of organics in landfills and clean diversion systems that will not add to existing odor and pollution; District engagement with wastewater treatment plans, refineries, environmental organizations, intergovernmental waste authorities, landfills, and natural gas utilities and distributors about District Regulation 13, Rule 1 (Significant Methane Releases); the importance of educating waste haulers, who are contracted by cities and counties and interface most with consumers, about the District's objectives; the request for the District's assistance with climate action planning in smaller jurisdictions in which methane is not well-understood; examples of model ordinances that have been passed in other jurisdictions that would help accelerate conformity of best practices among stakeholders and consumers; how methane and/or carbon dioxide can result from composting; the California Air Resources Board's efforts to monitor and measure methane emissions; identifying underestimated sources of methane and anticipated data regarding source attribution of methane emissions; a backstop rule to prohibit significant methane releases throughout the Bay Area that the District plans to develop while more stringent source-specific rules are being developed; and the concern of methane leaks at various sources, and the distinction between measuring mass emission rates and concentration levels.

Committee Action:

None; receive and file.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS / OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee will meet on Monday, June 4, 2018, Bay Area Air Quality Management District Office, 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, California 94105 at 9:30 a.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

/s/ Marcy Hiratzka
Marcy Hiratzka
Clerk of the Boards