

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

Board of Directors Special Meeting
Wednesday, September 15, 2021

APPROVED MINUTES

*Note: Audio recordings of the meeting are available on the website of the
Bay Area Air Quality Management District at
www.baaqmd.gov/bodagendas*

This meeting was conducted under procedures authorized by executive order N-29-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom. Members of the Board of Directors participated by teleconference.

CALL TO ORDER

1. **Opening Comments:** Board of Directors (Board) Chairperson, Cindy Chavez, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Chairperson Cindy Chavez; Vice Chairperson Karen Mitchoff; and Directors Margaret Abe-Koga, Teresa Barrett, David Canepa, Rich Constantine, Pauline Russo Cutter, John Gioia, Carole Groom, Erin Hannigan, David Haubert, David Hudson, Davina Hurt, Tyrone Jue, Rob Rennie, Katie Rice, Mark Ross, Brad Wagenknecht, Shamann Walton, and Lori Wilson.

Absent: Secretary John Bauters; and Directors Lynda Hopkins, Myrna Melgar, and Nate Miley.

CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEMS 2 – 4)

2. Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting of September 1, 2021
3. Authorization To Execute Contract Amendments for Production System Software
4. Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee Meeting
 - 4.1 Receive Committee Chair Summary Report of September 2, 2021
 - 4.2 Report of the Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee Meeting of September 2, 2021

Public Comments

No requests received.

Board Comments

None.

Board Action

Director Cutter made a motion, seconded by Director Wagenknecht, to **approve** Consent Calendar Items 2 through 4, inclusive; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Board:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Barrett, Chavez, Constantine, Cutter, Gioia, Groom, Hannigan, Haubert, Hudson, Hurt, Jue, Mitchoff, Rennie, Rice, Ross, Wagenknecht, Walton.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Bauters, Canepa, Hopkins, Melgar, Miley, Wilson.

PRESENTATIONS

5. **Targeting Emissions Reductions from Single Occupancy Driving, Flex Your Commute and Expanded Broadband Internet**

Lisa Fasano, External Affairs Officer, gave the staff presentation *Targeting Emissions Reductions from Single Occupancy Driving, Flex Your Commute and Expanded Broadband Internet*, including: outcome; outline; requested actions; Plan Bay Area 2050; Flex Your Commute; broadband internet expansion; and requested actions.

Public Comments

No requests received.

NOTED PRESENT: Director Canepa was noted present at 9:20 a.m., and Director Wilson was noted present at 9:32 a.m.

Board Comments

The Board and staff discussed the need for more last mile connections (gaps from public transit to final destinations); the need to educate and include elderly residents who may not drive or know how to use smartphones; the difference between types of broadband mediums; whether air districts are an appropriate entity to advocate for the build out of infrastructure enabling equitable access to high-speed internet, versus other entities; the fact that most of the people who have the ability to work remotely already have optimal access to broadband connections, leaving those in disadvantaged communities as the people who would most benefit from the expansion of high speed broadband internet; whether the Air District plans to seek funding to reduce single occupancy car trips to reduce transportation emissions and greenhouse gasses, and how much; whether the Air District has been in touch with Sunne Wright McPeak, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the California Emerging Technology Fund; the need for legislation that will allow cities and counties to modify their contracts with cable providers, which could identify geographic gaps in broadband coverage; the suggestion of providing Americans with Disabilities Act enhancements to school districts located in disadvantaged communities and modifying commuter benefits to help attain the Air District's objectives relating to this item; the benefits of undergrounding broadband infrastructure; how expanding high speed broadband internet will affect autonomous vehicle technology; whether there will be time for an Air District committee to review the Air District's formal written comments to request party status before Air District staff

submits them to the CPUC; the concern that the Air District’s messaging could be misconstrued to mean that the Air District is only seeking a decrease in driving, rather than equity for access to high speed broadband internet for all communities; and how much money the Air District has spent on this effort thus far.

Board Action

Director Hurt made a motion, seconded by Director Wilson, to **authorize** the Executive Officer/Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) to transfer \$250,000 to the Flex Your Commute program account from the General Fund to build out an employer focused messaging and partnership program; **authorize** the Executive Officer/APCO to sign a motion requesting party status with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to enable the Air District to submit formal written comments to the (CPUC) in its deliberative process to ensure investment in the broadband infrastructure and equitable build out of the “middle mile: connectivity; and **authorize** the Executive Officer/APCO to invest in the same advocacy firm that the California State Association of Counties uses, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the next year of advocacy regarding this issue; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Board:

- AYES: Abe-Koga, Barrett, Canepa, Chavez, Constantine, Cutter, Gioia, Groom, Hannigan, Haubert, Hudson, Hurt, Jue, Mitchoff, Rennie, Rice, Ross, Wagenknecht, Walton, Wilson.
- NOES: None.
- ABSTAIN: None.
- ABSENT: Bauters, Hopkins, Melgar, Miley.

6. Update on the Clean Air Filtration Program

A. Accept \$2 million in California Attorney General’s Office Automobile Emissions Research and Technology Fund Grant

Jack P. Broadbent, Executive Officer/APCO, introduced Dr. Idania Zamora, Planning & Climate Protection Assistant Manager, who gave the staff presentation *Accept \$2 million in California Attorney General's Office Automobile Emissions Research and Technology Fund Grant*, including: outcome; outline; requested action; Community Health Protection Program (Assembly Bill (AB) 617); community clean air incentives roadmap; Contra Costa County’s Asthma Mitigation Project; Bay Area Healthy Homes Initiative; initiative partners and clients; initiative actions and benefits; and feedback requested/prompt.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Board Comments

The Board and staff discussed whether the Air District can identify the number of households within Alameda and Contra Costa Counties that could benefit from the Bay Area Healthy Homes Initiative; the request for clarification of costs of this initiative and number of people served; whether a cost-effectiveness analysis will be conducted and results published after this initiative has been completed;

the desire to see the Bay Area Healthy Homes Initiative expanded to other parts of the Bay Area; the need to consider indoor air quality as well; the request to hear from Alameda and Contra Costa County staff members who are working on this initiative; whether there are reporting (to the Attorney General's Office) requirements for accepting this this funding; and how much money the Air District is leveraging from various programs to execute these initiatives.

Board Action

Director Constantine made a motion, seconded by Director Canepa, to **adopt** a resolution to:

- **Authorize** the Executive Officer/APCO to accept, obligate, and expend an amount not to exceed \$2 million from the California Attorney General's Office Automobile Emissions Research and Technology Fund Grant for the Bay Area Healthy Homes Initiative;
- **Authorize** the Executive Officer/APCO to enter into all agreements necessary to accept, obligate, and expend this funding;
- **Assess** categories of people who are vulnerable to asthma;
- **Calculate** the cost per retrofit, including all contributions of all sources;
- **Develop** a strategy for scaling this initiative, irrespective of the costs, to be presented to the Board;
- **Discuss** with the Chair of the appropriate Board committee how often the committee will review the development of this initiative prior to the follow up Board presentation; and
- **Invite** partner organizations to present during the follow up presentation to the Board.

The motion **carried** by the following vote of the Board:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Barrett, Canepa, Chavez, Constantine, Cutter, Gioia, Groom, Hannigan, Haubert, Hudson, Hurt, Jue, Mitchoff, Rennie, Rice, Ross, Wagenknecht, Walton, Wilson.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Bauters, Hopkins, Melgar, Miley.

B. Move \$1 million in Reserves from the Pandemic Contingency to the Wildfire Mitigation Designation

Tracy Lee, Compliance & Enforcement Manager, gave the staff presentation *Move \$1 Million in Reserves from the Pandemic Contingency to the Wildfire Mitigation Designation*, including: outcome; outline; requested action; community clean air incentives roadmap; Wildfire Air Quality Response Program; program initiatives; Clean Air Filtration Program funding and locations; next steps – 2022 Wildfire Program outlook; reserves designations; and requested action.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Board Comments

The Board and staff discussed whether all nine Bay Area counties will be allocated an equal amount of funds for the Clean Air Filtration Program; the status of the nine Bay Area counties' partnership status in the Clean Air Filtration Program; whether \$25,000 is enough funding for the pilot program and partnership with the American Red Cross; whether the Air District can identify the number of Bay Area households that could benefit from the Home Air Filtration Program, and what would be the cost of upscaling that program; whether there will be overlapping of homes served by the Home Air Filtration Program and the Bay Area Healthy Homes Initiative; the level of effectiveness of the Air District's partnership with the American Red Cross, specifically regarding the staging of large portable air filtration units during wildfire events; the desire to see these investments benefitting black and brown communities; and whether the staffing of the Air District's Wildfire Air Quality Response Program should be sustained long-term or permanently.

Board Action

Director Hudson made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Mitchoff, to **adopt** a resolution to:

- **Authorize** the Executive Officer/APCO to allocate an additional \$1 million to the Wildfire Mitigation Reserves Designation and reduce the Pandemic Reserves Designation by \$1 million;
- **Assess** the need for the Air District's Wildfire Air Quality Response and how to sustain it;
- **Provide** a report to the Board distinguishing the different targeted communities for the two separate funding sources (Home Air Filtration Program and the Bay Area Healthy Homes Initiative);
- **Calculate** the long-term cost per unit (per household) and how much each contributing agency spends on each unit;
- **Assess** the capacity of all program partners and identify how to seek new partners when capacity becomes limited; and
- **Assess** the equity of the Wildfire Air Quality Response Program.

The motion **carried** by the following vote of the Board:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Barrett, Canepa, Chavez, Constantine, Cutter, Gioia, Groom, Hannigan, Haubert, Hudson, Hurt, Jue, Mitchoff, Rennie, Rice, Ross, Wagenknecht, Walton.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Bauters, Hopkins, Melgar, Miley, Wilson.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

7. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3

Public comments were given by Brian Hubinger, Chevron.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

8. Board Members' Comments

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

9. Report of the Executive Officer/APCO

Mr. Broadbent reported that there have been six days during which the national Ozone standard was exceeded in 2021 thus far. He added that the Bay Area has been experiencing high levels of ozone and wildfire particulate matter at the same time, but favorable meteorological conditions have helped reduce that potential impact.

10. Chairperson's Report

Chair Chavez thanked Air District staff and Board members for agreeing to meet today, which had not originally been anticipated. She added that there will be two Board meetings in October and possibly in November as well, so that Board members may participate in trainings series led by Directors Hurt and Jue and the Air District's Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion to better understand structural racism and social inequities.

11. Time and Place of Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 6, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., via webcast, pursuant to procedures *in accordance with Government Code Section 54593*.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:59 p.m.

/s/ Marcy Hiratzka
Marcy Hiratzka
Clerk of the Boards