



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JEFFREY BRAMLETT, CHAIRPERSON
CASSANDRA ADAMS
JANICE KIM, M.D.

STEVEN T. KMUCHA, M.D.
KAREN LICAVOLI-FARNKOPF, MPH
LINDA WEINER
BRIAN ZAMORA

WEDNESDAY
JUNE 13, 2007
1:30 P.M.

7TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

1. **Call to Order – Roll Call**
2. **Public Comment Period**

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3. The public has the opportunity to speak on any agenda item. All agendas for Committee meetings are posted at the District, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, at least 72 hours before a meeting. At the beginning of the meeting, an opportunity is also provided for the public to speak on any subject within the Committee's purview. Speakers are limited to five minutes each.

3. **Approval of Minutes of February 14, 2007**
4. **Continued Discussion on Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) and Asthma**

Report from Brian Zamora on the Association of Bay Area Health Officers (ABAHO)

Discussion by the Committee on outdoor air quality as it relates to IAQ

Committee to develop a plan for next steps on the District's role in IAQ and Asthma, including how it might interface with the public, local health officers, and non governmental organizations (NGOs).

5. **Committee Member Comments/Other Business**

Committee members, or staff, on their own initiative, or in response to questions posed by the public, may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement or report on his or her own activities,

provide a reference to staff regarding factual information, request staff to report back at a subsequent meeting on any matter or take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.

6. Time and Place of Next Meeting. 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 8, 2007, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

7. Adjournment

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CONTACT CLERK OF THE BOARDS - 939 ELLIS STREET SF, CA 94109

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FAX: (415) 928-8560
BAAQMD homepage:
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- To submit written comments on an agenda item in advance of the meeting.
- To request, in advance of the meeting, to be placed on the list to testify on an agenda item.
- To request special accommodations for those persons with disabilities notification to the Clerk's Office should be given in a timely manner, so that arrangements can be made accordingly.

BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
939 ELLIS STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94109
(415) 771-6000

EXECUTIVE OFFICE:
MONTHLY CALENDAR OF DISTRICT MEETINGS

JUNE 2007

<u>TYPE OF MEETING</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
Board of Directors Regular Meeting <i>(Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each Month)</i>	Wednesday	6	9:45 a.m.	Board Room
Board of Directors Regular Meeting on the Proposed FY 2007/2008 Budget	Wednesday	6	Immediately following Board Regular Meeting	Board Room
Board of Directors Climate Protection Committee <i>(Meets 3rd Thursday every other Month)</i>	Thursday	7	9:30 a.m.	Board Room
Advisory Council Technical Committee <i>(Meets 2nd Monday of each even Month)</i>	Monday	11	9:00 a.m.	Board Room
Advisory Council Air Quality Planning Committee <i>(Meets 2nd Wednesday of each even Month)</i>	Wednesday	13	9:30 a.m.	Board Room
Advisory Council Public Health Committee <i>(Meets 2nd Wednesday of each even Month)</i>	Wednesday	13	1:30 p.m.	Board Room
Board of Directors Stationary Source Committee – <i>(Meets 3rd Monday quarterly)</i>	Friday	15	9:30 a.m.	4 th Floor Conf. Room
Board of Directors Regular Meeting <i>(Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each Month)</i>	Wednesday	20	9:45 a.m.	Board Room
Board of Directors Ad Hoc Cme. on Port Emissions - (At the Call of the Chair) - CANCELLED	Thursday	21	9:30 a.m.	4th Floor Conf. Room
Board of Directors Legislative Committee <i>(Meets 4th Monday of every Month)</i>	Monday	25	9:30 a.m.	4 th Floor Conf. Room
Board of Directors Budget & Finance Committee <i>(Meets 4th Wednesday of each Month)</i> - CANCELLED	Wednesday	27	9:30.m.	4 th Floor Conf. Room
Board of Directors Mobile Source Committee – <i>(Meets 4th Thursday of each Month)</i> - CANCELLED	Thursday	28	9:30 a.m.	4 th Floor Conf. Room

JULY 2007

<u>TYPE OF MEETING</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
Board of Directors Regular Meeting <i>(Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each Month)</i>	Wednesday	4	9:45 a.m.	Board Room
Advisory Council Executive Committee	Wednesday	11	9:00 a.m.	Room 716

JULY 2007

<u>TYPE OF MEETING</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
Advisory Council Regular Meeting	Wednesday	11	10:00 a.m.	Board Room
Board of Directors Regular Meeting <i>(Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each Month)</i>	Wednesday	18	9:45 a.m.	Board Room
Board of Directors Climate Protection Committee <i>(Meets 3rd Thursday every other Month)</i>	Thursday	19	9:30 a.m.	4 th Floor Conf. Room
Joint Policy Committee	Friday	20	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Metro Center Auditorium 101 – 8 th Street Oakland, CA 94607
Board of Directors Legislative Committee <i>(Meets 4th Monday of every Month)</i>	Monday	23	9:30 a.m.	4 th Floor Conf. Room
Board of Directors Budget & Finance Committee <i>(Meets 4th Wednesday of each Month)</i>	Wednesday	25	9:30 a.m.	4 th Floor Conf. Room
Board of Directors Mobile Source Committee <i>– (Meets 4th Thursday of each Month)</i>	Thursday	26	9:30 a.m.	4 th Floor Conf. Room
Board of Directors Ad Hoc Cme. on Port Emissions <i>(At the Call of the Chair)</i>	Thursday	26	9:30 a.m.	SF Bar Pilots Pier 9, East End San Francisco, CA

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5/31/07 (10:05 a.m.)

P/Library/Forms/Calendar/Calendar/Moncal

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
939 Ellis Street
San Francisco, California 94109

DRAFT MINUTES

Advisory Council Public Health Committee Meeting
1:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 14, 2007

1. **Call to Order – Roll Call.** Chairperson Bramlett called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.
Present: Jeffrey Bramlett, Chairperson, Cassandra Adams, Janice Kim, M.D., Steven Kmucha, M.D., Linda Weiner.
Absent: Karen Licavoli-Farnkopf, MPH, Brian Zamora.
Other: Robert Bornstein, Ph.D., resigned from the Committee prior to the meeting.
2. **Public Comment Period.** There were no public comments.
3. **Approval of Minutes of December 12, 2006.** Dr. Kim requested that on Page No. 3, under Item No. 5, “Informa Healthcare” be changed to “Inhalation Toxicology”. Dr. Kmucha moved approval of the minutes, as corrected; seconded by Ms. Adams; carried unanimously.
4. **Continued Discussion on Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) and Asthma:** *Staff presented number and types of inquiries it receives about IAQ & Asthma and how they are being handled.*

The Committee developed a plan for identifying a list of various health coalitions addressing the issue of IAQ & Asthma.

The Committee to develop a plan for next steps to engage City & County Public Health Officers regarding IAQ & Asthma. Since Mr. Zamora was absent, the Committee agreed that this item be discussed at its next meeting since he would be the key person to provide the necessary information required for the development of a plan.

Peter Hess, Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer, stated that the Air District staff is looking at what type of coordination is needed, or how staff should be moving towards interfacing with the health community in the areas of IAQ and asthma. The District has requested the Committee to provide it with recommendations on how it might interface with the public, county health officers and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and what the District’s role might be on the issue of asthma as it relates to outdoor air quality and IAQ. Mr. Hess further stated that the staff frequently receives calls from people who are concerned about odors and air pollution and their impact on causing asthma attacks. Currently, the District staff handles such inquiries by recommending they seek medical advice and to contact their county health officer.

Mr. Hess stated that the District is seeking input from the Committee regarding the direction it should take with respect to IAQ, whether it should be pursuing a different direction or would it be sufficient to distribute information to the public based on what has already been prepared by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Mr. Hess also addressed the issue of whether the

District should publish a pamphlet similar to CARB's booklet, for the District's own use in the Bay Area. The District has been proactive in addressing several issues related to air quality, such as wood smoke, greenhouse gases, emission violation's etc., but presently it does not have a viable program for IAQ.

Jack Colbourn, Director, Outreach & Incentives Division, stated that the Public Information Office receives calls regularly on indoor air. Since the District currently does not have an IAQ program, the Public Information Officers are instructed to refer such calls to the county health officers and to the CARB. Mr. Colbourn referred to CARB's recent booklet on IAQ which is very informative and useful. Mr. Colbourn also reiterated that the District is seeking advice from the Committee for guidance and appropriate recommendations on a more viable IAQ program that it can take to the Board of Directors for adoption.

Ms. Adams stated that, as an architect, she is well aware that IAQ is often worse than outdoor air quality. From her perspective it makes sense for IAQ to be a part of the District's overall air quality program.

Dr. Kmucha commented that, as a practicing physician, he notices, on a regular basis, that there are people who believe they have asthma and yet who have not formally been diagnosed with the disease. There is enough information available these days through the press to make people aware that there has been an increase in asthma over the last several years, and that certain geographic regions and locations are more prone to asthma. The most important factor to consider is that the people, who complain about having asthma, but have not yet been diagnosed, should first be encouraged to contact their physician to determine their diagnosis for asthma accurately. There are many other symptoms that can masquerade as asthma when it really is not asthma, and some of those diagnoses are worse than asthma. There are several medical management and environmental controls these days that can be implemented to reduce the patient's problems.

Dr. Kmucha suggested the following:

1. If people have access to a healthcare system, they should be encouraged to use it by contacting their physician to obtain an accurate diagnosis on asthma.
2. The Committee should continue to pursue attempts in trying to interact with the City & County Public Health Officers. This will be helpful in compiling the required information on resources that are available to the internal public health officers. Once the information is available to the District, the staff can provide the correct contact information to the public, for their respective counties, when they call in.
3. Since many school systems now have health nurses available in the schools, it has become more reasonable for children who have asthma to use their medication at school. Working with the school systems in disseminating information on IAQ and asthma might be a viable resource.
4. Staff could provide the callers with a list of references, reading materials and resources, acknowledging the fact that some people may not have access to healthcare services, may not have any health insurance or sufficient finances. They may also not have any internet access. The District could mail out the reference materials but this might be costly in postage; and the District may not have sufficient staffing to answer phone inquiries all day.
5. The message that when the air quality is poor, one can have an exacerbation of respiratory and cardiac problems, could be included as an educational piece in every announcement the

District makes through the media. There are many triggers that exacerbate asthma and, that on any day when a person has an exacerbation, it is due to days or even weeks of accumulating effects that causes them to have an exacerbation.

Dr. Kim suggested the following:

1. Scientifically, it is important to make sure that when people call in and complain about their asthma as it relates to IAQ and outdoor air quality, that their health provider is involved and that their diagnoses is accurate. Dr. Kim agreed with Dr. Kmucha's suggestion that medical management is very important. It has been increasingly recognized that controlling the triggers in the environment are an important part of the medical management aspect of asthma. The District can encourage callers to look into and work with their physician in terms of trying to identify what the true triggers might be for their particular situation. The District is not a health agency and certainly not in a position to make any diagnoses and provide medical recommendations to the callers. Therefore, it is important to have callers work with their physician but also provide them with a broader medical knowledge that they might be able to bring back to their physician and/or to their health departments to address their particular concerns.
2. The District must understand the background of sciences relative to the relationship between IAQ or outdoor air pollution and asthma. Asthma is a chronic disease; some people are more concerned that they have developed asthma as a result of being exposed to outdoor air than to someone who has asthma exacerbations and does not know what actually triggered them.
3. The District could develop a fact sheet and a web page that links to well respected organizations such as the American Lung Association (ALA), and the National Heart/Lung Association which has developed new guidelines on clinical practices for asthma.

Ms. Adams suggested that in order to save postage costs, packets of reference materials could be distributed to the public through the county public health officers, and the libraries. In addition to the reference materials discussed above, Ms. Adams suggested that with respect to IAQ it would be useful to distribute copies of those regulations that pertain to limiting volatile organic compounds (VOCs) emissions in various indoor products, so that this information is more readily available to the public.

Ms. Weiner commented that there are several asthma coalitions in every county and that the District should tap into existing coalitions and work in partnership with them in being a resource to the public. Ms. Weiner agreed to identify a list of the various health coalitions for the District and provide their contact information to Mr. Hess.

After listening to the Committee's comments and suggestions, Mr. Hess summarized the following suggestions that were made by the Committee:

1. The medical management aspect of asthma is very important. When inquiries are received by the District, callers should be encouraged to contact their physician to seek medical attention in order to obtain an accurate diagnosis of asthma.
2. The District should provide information to the callers or to the people whom it contacts. The District should develop a message to disseminate to the public in a variety of forms – brochures and a fact sheet with the District's logo on them, website that links to other organizations such as the ALA, etc. The fact sheet could also identify a list of things people

can do at home to minimize the exposure to indoor air contaminants. All the materials that are developed for the website must also be available as mailers since everyone may not have access to the internet. The Public Information Officers could also be given a script to use when contacting people. The CARB's booklet on IAQ could also be disseminated as part of the District's packet of reference materials.

Mr. Colbourn stated that since the District is at a no-growth level this year, he does not have sufficient staff resources available to devote to the IAQ initiative, and that the District is looking to the Committee to provide a more formal recommendation to the full Advisory Council for its consideration, and thereafter to the Board of Directors on this issue. This would provide an opportunity for the Outreach & Incentives Division to move forward on developing the reference materials, suggested by the Committee, by contracting with an outside firm to develop them. Mr. Colbourn also mentioned that, at a recent conference he attended on IAQ, he found that other air pollution control agencies throughout the country identified doctors' offices as the main avenue for distributing reference materials on IAQ since the doctors carry more credibility on medical issues and the sciences.

In response to Chairperson Bramlett's suggestion to have a list of those outdoor items that trigger asthma, Mr. Colbourn explained that the District stays away from suggesting that asthma may be caused by any one particular source. The District does not have the science or medical experience to state that any one source causes asthma. The statistics mentioned in the Community Air Risk Evaluation (CARE) Program regarding how the asthma population for children under the age of 14 years are being viewed as a risk group, were obtained from the county public health offices and seem to be on the higher side.

In response to Mr. Colbourn's request that the Committee provide some long-term recommendations on IAQ to the District, Dr. Kmucha inquired as to how the District would potentially measure IAQ as part of its overall program. Mr. Colbourn stated that in the near future the District would want to undertake a more formalized program on IAQ. As an air agency, the District is obligated to look ahead and do something on IAQ since this is an air pollution control issue. Ms. Weiner suggested that since there are several outdoor air quality issues currently that the District is focused on and has a mandate to do, that it would be best for the Committee, at this point in time, to provide educational guidelines as it is presently doing, and make incremental recommendations rather than any long-term ones, with the eventual goal for the District to become regulatory in the area of IAQ.

In cases where the District's inspectors visit with individuals at their residences, Chairperson Bramlett inquired if the District receives requests to conduct air monitoring outside a problematic facility. Mr. Hess cited a recent example of the people living in West Berkeley who are very concerned about what they are breathing in by living close to a particular facility that, in their opinion, is causing health problems. In this situation, the District has required the facility to prepare a health risk assessment. The District has also installed a mobile air monitoring station at the facility. This will measure the air quality and compare it to the air quality standards for the toxics. The necessary information will be provided to the residents in that area so that they know what the air quality impacts could be. Mr. Hess also mentioned that the District is working with the CARE Program to be able to eventually provide information to cities, counties and land use planners for planning future housing developments in areas where the air is cleaner.

Committee Action: The Committee agreed to wait until its next meeting when Mr. Zamora could be present to discuss further steps to engage City & County Public Health Officers regarding IAQ and asthma. The Committee will then make a complete recommendation, based on suggestions made at today's meeting, to the full Advisory Council, and thereafter to the Board of Directors, on the issue of IAQ and asthma.

5. Committee Member Comments/Other Business.

a) Regarding the Spare the Air Tonight program, Dr. Kim wanted to know how much information is disseminated by the District about any messages or advisories to the local weather channels because she has noticed that when a Spare the Air night is announced, nothing is mentioned about what actions the public might take to reduce emissions.

Mr. Colbourn explained that because of the new particulate matter (PM) standards issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the District cut its threshold in half and, as a result, there were 30 Spare the Air Tonight advisories during the period of the program, versus none last year. The District cannot control what the TV stations announce. If the District gets involved in the interviews, then it always provides some tips or advice to the public. The District has received a lot of publicity for the Spare the Air Tonight program which is relatively inexpensive compared to the Spare the Air Day program. Approximately 54% of the public are aware of the Spare the Air Tonight program and know what actions they could take to mitigate. The District also conducts a survey of the program, and 13% of the people surveyed to date, showed that they take an action – which is either not to burn wood or to drive less. Most of the questions received from the press relate to why there are so many Spare the Air advisories. The District does not want to give the message that the air is dirtier, but that there are stricter standards and that the District is clamping down by enforcing stricter regulations.

Mr. Colbourn stated that the staff is compiling data on the Spare the Air Tonight program which ends on February 16, 2007, and that this data could be made available to the Committee at its next meeting. The Spare the Air campaign has made some inroads this winter; it is announced on the news frequently and the public is more educated about it.

For the next fiscal year's budget, Mr. Colbourn stated that he is proposing some incentives for change-outs. The staff is also working with the Hearth Products Association (HPA) to discuss how best the District might help them to get their products out and capitalize on obtaining incentives for change-outs.

b) Ms. Weiner mentioned that through the American Lung Association, she is involved in reinvigorating an organization called Health Network for Clean Air that is organizing doctors and nurses throughout the State to not only help in State legislation but to act as spokespeople. There are currently two interesting bills – the Off-Road Regulations Statewide bill, and the Clean Investment Port bill which was originally focused on Long Beach and Los Angeles but now includes Oakland.

c) Ms. Weiner informed the Committee that she will not be able to attend the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, 2007 due to a conflict on that date.

6. Time and Place of Next Meeting. 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 11, 2007, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Neel Advani
Deputy Clerk of the Boards