

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

APPROVED MINUTES

Advisory Council Executive Committee
9:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 12, 2006

- 1. Call to Order – Roll Call.** Chairperson Kurucz called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.
Present: Kraig Kurucz, Chairperson, Fred Glueck, Vice-Chairperson, Louise Bedsworth, Ph.D., Secretary, Robert Bornstein, Ph.D., Jeffrey Bramlett, Stan Hayes, Brian Zamora.
- 2. Public Comment Period.** There were no public comments.
- 3. Approval of Minutes of May 10, 2006.** Mr. Glueck moved approval of the minutes; seconded by Mr. Zamora; carried unanimously.
- 4. Presentation Regarding the District's Community Outreach Program.** Chairperson Kurucz stated that on May 30, 2006 he reported to the Board Executive Committee on the Advisory Council's activities. Discussion ensued at that meeting on climate change and public outreach issues. Regarding the latter, Mr. Kurucz stated that the Board requested that the Council review the public outreach program at the District and a possible Council role in public outreach work.

Darryl Waller, Public Information Officer, distributed the District's Annual Report for 2005. He stated that, for the last four years, he has worked in the District's community outreach program, which facilitates meetings around special events, permits and regulations, as well as out to communities on issues of concern to them. Mr. Waller opined that the trust factor between the District and the communities it serves has increased substantially in recent years. Community meetings were held in the fall of 2005 to receive input on the District's Ozone Strategy. Meetings were also held in West Oakland on toxic air contaminant reduction. The major issue in Oakland concerns the Port of Oakland, and the District is collaborating with the Port and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission on a major initiative to improve air quality in that area. Rule development workshops are held in communities with a Spanish translator always present.

The District also participates in specific and often high profile events where the District has set up a table to present informational brochures and provide staff to answer questions from the public. There are nine resource teams in the Bay Area. Six are dedicated to the Spare the Air program and three to environmental justice issues. The establishment of a fourth environmental justice resource team in San Jose is under review. The District has sponsored diesel retrofit workshops, which introduce the Carl Moyer program and aim to reduce on-road emissions of diesel particulate matter (PM).

Mr. Waller stated that on the day an incident occurred at the Romic Company in Palo Alto, the District transmitted the incident report within an hour of the event to the environmental justice team in Palo Alto. Peter Hess, Deputy APCO, added that such proactivity is characteristic of

the District. Community feedback has resulted in the presentation of indoor air quality and asthma to the Council as a review topic, along with diesel PM and wood smoke abatement.

Mr. Waller added that the flow of information between District staff and the community is reciprocal. At special events, staff receives important information from the community. Staff also educates the members of the nine resource teams in the Bay Area, which meet every two months in their assigned communities. With the help of a resource team, the City of Richmond successfully assisted the Laidlaw Bus Company in retrofitting 156 buses with PM traps.

Mr. Glueck noted that as the Council is neither elected nor speaks on behalf of the District, it is unclear in what capacity it should undertake a specific approach to public outreach. Mr. Zamora noted that, several years ago, when the Public Health Committee was discussing optical sensing at refinery fence lines, it held one Committee meeting in Rodeo, where the refinery with optical sensing is located. The Standing Committees could similarly consider holding a meeting in a community when it would be relevant and appropriate—for example, within the context of discussing wood smoke abatement. Mr. Waller added that recently the District arranged for a tour by the Governing Board members of the Pacific Steel Casting facility in Berkeley.

Chairperson Kurucz recalled that staff held evening workshops last year in various communities on the proposed Ozone Strategy, and asked each member of the Advisory Council to participate in at least one workshop. Mr. Hayes added that although the Council is strictly advisory and has no decision-making authority, it could hold meetings to ascertain what the community considers to be the issues on the horizon. This would build lines of communication. Mr. Waller agreed, and noted that he has found that, the more time he spent out in the community, the better sense he acquired of the issues. Chairperson Kurucz noted that in addition to having reviewed the District's outreach program, the Council could consider in what respect it could participate in the outreach process at the District. If there is to be another round of community meetings, Council members could again be asked to attend one of these. The Report of the APCO at the Council Regular meeting could also routinely include an element of public outreach feedback.

Noting that the Council could take this matter up again at the annual Retreat at the beginning of next year, Chairperson Kurucz inquired of each Executive Committee member how he or she obtains input from the category that each represents to bring to the Council. Mr. Glueck replied that, from a regulatory and compliance perspective, he informs colleagues in his field about compliance issues and upcoming issues of legislation. Mr. Zamora noted that, being employed by a county public health agency links him directly with District issues, such as those that are associated with an asthma coalition. Mr. Bramlett noted that he receives daily updates and on occasion Spare the Air notices from District staff, which he then routinely forwards to his staff in the park and recreation district. Dr. Bedsworth noted that her job does not entail a great deal of public outreach but she does track policies relevant to the District and raises these issues at meetings for the Council and the staff. Dr. Bornstein stated that in teaching at the university, he spends a couple of weeks each semester discussing air quality, and that next semester he could be to obtain more feedback from the students. Mr. Hayes suggested that the Council hold a community planning style meeting to elicit community input on the issues on the horizon.

The Committee reached a consensus that it would be appropriate to continue the discussion of this topic to the next Executive Committee meeting, and Chairperson Kurucz so ordered. Chairperson Kurucz added that one additional consensus aspect of today's meeting is for the

APCO to regularly include an update on community feedback as part of his report to the Advisory Council at the Regular meeting.

5. Committee Work Plans. Chairperson Kurucz asked each Chairperson to report on the work of the Standing Committees.

- Air Quality Planning Chairperson Hayes stated the Committee will identify a carbon footprint for the Committee. He distributed a preliminary draft of this tabulation.
- Public Health Committee Chairperson Bramlett stated that at the last meeting the Committee received presentations on wood smoke abatement from representatives of the Hearth, Patio and Barbeque Association and the North Bay Association of Realtors.
- Technical Committee Chairperson Bornstein stated that Mr. Altshuler had given a presentation summarizing the information given at a recent conference at the South Coast AQMD on ultrafine PM. Dr. Bornstein added that, in the context of the discussion on global warming, he would be willing to provide a presentation on his findings at the university that maximum summertime temperatures in coastal areas have declined over the last 80 years.

6. Committee Member Comments/Other Business. Chairperson Kurucz stated that the Council was informed that the free transit days within the Spare the Air program have already been used up, and he inquired if the District could obtain additional funding to continue this program further into the summer. Mr. Hess replied that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission very recently elected to provide funding for three more free transit days on Spare the Air days.

7. Time and Place of Next Meeting. 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 13, 2006, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

8. Adjournment. 9:59 a.m.

/s/ Neel Advani for
James N. Corazza
Deputy Clerk of the Boards