

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
939 Ellis Street
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APPROVED MINUTES

Summary of Board of Directors
Executive Committee Meeting
9:30 a.m., Monday, March 16, 2009

- Call to Order - Roll Call:** Chairperson Pamela Torliatt called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.
- Present:** Pamela Torliatt, Chair; Tom Bates, Secretary; Chris Daley, John Gioia, Scott Haggerty, Yoriko Kishimoto, Mark Ross and Gayle Uilkema
- Absent:** Vice Chairperson Wagenknecht
- Also Present:** Thomas M. Dailey, M.D., Hearing Board Chairperson

Public Comment Period: None

Approval of Minutes-December 5, 2008: Director Ross moved approval of the minutes; seconded by Director Daly; carried unanimously without objection (Uilkema abstained).

Quarterly Report of the Hearing Board– October 2008 – December 2008:

Dr. Thomas M. Dailey, Hearing Board Chairperson, gave the Quarterly Report for October 2008 through December 2008.

Discussion and Consideration to Establish an Ad Hoc Committee on Capital Facilities:

Committee and Staff Discussion:

- Options for increasing building energy efficiency;
- Office space needs;
- District headquarters location;
- Funding mechanisms for leasing, purchasing or constructing a new facility;
- Options for use of the existing building;
- Directors Ross, Uilkema and Daly volunteered to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee.

Recommendation:

- Recommend that the Board of Directors’ establish an Ad Hoc Committee on Capital Facilities and seek additional volunteers at its March 18, 2009 Board of Directors meeting.

Production System Update:

Staff Presentation-John Childakis:

- Production system timeline on schedule and on budget;
- System has a robust infrastructure;
- Saves 70% on electricity costs;

- Pilot programs on various stages of the production system are being performed to validate program design;
- Air District is moving toward real-time replication and a 4-hour disaster recovery window;
- Permits are available online and linked to maps;
- On-line registration and renewal for customers and the ability for inspectors to route forms for automatic processing.

Committee Discussion/Comments:

Kishimoto: Confirmed with staff that Air District is moving toward ability to photograph as part of official record; no risk of damage due to inactivity with earthquakes at off site storage in Sacramento.

Air District CEQA Guidelines Update:

Staff Presentation-Dave Vintze:

- CEQA guidelines recommend air quality significance thresholds for local agencies to use when preparing impact analyses under CEQA;
- CEQA guidelines advise local agencies on Air District's preferred analytical methodologies and mitigation measures;
- Air District staff hosted its first public workshop on February 26, 2009 and will conduct additional public workshops during the CEQA guideline update process;
- Update is comprehensive review of significance thresholds, analytical methods, and mitigation strategies;
- Clean Air Communities Initiative is a multi-faceted approach to deal with cumulative impacts;
- Thresholds of Significance Impact Areas: Greenhouse gases, toxic air contaminants, criteria pollutants & odors, cumulative, project-alone and plan-level;
- Identified key objectives as:
 - Reduce emissions from land use and transportation
 - Support transit-oriented development, SMART growth and infill development
 - Complement other air district program goals
 - Provide needed assistance to local governments in meeting CEQA requirements

Committee Discussion/Comments:

Uilkema: Referred to new receptors near new sources; questioned if recommendations were received regarding mitigations from CARB.

Haggerty: Questioned definition of SMART growth; questioned MTC's corridor program; whether jobs component was being established in ABAG Focus process.

Ross: Suggested developing a metric that incorporates a measurable quantity to identify what effect the vision document will have, based upon air quality.

Daly: Suggested some analysis of jobs in order to get total emissions, assumptions about vehicle miles.

Kishimoto: Supported performance standards and suggested electrifying transit and pushing clean vehicles to MTC. She questioned if the Air District reviews congestion management plans.

Torliatt: Executive Board discussed how PDA's were not looked at from an air quality standpoint. Air District and ABAG staff will focus on this.

Haggerty: Supported jobs along transit lines.

Bates: Suggested increasing threshold in infill areas, supported additional public transit.

Roggenkamp: The community strategy under SB 375 could well have a new vision for jobs and health.

Gioia: Questioned and confirmed that CARB was not developing CEQA guidelines; asked staff to work with CARB to come up with threshold standards and incorporate this.

Broadbent: South Coast already has threshold standards.

Ross: Regions have different emission levels and problems; it may involve regional thresholds and not statewide standards unless CARB determines mitigations.

Torliatt: Questioned whether certain criteria are included as a methodology for cumulative impacts analysis. Asked that guidelines incorporate compliance; supported a higher threshold around infill, higher density, jobs, and healthier living.

Staff Discussion/Response:

Vintze: CARB put out a land use handbook and much of it has to do with site design; Air District staff conducting review of CARB's distance recommendations; there are no established standards for requiring HVAC systems and Air District is asking local city and counties to include standards in decision-making process.

Roggenkamp: Jobs component better fit for general plan guidance than CEQA guidance.

Broadbent: Staff will bring indirect source regulation separately back to the Executive Committee; wants to ensure growth happens and has consistent air quality and local exposures needs—also to be discussed at the Joint Policy Committee meeting on March 20th.

Broadbent: Air District role looks at end result and ensuring mitigation measures are included.

Hilken: Staff has in the past but CEQA is first step to determine whether guidance is strong enough.

Hilken: Agreed that PM 2.5, fine PM and diesel PM are not addressed in guidelines and will be added. Air District needs to move forward and provide some guidance to local officials; will likely revisit guidelines after State action or indirect source rule.

Air District Strategic Vision Update:

Staff Presentation – Ana Sandoval:

- Air District staff undergoing stakeholder outreach;
- Received input from the Advisory Council, Hearing Board, Community Resource Teams, the CARE Task Force, and affiliated organizations;
- Comments received ask for a greater public health focus; a bigger, broader vision statement; and language more reflective of the Air District's leadership position;
- Air District staff will continue to receive comments over the next month and return to the Committee with an update.

Strategic Vision Comments/Discussion:

Torliatt: Requested Number 9 read, "Cumulative strategic partnerships to improve public health." Requested alternative word for Number 3--not "refine"

Committee Member Comments/Other Business: None

Time and Place of Next Meeting: At the call of the Chair.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Lisa Harper
Clerk of the Boards