

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
939 Ellis Street
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APPROVED MINUTES

Summary of Board of Directors
Legislative Committee Meeting
Monday, September 26, 2011

- 1. Call to Order:** Chairperson Susan Garner called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m.

Roll Call: Present: Chairperson Susan Garner, Vice Chairperson, David Hudson, Directors John Gioia, Jennifer Hosterman, and Carol Klatt

Absent: Directors John Avalos, Ash Kalra, Nate Miley, and Brad Wagenknecht

- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 4, 2011**

Committee Action: Director Hosterman made a motion to approve the April 4, 2011 Legislative Committee minutes; Director Klatt seconded the motion; which carried unanimously without objection.

- 4. SUMMARY OF 2011 LEGISLATIVE YEAR**

Tom Addison, Senior Advanced Projects Advisor, presented the staff report.

Mr. Addison gave the Committee an update of the 2011 legislative year. Mr. Addison informed the Committee that as of September 9, 2011 the Governor has acted on only a small percentage of bills, as the majority of his work is completed during the second week of October. Mr. Addison also stated that the majority of the Air District issues have been resolved. Largely, as a result of the poor economic climate, no major new environmental legislation passed, including air quality legislation. The one exception was an extension of the renewable portfolio standard, putting into law a requirement that by 2020, thirty percent of the State's power must come from renewable sources.

Mr. Addison noted that on the positive side, the Air District did not receive funding cuts in the budget this year. Also, while a host of bills were introduced that would have harmed air quality, none became law. In fact, not a single bill that the Air District opposed became law.

Mr. Addison stated that the bad news was that it was very tough to get positive things done, and a good illustration of this is Senate Bill (SB) 582. SB 582, co-sponsored by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Air District, would have allowed regional transit commute benefit programs.

Mr. Addison stated the bill was vetoed by the Governor, largely as a result of opposition by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). CARB had expressed informally their support for the bill throughout the year, but surprised the Air District by recommending a veto without sharing that recommendation with Air District staff. Mr. Addison discussed our subsequent meetings with Chair Nichols at CARB and her staff, including a discussion of amendments to remove their opposition.

Chair Garner urged that SB 582 be reintroduced by the Air District next year. Mr. Addison replied that he is scheduled to meet with the Governor's Legislative staff in October, to discuss the feasibility of reintroducing the bill in 2012.

Mr. Addison discussed other bills on the Air District's Bill List, including some that were on the Governor's desk and some that had failed to pass the Legislature.

Chair Garner asked about the outlook for air quality bills in 2012 and where the Air District stands going forward. Mr. Addison responded it will be tough for major new programs to cut emissions unless the economy turns around. If the Governor's office is receptive to the amended version of SB 582 affecting employers with 50 or more, staff recommends pursuing this in 2012. Chair Garner and the Committee concurred.

Public Comments: None.

Committee Action: None.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS:

Director Hosterman asked how could can the Air District become visionary and create bipartisan support for reducing emissions. Mr. Addison stated there was strong support from both parties for SB 582.

Director Hudson asked about the lawn mower program under AB 118. Jean Roggenkamp, Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer, stated the Air District was awarded funding through CARB.

6. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: At the call of the Chairperson.

7. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Garner adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

VS/ Vanessa Johnson

Vanessa Johnson
Executive Secretary II