

# **BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

939 ELLIS STREET - SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94109

Approved Minutes: Advisory Council Regular Meeting – May 11, 2005

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Opening Comments: Chairperson Zamora called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Roll Call: Present: Brian Zamora, Chair, Sam Altshuler, P.E., Diane Bailey, Elinor Blake, Jeffrey Bramlett, Harold M. Brazil, Irvin Dawid, Emily Drennen, Fred Glueck, William Hanna, Stan Hayes, John Holtzclaw, Ph.D., Victor Torreano, Linda Weiner.

Absent: Cassandra Adams, Louise Bedsworth, Ph.D., Bob Bornstein, Ph.D., Kraig Kurucz, Norman A. Lopera, Jr., Kevin Shanahan.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** There were no public comments.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

1. **Approval of Minutes of March 9, 2005.** Chairperson Zamora deferred this item to the July 13, 2005 Advisory Council Regular meeting.

## **PRESENTATION:**

2. **Public Outreach at the District.** Teresa Lee, Director, Public Information & Outreach Division, stated that free morning commutes on all Bay Area transit lines will be provided for the first five Spare the Air days on non-holiday weekdays this summer. The free commute is offered this summer in connection with the 8-hour ozone standard. The goal is to reduce the heavy traffic during the morning work commute when ozone precursors are released into the atmosphere from the vast number of vehicles on the road.

Funding for the five free transit days includes the \$780,000 from the Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) and \$3.9 million in Congestion Management Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. The program will access its employer network and the public through advertisement over a wide array of print and electronic media. Program effectiveness will be measured through telephone surveys and ridership counts. Nineteen transit operators have opted into the program and must submit an operating plan to show how they will accommodate the anticipated 10% increase in ridership.

Approximately 80% of the population in the Bay Area knows what a Spare the Air day is. To obtain a total clean air commute, and to increase the incentive to take public transit, shuttle service to BART stations in the Bay Area has been organized and is steadily expanding.

Ms. Lee presented two District videos entitled, respectively, “*30 Years of Progress: 1955-1985*” and “*Sparing the Air for a healthier future.*”

- 3. Resolution on Climate Change.** Technical Committee Chair Hayes introduced the draft Advisory Council Resolution No. 89 “A Resolution Encouraging the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to Address Climate Change.” He stated that the item was discussed at the Technical Committee meeting of April 13, 2005. The Committee conceptually endorsed the subjects set forth in the text and requested staff to prepare a first draft. If the text is endorsed by the Council, it can be submitted in the context of the District’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and prior to World Environment Day.

Ina Shlez, Principal Environmental Planner, observed that the correlation between higher temperatures generated by global warming and increased ozone exceedances provides a link to the ambient air and health protection standards which are at the core of the District’s mission. Temperature variation impacts regional air quality: last summer, there were few instances of high temperatures and few Spare the Air days. Higher temperatures will generate a greater number of Spare the Air Days. Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions will lessen global warming, keeping temperatures lower and reducing the number of ozone excesses.

In discussion of the resolution, Council members offered the following observations and suggestions:

- add “and precipitation” after “wind” in the third “Whereas”; add “refineries and chemical plants” after “generation” in the first “Whereas” on page two; add “data collection and analysis” to the last paragraph on page two where it is most appropriate. (Holtzclaw)
- change “overwhelming” to “strong and convincing” in the first “Whereas”; add “increases the severity storms” after “patterns” in the third “Whereas”; add “and the public health and welfare” after “local air quality” in line three of the same paragraph; add “the” before “photochemical” on line one of paragraph four and add “that cause ozone and other pollutants to form” after “sunlight and heat” in the same paragraph. Add “adversely” before “impact” in the last line of paragraph five. (Hayes)
- the evidence is “overwhelming” that greenhouse gases are causing global warming, and the language should remain as originally drafted. (Bailey, Weiner).
- add a reference to the relationship between increased temperatures and mortality where the text references adverse impacts on human health; add “potential energy independence” to the next to last “Whereas” on page one as an additional benefit of reducing greenhouse gas emissions; add the measurement of greenhouse gas emissions to permit applications, environmental review processes, the Carl Moyer and Transportation Fund for Clean Air grant criteria; and replace “support” with “leadership” in the last paragraph. (Altshuler)
- the resolution should include a commitment to an action plan with specific goals for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. (Bailey)
- the resolution is a call to action, rather than an action plan, and should remain as such. Next steps can be discussed once general direction from the Board of Directors is received. (Glueck)

In reply to questions, Ms. Shlez stated that greenhouse gases are now being included in the District’s emissions inventory of stationary sources. This will provide major assistance to local municipalities and agencies in developing a baseline inventory. If the state develops a cap and trade program, for which the California Climate Action Registry is preparing, the District will be ready to join it.

Jack Broadbent, Executive Officer/APCO, added that the Board of Directors has inquired as to the Advisory Council’s opinion on whether climate change is an issue that should be addressed by this agency. Some groups, such as the Western States Petroleum Association, believe that the regulation

of greenhouse gases is outside the District's purview. While the State Legislature will decide this issue, it is preferable to begin review of this complex topic now. Increases in temperatures may also erode gains made in the District's Ozone Attainment Plan. Mr. Broadbent noted that he has asked the Advisory Council Chair to present the resolution on May 20, 2005 to the Board Executive Committee. If it is approved, the staff and the Council can commence with discussing next steps.

After further discussion, the Council reached consensus on all of the proposed language changes except for the substitution of "strong and convincing" for "overwhelming" and Mr. Hanna moved adoption of the resolution as modified; seconded by Dr. Holtzclaw; carried unanimously. Mr. Dawid requested that a copy of the resolution also be sent to the regional water quality agencies.

## **AIR DISTRICT OVERVIEW**

- 4. Report of Air Pollution Control Officer.** Mr. Broadbent summarized the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2005-06 with regard to proposed new staff positions, fiscal challenges facing the agency this year in increased PERS and medical insurance costs, and the loss of 10% in county revenues. Staff proposes to increase permit fees based on the recommendations of the Cost Recovery Study. It is also proposing a modest transfer from undesignated reserves to balance the budget.

As a result of AB 923, the District will also receive \$11 million to distribute in mobile source incentive funds deriving from increases in vehicle registration fees and the Carl Moyer program. The CARE program is moving forward, as well as the District's efforts to convert its database production system to a newer architecture. Mr. Broadbent added that he would provide a copy of the presentation on the budget that he gave to the Budget & Finance Committee to the Council for its review.

Other activities this year include the presentation to the Board next month of an air toxics regulation under the New Source Review rule, and the development of a flare control rule for refineries in July. On June 20, a Symposium on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the District is scheduled in Yerba Buena Gardens near the Moscone Center. The Advisory Council is invited to attend this event.

In discussion, Mr. Broadbent stated that three of the proposed new positions will assist with the mobile source incentive funds, overseeing accounting and working with cities and counties. With regard to the recent Supreme Court decision on fleet rules in the South Coast AQMD, the results are limited to public fleets, and such fleet rules may be adopted only for districts designated "severe" or "extreme." The Advisory Council may elect to further investigate the issue of fleet rules and make recommendations to the Board of Directors. Some Board members are interested in seeing the District adopt a rule requiring school bus fleets to be retrofitted with pollution abatement devices.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 5. Report of the Air Quality Planning Committee of April 4, 2005.** Dr. Holtzclaw stated that the Committee received a presentation on the Governor's Hydrogen Highway Blueprint. This topic will be taken up again, with input from District staff, at the June 8 joint meeting with the Technical Committee. The Committees will also address the CARE program and greenhouse gas emissions.
- 6. Report of the Technical Committee Meeting of April 13, 2005.** Mr. Hayes stated that the Committee is reviewing greenhouse gas emissions and tracking the progress of the CARE program.

The Committee is especially interested in the issue of source apportionment in air toxics emission inventory analyses.

7. **Report of the Public Health Committee Meeting of April 18, 2005.** Mr. Torreano stated that the Committee received a presentation on indoor air quality from the Air Resources Board. At its next meeting the Committee will consider developing recommendations on the District's role in this field.
8. **Report of the Executive Committee Meeting of May 11, 2005.** Chairperson Zamora stated that the Committee has completed its revisions to the Council's By-Laws, which will be presented for adoption at the July 13, 2005 Advisory Council Regular Meeting. It also reviewed a first draft of the proposed Advisory Council Code of Conduct and will review a second draft at its next meeting.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

9. **Report of Advisory Council Chair.** Chairperson Zamora stated that Board Chairperson Townsend reads the Advisory Council's reports with great care and has expressed appreciation for the Advisory Council's work.
10. **Council Member Comments/Other Business.** Ms. Bailey stated that World Environment Week will take place June 1-5 in San Francisco. Mr. Dawid indicated that the Sierra Club is a co-sponsor of this event and encouraged Advisory Council members to attend. He also expressed an interest in seeing a demonstration of the two fuel cell vehicles that will be used by the City and County of San Francisco. Jean Roggenkamp, Deputy APCO, replied that the Air District will be allocated two DaimlerChrysler fuel cell vehicles, which can be demonstrated for the Council at a future date.
11. **Time and Place of Next Meeting.** 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 13, 2005, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.
12. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

*James N. Corazza*

James N. Corazza  
Deputy Clerk of the Boards