

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

APPROVED MINUTES

Joint Air Quality Planning & Technical Committees
9:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 7, 2006

- 1. Call to Order – Roll Call.** Chairperson Hayes called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. Air Quality Planning Committee (AQPC) Members Present: Stan R. Hayes, Chairperson, Ken Blonski, Harold Brazil, Irvin Dawid, Emily Drennen, Fred Glueck, John Holtzclaw, Ph.D. Air Quality Planning Committee Members Absent: Kraig Kurucz. Technical Committee Members Present: Robert Bornstein, Ph.D., Chairperson, Louise Bedsworth, Ph.D., William Hanna, (9:48 a.m.), John Holtzclaw, Ph.D. Technical Committee Members Absent: Sam Altshuler, P.E., Diane Bailey.
- 2. Public Comment Period.** There were no public comments.
- 3. Approval of Joint Committee Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2005.** Dr. Holtzclaw moved approval of the minutes; seconded by Mr. Blonski; carried with Mr. Hayes abstaining.

William Hanna arrived at 9:48 a.m.

- 4. District Climate Protection Program:** *Staff provided a presentation on climate protection activities at the District. The Committee also reviewed a summary of the Advisory Council's deliberations on the subject of climate protection, prepared by members Bedsworth and Hayes. The Joint Committee offered suggestions to the Board of Directors regarding the District's climate protection program.*

Henry Hilken, Director, Planning and Research Division, introduced the agenda item and stated that this is a major initiative for the Air District in the coming year and that the Program will be integrated into various activities within the different Divisions at the Air District. Mr. Hilken introduced David Vintze, Air Quality Planning Manager and Ana Sandoval, Environmental Planner.

Ms. Sandoval presented an overview of recent staff activities on the Climate Protection Leadership Program. Topics reviewed included the following:

Recap on Climate Protection at the District:

- Climate change identified as significant issue by staff and Advisory Council
- Board adopts resolution to address climate change on June 1, 2005
- Initial research by District staff

Ongoing Activity in California and Bay Area:

- State efforts
- Local efforts

District's First Steps:

- Joined Regional and State efforts
- Sponsored events
- Sponsored projects
- Board of Directors Ad Hoc Committee on Climate Change
- Created an informational web site

District's Comprehensive Approach to Climate Protection

- Regional Climate Protection Summit scheduled for Summer, 2006
- Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions inventory
- Stationary source GHG control technology
- Energy efficiency
- Green schools
- In-house GHG emission reductions
- Integrate into District activities

Potential Role of Advisory Council

- Continue providing technical guidance/information to Board
- Speakers on climate change
- Ideas for Summit
- Technical information on climate change impacts in the Bay Area
- Examples of successful programs
- Suggestions for other activities

The Committee discussed issues related to the Climate Protection Program and staff responded to Council Members' questions. Council Members provided the following comments and suggestions:

- 1) Dr. Holtzclaw suggested Rachel Gossin or someone else from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to speak at the Summit on growth patterns within the region and the issue around rail transit stops.
- 2) Dr. Bornstein stated that during the last semester, he attended a conference in London on Global Warming, and shared aspects of what he learned at the conference: the terms "mitigation" and "adaptation" were being used instead of the term "protection." He suggested that the District consider talking to people who are planning "adaptation," especially since sea levels are on the rise; there will be coastal flooding all over the Bay Area and precipitation patterns are going to change. He stated that the speaker presented a program on mitigation, energy production, economic benefits, and health benefits. A similar program could be presented at the Summit.

Dr. Bornstein also suggested that the District look into Regional Climate Impact Modeling. He was not sure whether this would fall under the Bay Area or some other agency, or whether the District could partner with universities or other agencies on this issue.

- 3) Dr. Bedsworth could provide the name of one of her colleagues as a speaker for the Summit on Modeling.
- 4) Mr. Glueck commented that the entire program is an overwhelming one and it is an educational process. It would be helpful to roadmap it and put it into a framework that has direction and leadership.
- 5) Mr. Dawid suggested that the District look into the Indirect Source Rule (ISR) and its relationship with GHG emissions. The San Joaquin Valley District is the only Air District in the country that has imposed the ISR. The rule is available on their website.

Mr. Dawid also applauded the District for joining the California Climate Action Registry, and suggested that it team up with the Registry to encourage those companies that are not currently members, to also join the Registry.

Mr. Dawid informed the Council Members of an article on Global Warming that was published in the February 5, 2006 edition of the Contra Costa Times. The article described the Climate Research Program which is a State-sponsored program that started three years ago. This Program looks at how Global Warming would affect the State. Mr. Dawid suggested that the Advisory Council look into the possibility of having a presentation from the Climate Research Program.

- 6) Mr. Hayes applauded the District on its leadership role and the steps it is taking on the Climate Protection Program. He stated that this Program would have to be integrated into individual lifestyles and daily activities. He further stated that there is a lot of synergy between what the District has so far done with its programs and the issue of Climate Change. He pointed out that the Report on the GHG Emissions Inventory for Sonoma County stated that 40 percent of the GHG emissions in Sonoma come from the transportation sector such as cars, trucks, buses, and vehicles that move around. Those are the sources of the many traditional air pollutants that have been the object of the District's and Advisory Council's attention for so many years. There is a real synergy between reductions in criteria pollutant and toxic emissions from these vehicles and reductions in carbon dioxide emissions. Understanding better the interactions between the traditional air programs and GHG issues is extremely important from the standpoint of the District, and perhaps the Advisory Council can offer some ideas to the District on this.

Mr. Hayes stated that Climate Change is different from the traditional air programs in one very important way – one can make money by reducing GHG emissions. Since such a large fraction comes from energy consumption, it may well be that measures that reduce energy, air pollution from power generation and greenhouse gas emissions, result in a net savings to the companies who are instituting those measures. This will save companies money, and it aligns the interest of the regulated and the regulators in ways that are very positive.

- 7) Dr. Bornstein commented that the District has the strong technical base such as modeling and emissions inventory for this issue, and this aspect could be used as a selling point by the District in its presentations. He also stated that it is a hard sell to convince people to

participate in something that is globally caused; however, the selling point is the economic incentives.

- 8) Mr. Hayes stated that, statewide, a large fraction of the GHG emissions are from motor vehicles and they are increasing at a very fast rate. The District should tackle small portions of the issue that can be easily accomplished. Mr. Hayes was of the opinion that unless there are ways to integrate thinking about this issue into peoples' daily lives, there will not be much progress made.
- 9) Dr. Holtzclaw addressed the electricity, heating and cooling aspect of Smart Growth. He explained that multi-family housing, where people share walls, ceilings and roofs, use a lot less heating and cooling energy, and expose a lot less to the elements per unit which tend to be smaller units. Therefore, there is a smaller area for heating, cooling and lighting. This is another topic that could be highlighted at the Summit.
- 10) Ms. Drennen stated that many of the cities and counties have programs for vehicle miles traveled (VMT), but they do not have sufficient funding to implement them. If there were targeted grant programs or more funding available, it would be more economical as opposed to the District taking on a brand new program and developing it. Dr. Bornstein suggested that the District can encourage, investigate and make known grant opportunities where external money can be brought into the District in partnership with universities, companies, etc., depending on the program. Mr. Hayes suggested that including the GHG issue as a criterion on the Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) project evaluation seems to be a good way to obtain funds.
- 11) Mr. Brazil suggested that the District try to integrate GHG initiatives into the federal transportation planning process.

Mr. Hilken explained that since Climate Protection is a very large issue, it is important to relate it to local and individual actions and efforts. With regard to the Land Usage and Smart Growth linkages, Mr. Hilken explained that there are many Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) in the District's Ozone Strategy. It is also important to reduce the amount of VMTs in the region. Highlighting this at the Summit would be important. The Advisory Council could recommend to the District ways to integrate the Program into the existing efforts to promote TCMs, especially the Land Usage and Smart Growth transportation linkages. Since working with MTC, Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the cities and counties will be critical, the Advisory Council's input would be helpful.

Mr. Hayes inquired what the District's schedule would be for accomplishing things related to this issue and specifically what kinds of resources does the District have currently for the Program. Mr. Hilken responded by explaining that in last year's budget there was a separate program created for Climate Protection which will continue, with the Board of Directors' support. Last year there was a little over a full time employee and this year there will be more staff dedicated to this Program. The District hopes to integrate it into its other programs. Therefore, some of the work that staff currently does in the Outreach & Incentives Division will be related to Climate Protection; staff that handles the Grants will be working on this Program as well, as it is integrated into the TFCA program. He further explained that the District is

currently in the process of developing its budget for the next fiscal year, and will be looking into staffing for this Program.

The Committee also reviewed a summary of the Advisory Council's deliberations on the subject of Climate Protection, prepared by members Bedsworth and Hayes. Dr. Bedsworth reported that at the August 16, 2005 meeting of the Air Quality Planning and Technical Committees, a number of potential areas for District activity on Climate Change were brought up for discussion. These topics warrant more discussion by the two Committees to assess if further investigation is recommended. The options that were discussed at the August 16, 2005 meeting fall into two categories. The first category includes establishing model programs for GHG reporting and reduction in collaboration with the Climate Action Registry and other stakeholders. The second category includes actions that are related to current District regulatory activities.

Climate activities that the District could undertake in collaboration with the Climate Action Registry and other stakeholders:

- Work with the Registry to rank commercial building GHG regulations in the District. Spread best practices to minimize emissions.
- Develop a climate action leader program to recognize entities in the Bay Area that voluntarily measure and report GHG emissions.
- Work with the Registry to develop model offset projects, such as traffic light replacement or traffic light synchronization.
- Collaborate with Inter-Governmental Cooperative & Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) to create a template for clean city certification.

Climate activities that relate to the District's current regulatory programs:

- Explore the extent of current regulatory authority and the control of GHG's from stationary sources.
- Establish reporting requirements/processes for GHG emissions as part of the permitting process. Start including GHG as an item on the permitting form.

The Council members discussed the issues and decided to convey its strong support to the District in the form of a two-part Resolution to be developed by the two Committees. The Committees will work separately on issues related to Climate Protection and then come back as a Joint Committee, at a later date, to consolidate their recommendations for the District.

Committee Action: The two Committees jointly recommend that the full Advisory Council adopt a Resolution to the Air District's Board of Directors expressing the Council's support for the Board and Staff's leadership on the Climate Change issue, in particular on the current efforts and future direction. Mr. Glueck moved approval of the recommendation; seconded by Dr. Holtzclaw; carried unanimously.

5. Committee Member Comments/Other Business. There were none.

6. Time and Place of Next Meeting. Technical Committee: Wednesday, April 12, 2006, 9:30 a.m. Air Quality Planning Committee: Wednesday, April 12, 2006, 1:00 p.m., 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

7. Adjournment. 12 Noon.

Neel Advani

Neel Advani
Deputy Clerk of the Boards