

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

APPROVED MINUTES

Advisory Council Public Health Committee
1:30 p.m., Monday, June 9, 2008

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Zamora called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

Roll Call: Brian Zamora, Chairperson, Jeffrey Bramlett, Steven Kmucha, M.D., Karen Licavoli-Farnkopf, MPH and Linda Weiner

Absent: Cassandra Adams

2. Public Comment Period: There were none.

3. Approval of Minutes of April 9, 2008: Mr. Kmucha moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Mr. Bramlett, carried unanimously without objection.

4. Discussion of Proposed Regulation 6, Rule 3: Wood-Burning Devices: *The Committee discussed and received a status report on the proposed Regulation 6, Rule 3: Wood-Burning Devices. A public hearing on the rule is scheduled for July 9, 2008.*

Kelly Wee, Director of Compliance and Enforcement, said the Committee has been instrumental in working on wood smoke particulate matter issues and the Air District has worked to put forth a model ordinance to cities and counties which dovetails into the SB 656 PM implementation schedule. He discussed extensive public outreach efforts and said all comments were taken into account in modifying the Rule. When the effort began, over 16 jurisdictions that had some level of wood control program rules in effect were reviewed; however, the Air District is in the lead in addressing such a large metropolitan area.

Mr. Wee further discussed the Rule's mandatory curtailment which applies to all solid fuel devices, stating that the Rule has exemptions for people whose only source of residential space heating is a wood-burning device. The Rule requires cleaner burning technology in new construction and remodels and applies to EPA-certified wood stoves and inserts or pellet stoves. He provided examples of inefficient and wet wood burning, limiting burning of garbage, plastics, chemically-treated wood or other inappropriate fuels and said the Rule also requires anybody selling wood to ensure it is dry, less than 20% moisture content and properly labeled.

Mr. Wee discussed the Air District's coordinated approach of its Incentives and Outreach Department, stating the Rule affects approximately 1.2 million Bay Area residents who have fireplaces. He said on any given night 126,000 to 130,000 people could be burning in their fireplaces.

Committee member Weiner requested a summary of incentives and enforcement. Mr. Wee said the Air District ran a two-phase incentives program this winter; the first phase kicked off in January with \$100,000 in incentive funding and was very successful, with an 80% to 90% conversion to natural gas. The second phase ran later in the spring with \$400,000 in incentive funding through a voucher system. The program is still active as people are installing devices to date. Mr. Wee discussed public education, stating that most people would comply with the Rule once adopted and he briefly discussed outreach efforts of the Air District.

Regarding enforcement, there are inspectors throughout the 9 Bay Area counties. Regulations take inspectors into single family homes for demolition renovation, open backyard burning which has been outlawed, and other residential enforcement. Additional overtime monies have been budgeted and they initially intend to issue warning letters and then move onto Notice of Violations and penalties.

Committee Member Weiner questioned the timeframe for those having an exemption for sole source. Mr. Wee said residents would not be forced to install a heater and the exemption has no timeframe for conversions.

Committee Member Kmucha requested the source of statistical information, and Mr. Wee said statistics were derived from ABAG and census data. He said each year the Air District conducts a random survey on patterns of burning, information reveals that about half of the 2.5 million Bay Area residents have fireplaces or wood burning devices and approximately 126,000 to 130,000 people burn on any given night which varies throughout the winter.

Chairman Zamora thanked Mr. Wee for his presentation and appreciated the significant progress made.

Committee Action: Ms. Licavoli-Farnkopf moved to support the proposed Regulation 6, Rule 3: Wood-Burning Devices to the Advisory Council; seconded by Ms. Weiner, carried unanimously without objection.

Committee member Weiner confirmed with Chairman Zamora that he would alert Advisory Council Chairperson Bedsworth to attend the next full Advisory Council meeting to provide the recommendation of support.

5. Committee Member Comments/Other Business

Clerk of the Boards Lisa Harper announced that the Personnel Committee, at their May 30th meeting, recommended the appointment of Virginia Smyly to replace the Public Health member vacancy left by Dr. Kim and that she would hopefully be sworn in prior to the next Advisory Council meeting.

6. Time and place of next meeting: 1:30 p.m., Thursday, August 13, 2008, Board Room, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

7. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

/s/ Lisa Harper
Clerk of the Boards