

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
375 Beale Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, California 94105
(415) 749-5073

APPROVED MINUTES

Summary of Board of Directors
Climate Protection Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 21, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Climate Protection Committee (Committee) Chairperson, Teresa Barrett, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Present: Chairperson Teresa Barrett; Vice-Chairperson Rod Sinks; and Directors Margaret Abe-Koga, John Gioia, Scott Haggerty, Katie Rice, Mark Ross, and Brad Wagenknecht.

Absent: Director David Hudson.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

Public comments were given by Janet Stromberg, 350 Bay Area.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 20, 2017

Public Comments:

No requests received.

Committee Comments:

None.

Committee Action:

Vice Chair Sinks made a motion, seconded by Director Rice, to approve the minutes of July 20, 2017; and the motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES:	Abe-Koga, Barrett, Gioia, Haggerty, Rice, Ross, Sinks, and Wagenknecht.
NOES:	None.
ABSTAIN:	None.
ABSENT:	Hudson.

4. UPDATE ON THE AIR DISTRICT'S BASIN-WIDE METHANE STRATEGY (OUT OF ORDER, ITEM 5)

Jean Roggenkamp, Deputy Executive Officer, introduced Idania Zamora, Senior Engineer, who gave the staff presentation *Update on the Air District's Basin-Wide Methane Strategy*, including: outline; why focus on methane; methane in the Bay Area: current inventory, and scientific findings; basin-wide methane strategy: coordination framework, optimization tools, planning & climate efforts, and regulatory efforts; methane research efforts led by the Air District; Draft Regulation 13-2: General Methane Leak Prohibition; Regulation 8, Rule 37: Crude Oil and Natural Gas Production; new rule: Composting Operations; and implementation timeline.

NOTED PRESENT: Director Wagenknecht was noted present at 9:47 a.m.; Director Haggerty was noted present at 9:48 a.m.; and Director Ross was noted present at 9:50 a.m.

Public Comments:

Public comments were given by Jed Holtzman and Janet Stromberg of 350 Bay Area.

Committee Comments:

The Committee and staff discussed the District's coordination efforts with the California Air Resources Board regarding methane research and regulation; how the District plans to mitigate methane emissions from animal waste and recycling/waste; the need for the District to monitor leak detection in flaring landfills and wastewater treatment plants; the source of the odor at the Livermore Water Reclamation Plant; the methods by which recent "top-down" studies in the Bay Area have been conducted; the need for enhanced efforts in promoting composting education; the process for converting methane to energy; the evolution of best practices in composting; the proportions of methane, versus carbon dioxide, in annual total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; the co-benefits of the District's Basin-Wide Methane Strategy; whether there is a metric to measure the percentage of the methane inventory that is in the Bay Area air shed; the fact that captured methane that is flared off is not included in the District's *methane* inventory, but in the *carbon dioxide* inventory; the request for data regarding how much methane is being emitted, captured, and then flared, versus converted into energy; the feasibility of offering incentives to landfills for best practices; how staff will discuss energy-efficient methods of composting at committee meetings; funding incentives for publicly-owned treatment works infrastructure; concerns that the State's goal of reaching 75% of waste diversion by 2020 will not occur, and how the District can increase its level of control; state versus local landfill regulations, and the District's jurisdiction on landfills; the need for clarity on what direct regulatory authority the District has over natural gas distribution pipeline systems; how the District can regulate carbon dioxide emissions that are not Cap and Trade sources; how AB 398 impacts the District's Clean Air Plan, and how new District regulations would fit into the Clean Air Plan; why or why not methane fits in with the New Source Review Program; and the request for a staff presentation on the co-benefits and alternative strategies that the District *may* implement within AB 398.

Committee Action:

None; receive and file.

5. CLIMATE PROTECTION GRANT PROGRAM (ITEM 4)

Henry Hilken, Director of Planning and Climate Protection, introduced Abby Young, Climate Protection Manager, who gave the staff presentation *Climate Protection Grant Program*, including: history of Air District climate funding; 2007 and 2017 Climate Protection Grant Programs; grant program structure and priorities; outreach and input; and next steps.

Public Comments:

Public comments were given by Janet Stromberg, 350 Bay Area.

Committee Comments:

The Committee and staff discussed the Bay Area Solar Photovoltaic Ordinance Toolkit distribution and webinar; the suggestion that District could help guide jurisdictions on how to spend the surplus funds generated by their community choice aggregation programs; the need for continued promotion of the transition to clean vehicles; the need for enhanced targeted outreach to impacted and disadvantaged communities and granting of projects within those communities; the feasibility of the District ceasing to fund the purchasing and installation of electric vehicle infrastructure, due to the fact that other investors are already doing so; how the District can how help facilitate the shift from natural gas to electricity; the District’s desire to prepare the public for opportunities to transition to new technologies, rather than paying for the new technologies; the feasibility of making multi-family dwellings/affordable housing in disadvantaged communities eligible for the program; the need for staff to reach out to cities for feedback on the aggressiveness of the timeline; and the feasibility of using the grants to leverage existing government funding.

Committee Action:

None; receive and file.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS / OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee will meet on Thursday, November 16, 2017, Bay Area Air Quality Management District Office, 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, California 94105 at 9:30 a.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

/s/ Marcy Hiratzka
Marcy Hiratzka
Clerk of the Boards