

Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
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## **APPROVED MINUTES**

Summary of Board of Directors  
Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Access, and Inclusion Meeting  
Thursday, November 5, 2020

**This meeting was conducted under procedures authorized by executive order N-29-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom. Members of the committee participated by teleconference.**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL**

The Ad Hoc Committee (Committee) on Equity, Access, and Inclusion Chairperson, Davina Hurt, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Present: Chairperson Davina Hurt; and Directors John Bauters, Tyrone Jue, Nate Miley, Mark Ross, Shamann Walton, Lori Wilson, and Shirlee Zane.

Absent: Directors John Gioia, Carole Groom, and Katie Rice.

Also Present: Board Chair Rod Sinks.

### **2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2020**

#### Public Comments

No requests received.

#### Committee Comments

None.

#### Committee Action

Board Chair Sinks made a motion, seconded by Director Bauters, to **approve** the Minutes of September 10, 2020; and the motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Bauters, Hurt, Jue, Ross, Sinks, Wilson, Zane.  
NOES: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: Gioia, Groom, Miley, Rice, Walton.

### **3. COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE**

The Committee welcomed Ms. J. Michelle Pierce, Executive Director of the Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates, and asked her to share her experiences in analyzing and advocating for the air quality in eastern San Francisco. Ms. Pierce shared about the challenges she has experienced when working with the Air District over the years, and urged the Air District to expedite its activities in Bayview Hunters Point to regain the community's trust. Ms. Pierce said that she feels that there has been a lack of cultural competency at the Air District, that the Air District has been reluctant to examine the activity of the nuclear radiological lab at the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, and requested more stringent regulations for polluting facilities and/or the denial of Air District permits in Bayview Hunters Point. Ms. Pierce also observed a disconnect between Air District management and the members of her community, who only interface with the Air District's Community Engagement staff and consultants.

NOTED PRESENT: Director Walton was noted present at 9:11 a.m.

#### Public Comments

Public comments were given by Esther Goolsby, Communities for a Better Environment (CBE); Dr. Henry Clark, West County Toxics Coalition; LaDonna Williams, All Positives Possible; Ernesto Arevalo, CBE; Jed Holtzman, 350 Bay Area; and Dr. Raymond Tompkins.

#### Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed how the Air District plans to show cultural competency when interacting with communities of color; what can be done to improve the community engagement experience at the Air District; the need for improved listening and quicker responses from the Air District; and the call to make "Community Perspective" a standing item on the Committee's meeting agendas.

#### Committee Action

None; receive and file.

### **4. DISCUSSION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The Committee continued its discussion on the development of the Air District's first Community Advisory Council (CAC). Jack Broadbent, Executive Officer/Air Pollution Control Officer, explained the intended purpose of the CAC and differentiated its role from that of the Air District's existing Advisory Council. Ms. Eady gave the staff presentation *Development of a Community Advisory Council*, including: CAC overview; background and purpose; initial proposed structure and membership; and next steps.

NOTED PRESENT: Director Miley was noted present at 10:06 a.m.

### Public Comments

Public Comments were given by LaDonna Williams, All Positives Possible; Michelle Pierce, Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates; Jed Holtzman, 350 Bay Area; Esther Goolsby, CBE; Richard Gray, 350 Bay Area; and Ernesto Arevalo, CBE.

### Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed which individuals from Oakland (East and West) the Air District staff reached out to for input on the formation of the CAC; the potential appointment process; whether all impacted/disadvantaged communities in the Bay Area will be represented on the CAC, and how to define “impacted” and “disadvantaged”; the request to stop using consultants for uncomfortable conversations that are meant to be had with Air District staff, and to use the consultants’ compensation to pay the CAC members; the request that ongoing training, corrective action, and rehabilitation be a priority of Air District staff; whether CAC members will be financially compensated for their time and travel to meetings; claims from the public that the formation of such a body was proposed in 2018, but that no action was taken by the Air District; the desire to have ethnic and cultural diversity amongst those selected to serve on the CAC; and the fact that this item will be presented to the Board in November.

### Committee Action

None; receive and file.

## **5. DISCUSSION ON THE ADVISORY COUNCIL RECRUITMENT**

Dr. Jeff McKay, Chief Financial Officer, gave the staff presentation *Discussion on the Advisory Council Recruitment Process*, including: Advisory Council charter; discussion; and Advisory Council opening process.

### Public Comments

Public comments were given by Jed Holtzman, 350 Bay Area; LaDonna Williams, All Positives Possible; and Esther Goolsby, CBE.

### Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed the request that the Air District actively recruits diverse candidates (especially those in health care, non-profit organizations, laborers, and environmental justice organizations); and whether Advisory Council members need to reside in the Bay Area.

### Committee Action

None; receive and file.

## **6. DISCUSSION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND**

Greg Nudd, Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer of Policy, gave the staff presentation *Discussion on the Development of a Community Benefit Fund*, including: overview; similarities with the California Air Resources Board Community Air Grants program; structure and prioritization of funding; budget and financial impact; discussion; and recommendation.

### Public Comments

Public comments were given by Esther Goolsby, CBE; Richard Gray, 350 Bay Area; Jan Warren, Interfaith Climate Action Network of Contra Costa County; LaDonna Williams, All Positives Possible; and Jed Holtzman, 350 Bay Area.

### Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed how the Air District determined the amount of funding for program (initially and in subsequent years); whether the program's funds will be restricted to Assembly Bill (AB) 617 communities, and how long the funding allocations will last; ways to approach the challenge of putting monies from settlements and fees back into impacted communities; the request for an update on data requests from the public; the amount of time Air District staff spends on recovery of fees for facilities; and the importance of informing impacted communities about their options within this program, including putting forth their own candidates for the Community Advisory Council.

### Committee Action

None; receive and file.

## **7. UPDATE ON ASSEMBLY BILL 617 EFFORTS**

Mr. Nudd gave the staff presentation *Update on AB 617 Budget*, including: current Fiscal Year; Owning Our Air; and Richmond-San Pablo update.

### Public Comments

No requests received.

### Committee Comments

None.

### Committee Action

None; receive and file.

## **8. UPDATE ON OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION | INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL EFFORTS TO ADVANCE RACIAL EQUITY**

Mary Ann Okpalaugo, Acting Director of the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, gave the staff presentation *Update on Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion - Internal and External Efforts to Advance Racial Equity*, including: key priorities for 2020; ongoing and future areas of work; framework for racial equity; workforce development; timeline of activities; demographics by gender and race/ethnicity; community health; public investment; and learning by example.

### Public Comments

Public comments were given by Jan Warren, Interfaith Climate Action Network of Contra Costa County.

### Committee Comments

None.

### Committee Action

None; receive and file.

## **9. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS**

Public comments were given by LaDonna Williams, All Positives Possible.

## **10. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Director Bauters acknowledged Chair Hurt and Veronica Eady, Senior Deputy Executive Officer, for consistently taking the time to consider what needs to be brought before this committee.

Board Chair Sinks suggested that this committee become a standing committee, and no longer ad hoc.

## **11. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

At the conclusion of the meeting, the next meeting date was to be at the Call of the Chair. After the meeting adjourned, the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, December 14, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., via webcast, pursuant to procedures authorized by Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Hurt adjourned the meeting at 12:41 p.m., in memory of Thomas C. Mohr, a long-time educator, community leader, and San Mateo County resident.

*/s/ Marcy Hiratzka*  
Marcy Hiratzka  
Clerk of the Boards