

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

Community Equity, Health & Justice Committee
Wednesday, September 20, 2023

APPROVED MINUTES

This meeting was webcast, and a video recording is available on the website of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District at www.baaqmd.gov/bodagendas

CALL TO ORDER

1. **Opening Comments:** Community Equity, Health & Justice Committee (Committee) Chairperson, Davina Hurt, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present, In-Person (Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, 1st Floor Board Room, San Francisco, California, 94105): Chairperson Davina Hurt; Vice Chair Katie Rice; and Director John Gioia.

Present, In-Person Satellite Location (Office of Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia, Conference Room, 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, California, 94530): Directors Joelle Gallagher, Erin Hannigan, and Steve Young.

Present, In-Person Satellite Location (Santa Rosa Junior College, Doyle Library, Room 148, 1501 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa, California, 95401): Director Brian Barnacle.

Absent: Board Chair John J. Bauters; and Directors Margaret Abe-Koga, Nate Miley, and Vicki Veenker.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. **APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY EQUITY, HEALTH & JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 21, 2023**

Public Comments

Public comments were given by "Call-In User_1".

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

Director Rice made a motion, seconded by Director Hannigan, to **approve** Minutes of the Community, Equity, Health & Justice Committee of June 21, 2023; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Barnacle, Gallagher, Gioia, Hannigan, Hurt, Rice, Young.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Abe-Koga, Bauters, Miley, Veenker.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Veronica Eady, Deputy Executive Officer of Equity & Community Programs, introduced Community Advisory Council Member, Dr. Jeff Ritterman, M.D., who gave the presentation *Combating Medical Racism and Air Pollution*, including: biography, Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR); PSR's focus; fighting air pollution; uprooting medical racism; discrimination in pain management; Tuskegee syphilis study; how does racism become biology; Journal of the American Medical Association: May 10, 1999; life expectancy by race; infant mortality rates by race and ethnicity, 2018; similarities between our work with the Air Board and combating medical racism; How To Become An Antiracist; Dr. Kendi's prescription; Isabel Wilkerson's prescription; and resources.

Public Comments

Public comments were given by "Call-In User_1"; and Jan Warren, Interfaith Climate Action Network of Contra Costa County.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed the role of epigenetics (how do environmental factors affect our genes); and the desire for the Air District to seek root causes of community vulnerabilities to drive health outcomes.

Committee Action

None; receive and file.

5. **REPORT OF THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF EQUITY AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS (OUT OF ORDER, ITEM 8)**

Ms. Eady introduced Latasha Washington, one of the three Co-Chairpersons of the Air District's Community Advisory Council, who summarized the activities of the Community Advisory Council's first retreat that was held on September 14 and 15 in Petaluma.

Ms. Eady also mentioned that the Air District observes Hispanic & Latin American Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, and listed upcoming events and guest speakers (including Dolores Huerta and Elizabeth Yeampierre) that the Air District plans to host during that time.

Chair Hurt gave remarks about the upcoming departure of Ms. Eady from the Air District and Committee members thanked her for her service.

Public Comments

Public comments were given by "Call-In User_1"; and Janet Johnson, Sunflower Alliance.

6. **BAY AIR CENTER: TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR AIR QUALITY PROJECTS (ITEM 5)**

Michael Flagg, Principal Air Quality Specialist in the Meteorology and Measurement Division, gave the staff presentation *Bay Air Center: Technical Support for Air Quality Projects*, including: action requested; outline; needs assessment; guiding principles; current contractors; matching support to community needs; types of clients: overburdened communities; program infrastructure: website, sensor verification system, and region-wide datasets; project spotlights: Brightline Defense, Belle Haven and Climate Resilient Communities, and Alameda County Library; funding Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 2020-FYE 2023; technical support summary; FYE 2024 implementation; next steps; discussion and feedback; and contact us at the Bay Air Center.

Public Comments

Public comments were given by "Call-In User_1"; Dr. Stephen Rosenblum, Climate Action California; and Jan Warren, Interfaith Climate Action Network of Contra Costa County.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed Alameda County Library's engagement with Bay Area Center; ways to make the Bay Air Center website more user-friendly and consolidate monitoring data sources; the request for the Bay Air Center to engage with the Benicia Community Air Monitoring Program; the request that the Air District provides technical assistance in setting up the air monitoring trailer located in Benicia; outreach efforts; whether organizations may launch community-based air monitoring projects with the Bay Air Center without being a grantee of the Bay Air Center; the importance of investing in relationships with community organizations; grant management challenges that small organizations may experience, and whether the Bay Area Center assist with those; whether communities have been surveyed to assess whether their needs for capacity building (regarding air quality) are being met; the importance of enhancing community knowledge so that communities may look to each other's efforts; ways in which to engage youth in air quality and community engagement

projects, such as an intern program or youth trainings; and the desire to identify the appropriate amount of leverage needed to successfully launch the Bay Air Center.

Committee Action

None; receive and file.

OTHER BUSINESS

7. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS (ITEM 6)

Public comments were given by “Call-In User_1”.

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS (ITEM 7)

Chair Hurt announced that the American Climate Corps launched today. This is a federal initiative to train young people in high-demand skills for jobs in the clean energy economy. The American Climate Corps will put a new generation of Americans to work conserving our lands and waters, bolstering community resilience, advancing environmental justice, deploying clean energy, implementing energy efficient technologies, and tackling climate change.

9. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. at 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. The meeting will be in-person for the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee members and members of the public will be able to either join in-person or via webcast.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

/s/ Marcy Hiratzka
Marcy Hiratzka
Clerk of the Boards