

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

Board of Directors Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 4, 2025

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:** Board of Directors (Board) Chairperson, Lynda Hopkins, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Roll Call:

Present, In-Person (Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, 1st Floor Board Room, San Francisco, CA, 94105): Chairperson Lynda Hopkins; Vice Chairperson Vicki Veenker; and Directors Margaret Abe-Koga, Dionne Adams, Monica Brown, Ken Carlson, Brian Colbert, Noelia Corzo, Joelle Gallagher, Juan González III, Tyrone Jue, Otto Lee, Sergio Lopez, Bilal Mahmood, Rico E. Medina, Ray Mueller, Gabe Quinto, Lena Tam, Shamann Walton, and Steve Young.

Absent: Directors Brian Barnacle, John Gioia, David Haubert, and Mark Salinas.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

CLOSED SESSION (10:07)

3. **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EVALUATION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957(b)(1)**

Title: General Counsel

Reportable Action: Chair Hopkins announced that there was nothing to report.

4. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6**

Conference with Labor Negotiators

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency Designated Representatives:

Laura A. Izon, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

Hyacinth Hinojosa, Deputy Executive Officer of Finance and Administration

Lisa Baker, Director of Human Resources

Employee organization: Bay Area Air Quality Management District Employees' Association

Reportable Action: Chair Hopkins announced that there was nothing to report.

OPEN SESSION (11:22 a.m.)

ACTION ITEM

5. **APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR GENERAL COUNSEL**

In Closed Session, the Board of Directors considered a performance evaluation of the Air District's General Counsel. The General Counsel's employment agreement provides for the Board to consider a salary increase of up to 5% in connection with this performance evaluation.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Board Comments

None.

Board Actions

Director Lee made a motion, seconded by Director Corzo, to **approve** the increase of the base salary of District Counsel, Alexander G Crockett, by 5%, for a new amount of \$386,067.22 per year, effective May 23, 2025, with all provisions of the employment agreement remaining the same; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Board:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Adams, Brown, Carlson, Colbert, Corzo, Gallagher, González, Hopkins, Jue, Lee, Mahmood, Medina, Mueller, Quinto, Tam, Veenker, Walton, Young.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Barnacle, Gioia, Haubert, Lopez, Salinas.

OPENING ITEM

6. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

Chair Hopkins welcomed the following new employees: Kenny Carlson, Assistant Manager in Information Services Operation Division; Alicia Bennett, Human Resources Analyst II in Human Resources Office; and Mausam Jamwal, Environmental Planner II in Planning & Climate Protection Division. Chair Hurt also congratulated the following employees on their recent promotions: Mark Kiffe is now a Senior Air Quality Engineer in the Engineering Division; and Lina Patel is now a Senior Staff Specialist in the Strategic Incentives Division.

CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEMS 7 – 27)

7. Approval of the Draft Minutes of the Board of Directors Special Budget Hearing Meeting of May 7, 2025
8. Approval of the Draft Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of May 7, 2025
9. Board Communications Received from May 7, 2025, through June 3, 2025
10. Notices of Violations Issued and Settlements in Excess of \$10,000 in the Month of April 2025
11. Personnel Out-of-State Business Travel Report for April 2025
12. Changes to Confidential Classifications
13. Report of County Populations
14. Funding Allocation for Commercial Electric Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange Program
15. Authorization to Purchase Equipment from Agilent Technologies, Incorporated
16. Authorization to Amend the Professional Services Agreement with Robert Half, Inc.
17. Authorization to Amend Climate Tech Finance Program Consultant Contract
18. Authorization to Execute Grant Agreements for Recommended Projects with Proposed Grant Awards Over \$500,000 and Update Cost-Effectiveness Limit for Vehicle Buy Back Program
19. Authorization to Execute a Master Services Agreement with Kearns & West, Inc. for Implementation of the Bay Air Center
20. Authorization to Accept Revenues under a Subgrant Agreement with the Port of Oakland to Support Fenceline Air Monitoring and Reporting
21. Authorization to Accept Clean Cars for All Program Funds from the California Air Resources Board
[Click here to view Board Resolution No. 2025-03](#)
22. Authorization to Execute a Contract with the San Francisco Pride Parade
23. Authorization to Execute a Contract with Acterra for Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community Meeting Support for Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo
24. Authorization to Continue Funding and to Execute Master Services Agreement with IQAir Foundation for Home and School Air Filtration Programs
25. Report of the Stationary Source Committee Meeting of May 14, 2025
26. Report of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of May 14, 2025
27. Report of the Community Advisory Council Retreat of May 16 & 17, 2025

Public Comments

Regarding Item 12 (Changes to Confidential Classifications), public comment was given by Kennieth McKellar, President of the Air District's Employees' Association.

Board Comments

Regarding Item 14 (Funding Allocation for Commercial Electric Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange Program), the Board and staff discussed how the vouchers will be allocated to commercial operators (retailers); scrappage requirement; how the allocated \$15M for the program will be distributed; whether the program will be offered exclusively to designated Bay Area AB 617 communities; and the request that the program outreach includes Spanish translation.

Regarding Item 16 (Authorization to Amend the Professional Services Agreement with Robert Half, Inc.), the Board and staff discussed the reason that the Air District wishes to hire a contractor to address temporary staffing needs.

Regarding Item 20 (Authorization to Accept Revenues under a Subgrant Agreement with the Port of Oakland to Support Fenceline Air Monitoring and Reporting), the Board and staff discussed whether this grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency is anticipated to actually be allocated, given recent federal actions.

Board Action

At the request of Director Young, the Chair pulled Item 16 (Authorization to Amend the Professional Services Agreement with Robert Half, Inc.) for a separate vote.

Director González made a motion, seconded by Director Tam, to approve Consent Calendar Items 7 through 15, and 17 through 27; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Board:

AYES:	Abe-Koga, Adams, Brown, Carlson, Colbert, Corzo, Gallagher, González, Hopkins, Jue, Lee, Mahmood, Medina, Quinto, Tam, Veenker, Walton, Young.
NOES:	None.
ABSTAIN:	None.
ABSENT:	Barnacle, Gioia, Haubert, Lopez, Mueller, Salinas.

Director Carlson made a motion, seconded by Director Quinto, to approve Consent Calendar Item 16; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Board:

AYES:	Abe-Koga, Adams, Brown, Carlson, Colbert, Corzo, Gallagher, González, Hopkins, Jue, Lee, Mahmood, Medina, Quinto, Tam, Veenker, Walton, Young.
NOES:	None.
ABSTAIN:	None.
ABSENT:	Barnacle, Gioia, Haubert, Lopez, Mueller, Salinas.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

28. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2025-2026 AND AMENDMENTS TO AIR DISTRICT REGULATION 3: FEES

Note: Director Adams recused herself from this item, as her employer is subject to Air District fees.

The Board of Directors held a second public hearing (first hearing held on May 7, 2025) to consider and receive testimony on the proposed FY 2025-2026 Budget, and proposed amendments to the Air District's fee regulation, Regulation 3.

Hyacinth Hinojosa, Deputy Executive Officer of Finance & Administration, Stephanie Osaze, Director of Finance, and Fred Tanaka, Engineering Manager, gave the staff presentation *Second Public Hearing on Proposed Fee Regulation Amendments and FY 2025-2026 Budget*, including: outline; background; Budget summary – ongoing and new investments; Air District staffing overview; General Fund reserve policy; FY 2026 proposed budget; previously proposed General Fund reserve designations; Board feedback: request to increase pension funding; proposed General Fund reserve designations with increased contributions to pension trust; summary of budget resolution actions; Assembly Bill (AB) 2561: key provisions; vacancy summary (as of March 31, 2025); overall recruitment efforts; proposed fee amendments (impact); cost recovery background (trends, Board actions and policies); proposed fee amendments; summary of public comments; and recommended action.

NOTED PRESENT: Director Lopez was noted present at 12:19 p.m.

Chair Hopkins opened the public hearing.

Public Comments

Public comments were given by Gus Flores, United Contractors; Michael Williams, Jr. Environmental Justice League (EJL); Camika Robinson, EJL; Yvonne Eashman, EJL; Bob Brown, Western States Petroleum Association; and Russell Snyder, California Asphalt Pavement association.

Board Comments

The Board and staff discussed concerns that the Air District should be increasing staffing levels beyond what is being proposed; the current vacancy rate in the Engineering Division; how often the Board will be updated on the Corrective Action Plan; the cause for the point of congestion or disruption that impedes the smooth flow of permits being processed, and how to reduce this; whether the Air District plans to utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) and engage an efficiency expert to improve efficiency in the permitting process; the suggestion of considering the benefits of hydrogen projects; concerns about charging permitted facilities fees beyond 100% of the Air District's costs; appreciation for continued discretionary contributions to prefund Pension Trust, and the origin of the contributions; whether the Air District's current

revenue source structure is sustainable for a long-term period; and the belief that the Air District has been maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Chair Hopkins closed the public hearing.

Board Action

Director Carlson made a motion, seconded by Director Quinto, to **adopt** a resolution to **approve** the proposed Fiscal Year 2025–2026 Budget, which includes recommended staffing levels, the salary schedule and benefits, revised Appendix F, and other related budget actions; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Board:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Brown, Carlson, Colbert, Corzo, Gallagher, González, Hopkins, Jue, Lee, Lopez, Mahmood, Medina, Mueller, Quinto, Tam, Veenker, Young.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: Adams.
ABSENT: Barnacle, Gioia, Haubert, Salinas, Walton.

Director Lee made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Veenker, to **adopt** a resolution to **amend** Air District Regulation 3: Fees, including revisions impacting fee schedules A, B, D, E, F, G-1 through G-5, H, K, P and W and other related changes, with the proposed changes to take effect on July 1, 2025. These amendments are intended to recover the costs of regulatory program activities in line with the Air District's Cost Recovery and Containment Policy; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Board:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Brown, Carlson, Colbert, Corzo, Gallagher, González, Hopkins, Jue, Lee, Lopez, Mahmood, Medina, Mueller, Quinto, Tam, Veenker.
NOES: Young.
ABSTAIN: Adams.
ABSENT: Barnacle, Gioia, Haubert, Salinas, Walton.

[Click here to view Board Resolutions No. 2025-04 & 2025-05](#)

29. TOXIC AIR CONTAMINANT CONTROL PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT – 2025

The Board of Directors held a public hearing to present the Air District's Toxic Air Contaminant Control Program Annual Report for 2025 and to discuss its content and significance. The report fulfills the reporting requirements under California Assembly Bill (AB) 2588 Air Toxics Hot Spots (ATHS) Program and delivers updates on the Air District's toxic control initiatives.

Ariana Husain, Engineering Manager, gave the staff presentation *Toxic Air Contaminant Control Annual Report*, including: outline; introduction and purpose of report; what are air toxics; overview of toxic control initiatives; Air Toxics New Source review; facility risk reduction programs; Air Toxics Emissions Inventory; air toxics ambient air monitoring; community health protection; conclusions; and acknowledgments.

Chair Hopkins opened the public hearing.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Board Comments

The Board and staff discussed whether the Bay Area Healthy Homes Initiative can help to augment the Air District's appliance rules.

Chair Hopkins closed the public hearing.

Board Action

No action taken. The Board of Directors held a public hearing to present the Air District's Toxic Air Contaminant Control Program Annual Report for 2025 and discuss its content and significance, but no action was required at this time.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

30. WILDFIRE RESPONSE, PREVENTION, AND MITIGATION

Dr. Ranyee Chiang, Director of the Meteorology and Measurement Division, gave the staff presentation *Wildfire Response, Prevention, and Mitigation*, including: outline; wildfire impacts on air quality; 2025 fire season outlook; Air District role during wildfires: air monitoring, air quality forecasting, communications; Air District programs for wildfire prevention: reducing wildfire risk, Prescribed Burn Program summary, is the Air District a barrier to prescribed burning, burning allowed on average of 244 days each year, recent program developments to encourage prescribed burns, potential amendments to woodsmoke rules; and Air District programs for mitigation of impacts from wildfires: Clean Air Centers, air filtration initiatives.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Board Comments

The Board and staff discussed concerns that the geographic coverage of elementary schools selected to service air filtration units and funded upgrades/maintenance to Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning systems did not include all eligible, impacted areas; whether the Air District would authorize prescribed burns on days when wildfire smoke from Canada (or other areas) has transported to the Bay Area; the desire for enhanced public outreach regarding the benefits of prescribed burns; difficulty in forecasting weather and coordinating the different agencies for prescribed burn days; and Santa Clara County's recent installation of 50 AI fire air quality sensors for detecting fires in the foothills (which can distinguish different sources of smoke.)

Board Action

No action taken.

31. 2024-2029 STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

Dr. Philip M. Fine, Executive Officer/Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO), was to give the staff presentation *2024-2029 Strategic Plan Implementation Update*, but due to the time, this presentation was waived.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Board Comments

None.

Board Action

No action taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

32. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

No requests received.

33. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Director Young provided an update on anticipated actions due to the impending closure of the Valero refinery in Benicia.

34. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER/APCO

Dr. Fine thanked the Board for approving sponsorship of the 55th Annual San Francisco Pride Parade, which will be held on Sunday, June 29, 2025. Board members, Air District staff, staff from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Association of Bay Area Governments, and Bay Conservation Development Commission, and family and friends were invited to march together in the parade.

35. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Hopkins made the following announcements:

- On May 16 and 17, she attended the Air District's Community Advisory Council's (CAC) two-day retreat, at which, the CAC's environmental justice priorities were discussed, and presentation were received from CAC members and Air District staff regarding: air

quality concerns; roadmap to improved air monitoring programs; cumulative impacts and permitting work of the Advisory Council; new air quality complaint data lookup tool that is being developed; Notice of Violation trends; development of a targeted inspection program; and the Air District's five-year rulemaking schedule and the Community Investments Office.

- Two weeks ago, she and Vice Chair Veenker joined Air District staff, members of the Bay Area congressional delegation and their staff, the American Lung Association, the National Association of Clean Air Agencies, and the US Climate Alliance in Washington, DC to discuss federal legislative priorities with Senators Padilla and Schiff.
- The next Board of Directors meeting will take place on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. No remote locations will be authorized for this meeting, due to the consideration of the adoption of the Proposed Amendments to Fee Schedules S and V, pursuant to Section Two, Board of Directors, Board of Directors Meetings, Administrative Section Code 2.6(d).

36. **TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. The meeting will be in-person for the Board members and members of the public will be able to either join in-person or via webcast.

37. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

/s/ Marcy Hiratzka
Marcy Hiratzka
Clerk of the Boards