

MINUTES
LANE REGIONAL AIR PROTECTION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2019
1010 MAIN ST, SPRINGFIELD, OR 97477

ATTENDANCE:

Board: Mike Fleck - Vice Chair - Cottage Grove; Joe Pishioneri - Springfield;
Charlie Hanna - Eugene; Mysti Frost - Eugene; Betty Taylor - Eugene

Via conference call: Jeannine Parisi - Eugene; Kathy Nichols - Oakridge

Absent: Joe Berney, Commissioner - Lane County

Others: Maurie Denner - CAC Chair; Paul Ruscher - CAC applicant

Staff: Merlyn Hough - Director; Debby Wineinger; Colleen Wagstaff; Max Hueftle

OPENING: Fleck called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

1. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. Comments on an Item on Today's Agenda

2. Comments on a Topic Not Included on Today's Agenda (Note: This is an opportunity for the public to bring up unscheduled items. The board may not act at this time but, if it deems necessary, place such items on future agendas. Issues brought up under this agenda item are to be limited to three minutes' speaking time by the person raising the issue. If additional time is necessary, the item may be placed on a future agenda.)

3. Comments from Board Members (Note: This is an opportunity for Board Members to bring up unscheduled items regarding today's public comments, and/or written/electronic comments they have received. The board may not act now but, if it deems necessary place such items on future agendas.

Hough explained there was a complaint/written comment that would be forwarded to the board. This person has been in contact with Joe Berney, Lane County Commissioner, so it may be mentioned later. It was confirmed that "written comments" would be forwarded to the board, via email. But the comments would not be read during a board meeting. Board Members can request that it be on a future agenda or discussed during board member comments.

Parisi asked about new business comments from last month regarding the question by Representative Cedric Hayden, "Why does LRAPA exist?" Did anyone have any follow-up on this? **Fleck** said he had spoken with Representative Cedric Hayden briefly, and voiced his support for LRAPA. And he would like to have a longer conversation with him regarding the benefits of LRAPA.

Parisi also mentioned the Carbon Cap and Trade bill was introduced. **Parisi** asked if there should be an overview with the Board during a future meeting? **Hough** said DEQ staff would be the best source to directly give an overview at a future meeting.

4. ACTION ITEMS:

Consent Calendar:

- A. Approval of Minutes of January 10, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting
- B. Approval of Expense Reports January 2019

MOTION: Pishioneri MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar; Taylor SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE ON MOTION: UNANIMOUS

5. STATUS REPORT ON OAKRIDGE WOODSMOKE MITIGATION PROJECT:

Hough explained this is the project Good Company is doing on behalf of the City of Oakridge. Josh Proudfoot of Good Company had a schedule conflict for this LRAPA meeting, so **Hough** gave an overview of the Good Company quarterly report included in the board packet.

Fleck asked about the bill for statewide funding, he would like to see a revolving loan fund for commercial properties. Typically, the woodstove changeouts have been for only owner-occupied homes. It would be good to have low-interest loans for the property owners of rental homes.

Nichols said she thought this was now available for landlords and renters. **Hough** confirmed that financial assistance for rental properties was part of the pending grant applications.

6. ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Denner introduced Paul Ruscher, a Department Head at LCC (Lane Community College) who met with the CAC last month.

Paul Ruscher gave an overview of his background, and experience.

MOTION: Pishioneri MOVED to appoint Paul Ruscher to the CAC (Citizen Advisory Committee); Frost SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE ON MOTION: UNANIMOUS

Denner reviewed the notes from the January 29, 2019 meeting.

During the last meeting, Lance Giles gave an overview on the steps the agency takes to call a "yellow" or "red" Home Wood Heating day. **Denner** thought this presentation might be something the Board would also like to have on a future agenda.

Kelly Wood, CAC representative from Wildish, will keep the group informed on the off-road diesel emissions study as she learns more.

They will review the Dashboard report in April and will again be reviewing the format for the Permit Holder Survey.

Link Smith spoke about some changes to the Oregon Smoke Management Plan/Laws, going into effect March 2019. He will keep the committee updated.

Denner said he and his wife will be relocating to Idaho. He will keep everyone updated on his status.

7. DIRECTORS REPORT:

Hough gave an overview of the Director's Report.

Parisi asked what precautions were put into place to help avoid Oakridge from going into a "Red" day. **Hough** said we were encouraged by the response we saw during the few high potential days. The Code Enforcement Officer position is currently vacant, so LRAPA staff will go to Oakridge on a weekly basis and assist. **Nichols** said the outreach that LRAPA does in Oakridge is very effective. It inspires conversation among the citizens as to why we can't burn. In general, the reaction is very positive. We have community members that share the concern and do it publicly on social media. People are aware of when and why they shouldn't be burning, and they do see the difference. **Nichols** went on to explain that there will always be people who say they should be able to do whatever they want. **Nichols** said she has called Merlyn Hough when they are asked to not burn, when she sees blue skies and the wind blowing. Merlyn Hough has been very helpful explaining what data is driving the request to not burn. **Nichols** said she understands there is a balance and they try to be very conservative in Oakridge in an effort to not violate or go over limits. **Nichols** said she is pleased with how LRAPA is communicating and she thinks the community is too. **Nichols** explained that as far as the Code Enforcement position they will be advertising next week. **Nichols** hopes in the next 30-45 days there will be someone back on the streets.

Hough told everyone the University of Portland, Shiley School of Engineering, is adding an Environmental Engineering minor to its Civil Engineering curriculum. They have asked him to consider teaching an Air Pollution Engineering course (CE 491/591) during the Fall 2019 semester. In his agreement with the LRAPA Board he is not allowed other outside employment except for occasionally teaching, consulting, or writing. It is allowed if it does not interfere with his assigned duties, but it requires Board approval.

Pishioneri asked if this would require driving to Portland. **Hough** said yes it would. It would require him to adjust his schedule on Tuesday afternoons for travel time. **Hough** said he typically works 45-50 hours a week on average and he would be able to maintain a minimum of 40 hours per week at LRAPA. **Hough** added that, if needed, he has adequate leave time to more than cover any gaps.

Parisi suggested Merlyn Hough get an estimate of what the time commitment would be and other options there would be such as an online course so when they have the next conversation they are a little better informed. **Hough** said those were good insights and he had done a lot of exploration to see if it would be doable.

Pishioneri added that it would be tempting to bring in some of that work while working your normal job. Just a word of caution to keep those separated.

Frost said she was happy about the opportunity for Merlyn Hough.

Parisi asked for an update on the Rivers to Ridges Partnership enforcement action. **Hough** said some of the agencies involved are Federal. The shutdown has delayed meetings. Most important is how do we prevent this from happening again.

8. ELECT BOARD CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR:

Based on the January 2019 Board informal discussions, the recommendations were to approve Mike Fleck (Cottage Grove) as the new LRAPA Board Chair. And approve Joe Pishioneri (Springfield) as the new LRAPA Board Vice-Chair.

MOTION: Taylor MOVED to approve Mike Fleck as Board Chair, and Joe Pishioneri as Vice Chair. Hanna SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE ON MOTION: UNANIMOUS

9. APPOINT NEW BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND BUDGET OFFICER:

MOTION: Hanna MOVED to approve the following:

1. Mr. Robert Houston and Mr. Kevin Cronin be appointed to the LRAPA budget committee for 3-year terms.
2. Christina Hollett, Oakridge, City Council President, be appointed to the LRAPA budget committee for a 2-year term.
3. Mr. Chuck Gottfried be appointed to the LRAPA budget committee for a 1-year term.
4. Nasser Mirhosseyni be appointed as the LRAPA budget officer for the FY2020 budget year.

Pishioneri SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE ON MOTION: UNANIMOUS

10. OLD BUSINESS: None

11. NEW BUSINESS:

Parisi asked about the status of Bill Carpenter's (Springfield At-Large) position. **Pishioneri** said it has not been formally announced. **Fleck** said it has been confirmed that Lane County Commissioner Joe Berney will be taking over the Lane County position. Unfortunately, he was not able to attend this meeting.

Parisi will not be able to attend the March 14th meeting. She will be coordinating parking for the EWEB lot (March 14th meeting) with Debby Wineinger.

The meeting adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debby Wineinger