

**MINUTES**  
**LANE REGIONAL AIR PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

THURSDAY JUNE 13, 2019  
1010 MAIN ST, SPRINGFIELD, OR 97477

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board:** Mike Fleck - Chair - Cottage Grove; Joe Pishioneri – Vice Chair – Springfield; Mysti Frost - Eugene; Betty Taylor – Eugene; Joe Berney – Lane County; Jeannine Parisi – Eugene

**Conference Call:** Kathy Nichols - Oakridge

**Absent:** Charlie Hanna - Eugene; Victoria Doyle – Springfield

**Staff:** Merlyn Hough–Director; Debby Wineinger; Nasser Mirshosseyeni; Max Hueftle; Jo Niehaus

**Others:** Jim Daniels – CAC Chair

**OPENING:** Fleck called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None**
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None**

**A.** Comments on an Item on Today’s Agenda

**B.** 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.)

**C.** 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.

**Pishioneri** said a constituent contacted him regarding recent contact with LRAPA regarding backyard burning within the city limits of Springfield. He left messages with LRAPA and said he never got a call back. He also said he did get a hold of the front desk person, and was forwarded

to enforcement, John Morrissey voicemail. He said he looked up the contact information on LRAPA staff. And he said every one of them went to voicemail. He had issues with a neighbor telling him he couldn't burn. He is on a ½ acre lot, he contacted the City of Springfield and they told him it was ok for him to burn. He also called the Fire Marshal, and they told him no, it's not a legal burn. You could not burn anywhere inside Springfield city limits. So that was incorrect information from the Fire Marshal's office. This person is trying to do the right thing, and they got a very bad response from LRAPA. Historically that has been a problem (LRAPA's response). **Hough** said it didn't sound like anything that was elevated to him. If **Hough** had received a voicemail during or after hours he would get back to them. **Pishioneri** said he was frustrated and didn't leave any voicemails. **Taylor** said that was a mistake to not leave any voicemails. **Hough** asked **Pishioneri** if he would give him the person's information for him to follow-up and **Pishioneri** said he would do so.

**Parisi** announced that on June 22, 2019 EWEB, EPUD, and the City of Eugene are hosting an electric vehicle test drive at Alton Baker park 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Pishioneri** said there is a City Manager hiring process, meet and greet the candidates on June 27, 2019, between 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Springfield Justice Center. **Pishioneri** would like to hear your feedback if you do attend.

**Frost** wanted to report back regarding the J.H. Baxter/DEQ meeting June 11, 2019. They informed the public about their remedial clean-up. There were about 15 Bethel residents at the meeting. A few comments were made regarding air quality. They were happy that LRAPA was there to answer their questions.

**Frost** also thanked staff for providing the reusable plates and forks. It helps eliminate some waste/plastic.

#### 4. ACTION ITEMS:

##### Consent Calendar:

- A. Approval of Minutes of May 9, 2019 Board of Directors & Budget Meeting
- B. Approval of Expense Reports May 2019

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

#### 5. ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

**Daniels** said during their last meeting they had an open discussion with LRAPA's Enforcement Officers. It was a good education for everyone.

**Daniels** introduced himself last month but gave another overview of his experience. He lives in Cottage Grove, has worked for Rosboro for 31 years, 26 years handling environmental compliance. Under that he manages the Springfield Title V permit and the Vaughn ACPD. He has been with the CAC since 2011.

**Parisi** asked about the membership with the CAC, she thought there was a need in the health field. **Daniels** said it is filled. **Hough** added that most openings are filled relatively quickly as members leave.

## 6. DIRECTORS REPORT:

**Hough** started with the attachments on the back of the report giving an overview on the “Wildfire Smoke – Measurements, Communication and Protection” meeting. Jo Niehaus, LRAPA Public Affairs Manager presented at the meeting and State Forestry gave a presentation on History of Fire Protection.

**Parisi** asked if any LRAPA staff were invited to St Vincent DePaul hosting an extreme weather event/roundtable? Wildfire and extreme winter weather were two of the topics. She will forward the information to LRAPA staff to see if something is of interest.

**Frost** asked if the PurpleAir sensors were up and working and were there any updates on that yet. **Hough** said Lane County has the densest area with PurpleAir sensors. Lance Giles and Jo Niehaus have been working on the school program. **Niehaus** said there are about 35 schools slotted for the program. We are still working on installation on about 7 schools. **Hough** said LRAPA has 50 units, some of them were sent home with staff which gives a good diversity of neighborhoods. There have been some neighborhoods that have expressed concern about woodstove smoke and, there are a few units loaned out to those areas. **Frost** said she had a conversation with a community member and they were talking about air monitors. **Frost** mentioned the PurpleAir monitors to them and they wanted to know how they work. **Hough** said they are intended to estimate PM2.5 levels.

**Berney** asked about the installations at schools. Is every school district in Lane County involved? Has there been impacts on education regarding air quality? **Niehaus** said this has been only going on for a year. Her vision when first applying for the grant was there would be classroom interactions impacting curriculum. But, she didn’t anticipate the administrative red tape around the installation of the units. We are still only at phase I with the sensors. We have overcome the biggest challenge making sure they will be accurate and accessible. Having our conversion factor on the website helps. The project has been recognized throughout the Pacific Northwest and EPA nationally. Lance Giles has done an incredible amount of work on this. She first reached out to the major school districts to see what the interest was. She also wanted to make sure we provided the opportunity for rural schools, to see if we could get it spread out as much as possible. **Berney** asked what the major school districts were. **Niehaus** said 4J, Bethel, Springfield, and Siuslaw, the ones with the most schools within the districts. Some of the struggles were needing to make changes for the sensors to work in terms of their building code or finding a location. Some of the larger facilities you have to go through their facilities director. We will probably be getting some wildfire smoke in the months ahead, and this may gear up more interest with the schools that haven’t participated or finished the installation.

**Hough** said one reason they are interested besides the science aspects is that when you have wildfire impacts it can affect outdoor activities. The units will help determine AQI (Air Quality Index, or relative health concern). **Niehaus** said this is a piece of technology that can be quickly outdated by something else on the market. We are keeping an eye out for what might be the next most accurate thing. **Berney** said he was on the Lane ESD School Board for 12 years. They used to convene meetings with all school board members in Lane County and often there would be presentations to that group. If one or two board members really liked something they would make sure it occurred in their district. **Niehaus** said Lane ESD might be a good contact. **Berney**

added that if you get to make a presentation, as an ex-ESD Board Member, he would be happy to go with Jo Niehaus.

**Fleck** asked about the new enforcement actions for gas stations. “The permit holder failed to submit performance test records to LRAPA to demonstrate compliance with triennial vapor balance system requirements outlined in Permit Condition 5.0.” **Hough** said there are over 100 GDF’s (Gasoline Dispensing Facilities). Around 30 of the biggest facilities are required to do the testing. Costco would be one example, and there is another large facility in Creswell. There were 18 that we did not receive records that it had been done. We sent out 18 Notices of Non-Compliance Some of them were satisfied quickly and there are some still unresolved.

**Pishioneri** asked about the facility in Creswell. He thinks it is a cohabited facility with two different companies that own the franchise. How is permitting determined if it is owned by two different entities? **Hueftle** said the permit is issued to usually who ever owns or operates the facility, but there might be some cases of shared legal responsibility. **Pishioneri** said of two different entities, one could say I am not a big facility and not subject to this. For example, if they say I am not going to do testing, are they automatically in a defensible position? Is it something we would want to push because we know they have a defense to it? **Hueftle** said there is some criteria that defines what is a single “source” for two facilities in question, and it is a 3-part test: first, they have to be owned and operated by the same entity; second, they must have the same 2-digit SIC (standard industrial classification) code; and third, the properties must be contiguous or adjacent. If the two facilities meet those three criteria, then they are a single source and issued a single permit for both operations. **Hueftle** said he would look into this facility and get back to Councilor **Pishioneri**. [After the meeting, **Hueftle** reviewed information about the Creswell gas station, and confirmed that it is a facility with a single owner/operator. There is not another company with similar operations at the site.]

**Parisi** asked what are they testing for? **Hough** said it is the efficiency of the vapor recovery system. It needs to be tight and operating as designed.

## 7. PROCESS FOR STAFF FEEDBACK ON DIRECTOR’S PERFORMANCE REVIEW:

**Parisi** said in preparation for the Directors evaluation, that in the past we have tried to get staff feedback. Last year there wasn’t enough time to go through the process. Response rates have been pretty low, and we tried to figure out if it was valuable to continue. So, we need to discuss today and see if we continue with that process.

**Taylor** said in the past, staff were given stamped envelopes addressed to every Board Member. So, it was anonymous. She didn’t think this was a big expense to the Agency and if they are guaranteed anonymity, they are more likely to use them. She feels it is important to receive staff feedback.

**Parisi** volunteered to continue the process. Staff can either email or send regular mail directly to Jeannine Parisi. She will forward PDF copies to the Board Members. The Directors review is in November and in September we should have an agenda item to review the form to be sent to staff. Send the form to staff in August with a due date of end of September, with a reminder to be sent in between.

**MOTION: Pishioneri MOVED that Jeannine Parisi process the staff surveys beginning in September 2019 and supply self-addressed and stamped envelopes to staff as an option to send US Mail; Frost SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE ON MOTION: UNANIMOUS**

**8. OLD BUSINESS: None**

**9. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Parisi** asked when they might get updated on Air Toxic sampling. **Hough** said DEQ is still working out some issues on canister data. We can share parts of it. **Parisi** asked about Naphthalene. **Hough** said they did have that data and it is significantly lower, but still higher at Highway 99 than in South Eugene. It could be industry, diesel, or railroad related.

The meeting adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debby Wineinger