



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

April 14, 2022

**VIA - ZOOM**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board:** Joe Pishioneri-Chair, Jeannine Parisi-Vice Chair, Howard Saxion, Mike Fleck, Jenna Knee, and Matt Keating.

**Absent:** Terry Fitzpatrick, Joe Berney, and Chrissy Hollett.

**Others:** Jim Daniels – CAC Chair, Josh Proudfoot – Good Company, Peter Dragovich – CAC Member, James Hugo-member of the public, and Marlene Hockema-Minutes Recorder.

**Staff:** Travis Knudsen, Julie Lindsey, Steve Dietrich, Debby Wineinger, , Robbye Robinson, Max Hueftle, Lance Giles, Chris Coulter, Aaron Speck, Katie Eagleson, Cassandra Jackson, and Trinidad Cardenas.

**1. OPENING: Chair Pishioneri** called the meeting to order at 12:46 p.m., attendance was taken, and a quorum was met.

**2. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA:** Chair **Joe Pishioneri** informed the Board that he would need to leave promptly at the scheduled adjournment time.

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**Travis Knudsen** stated James Hugo had signed up to speak during the Public Participation and **Chair Joe Pishioneri** invited him to join the meeting. James Hugo introduced himself stating he lived in Springfield and had spoken at previous meetings. He expressed his concern regarding the lack of air monitoring stations in Lane County, specifically a NCORE system. In addition, he commented that no one on the LRAPA Board acknowledges climate change or his concerns regarding pollution by International Paper (IP).

**COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:**

**Jeannie Parisi** noted in response to James Hugo's comments that it feels like an opportunity for a lot more public information about toxic or potentially toxic emissions that are associated with IP and the program, Cleaner Air Oregon. **Chair Joe Pishioneri** responded that James Hugo had been notified of the program previously. **Steve Dietrich** added that the program is scheduled to begin at the end of the calendar year.

#### 4. ACTION ITEMS: Consent Calendar

- A. Approval of Minutes of March 10, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting.
- B. Approval of Expense Reports for March 2022.

**ACTION: Mike Fleck moved, and Howard Saxion seconded the approval of the Consent Calendar.**

**Jeannine Parisi** expressed a desire to change the wording in the last paragraph on the last page. To add the word contingency; she added that she had sent the preferred wording to Debby Wineinger.

~~Parisi noted that the purpose of a budget would be what the Board thought they would be spending, and she wanted to make sure there would be cash available to cover a sudden liability should there be one.~~ **Parisi noted that the purpose of the budgeted contingency was for expected costs, but she wanted to include additional contingency in the event annual PERS increase are higher than projected.**

**Mike Fleck** modified his motion and **Howard Saxion** agreed to include an amendment to the minutes.

**VOTE: Passed unanimously.**

#### REPORTS

##### 5. STATUS REPORT OAKRIDGE AIR PROJECT:

**Josh Proudfoot** informed the group that the biggest news would be that they got another award which provides them with an additional \$2.7M to carry the five-year program to seven years; he added that Willamette Solutions had been helping the community with grants. Additionally, he added that there had been a few grants submitted for the activity center and solar power as a way to backup during power loss in emergency events, as well as the smoke mitigation grant. He indicated work had started on cleaning up hazardous fuels and those would be contributed to the firewood program. **Josh Proudfoot** reviewed the progress of the project stating they were not quite done with the pilot of nine homes, but another 46 enrolled homes had been completed and 29 are out for bid. He reported that six stoves had been installed: 12 homes with heat pumps, and six homes completely weatherized. He noted that they had encountered older houses that needed additional repair work as well as hoarding situations which blocked worker access.

**Josh Proudfoot** also reported they did not have a large response to postcards sent out regarding their air filter program but just one smoke event would open the doors and the remaining stored cards would be distributed.

## 6. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

**Jim Daniels** reported that he was re-elected as CAC chair and **Kelly Wood** was elected as vice-chair. He stated they had hoped to interview James Bruegel for a public position on the committee but postponed to next month due to technicalities. He noted that the discussion about a brochure regarding gas powered tools continues and a draft had been completed.

**Travis Knudsen** informed the group that there were still two standing CAC applications, **Mysti Frost** and **Ronni Joel**, and following the approval of **James Bruegel** there would be three potential appointees to the CAC for consideration.

## 7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF AGENCY ACTIVITIES FOR MARCH 2022:

**Director Steve Dietrich** reported March had been a good month for air quality days noting that most complaints were smoke related at 46 for the month and the majority were outdoor burning. Enforcement for March was busier with a total of ten actions:

- Rohrich, Melvin (Veneta), case closed
- Kingsford Mfg (Springfield), case pending
- Hulsing, Thomas (Eugene), case pending
- FPG Oregon, LLC DBA Willamette Valley Crematory (Eugene), case pending
- Jasper Wood Products, LLC (Jasper), case closed
- Oregon Industrial Lumber Products, Inc (Springfield), case pending
- Basaraba, Daniel (Creswell), case pending
- Bonar, Lance (Creswell), case pending
- Bonar, Lance (Creswell), case pending
- Rosboro Company, LLC (Springfield), case pending

**Matt Keating** queried the physical location of Willamette Valley Crematory; **Travis Knudsen** responded: 225 South Danebo Avenue, Eugene. **Howard Saxion** questioned if Oregon Industrial Lumber was still operating given the length of their pollution problem. **Steve Dietrich** replied he would research that status adding that he could not give out much detail on pending cases. **Mike Fleck** questioned repeat offenses and **Steve Dietrich** that there would be a designated timeline before a case would go to the next level of enforcement and subsequent occurrences could be rolled into one enforcement.

**Travis Knudsen** presented public affairs monthly summaries stating homewood heating season is essentially over but as summer approaches there would be a need to gear up for wildfire activities. He added that the ArcGIS map had been completed, LRAPA participated in the Lane County Pollution Prevention Coalition that took place March 11-13, and LRAPA in the Springfield City Council meeting as well as a Whitaker Community Council neighbor association in preparation for some outreach and information sharing. Also, they did a presentation at the Active Bethel Neighborhood Association on March 17.

**Director Steve Dietrich** continued by stating there were 35 notices of asbestos removal projects, none in schools, which puts LRAPA above their inspection quota for the year. Regarding asbestos permits, one had been issued for Title V and 18 for ACDP for a total of 19.

**Jeannine Parisi** asked if LRAPA would be working with the U of O, for upcoming games, monitoring air quality. **Steve Dietrich** responded they had a conversation with the U of O who might want to set up a monitor; **Lance Giles** added that the U of O had monitoring and LRAPA had offered support.

**Howard Saxion** questioned if there would be an update on JH Baxter and if there would be any activity at that facility. **Steve Dietrich** responded there was very little going on there that would contribute to air emissions; they would still be running lumber but not treating it.

**Travis Knudsen** noted that in addition to the previous PR report LRAPA had attended the Oakridge /Westfir Council kickoff meeting in March which uses grant funding to do prescribed burning around Oakridge to reduce fuels and LRAPA had applied for the enhanced air quality monitoring for communities grant from the EPA.

## 8. DISCUSS PROCESS FOR DIRECTOR'S EVALUATION:

**Chair Joe Pishioneri** opened the floor for discussion regarding expectations and ideas for the Director's evaluation process. **Mike Fleck** stated he believed there would be a form to approve and then move forward. **Jeannine Parisi** noted that past evaluations had included a staff survey as well as a customer service satisfaction survey. **Howard Saxion** agreed but noted the general public should probably be surveyed also. **Joe Pishioneri** supported that idea but felt it would be a second step; evaluate the Director and then evaluate LRAPA. **Jeannine Parisi** added she thought LRAPA had recently done a survey; **Travis Knudsen** responded that postcards had been sent to Oregon facilities within a mile radius which was to gather interest in community engagement, and he would look into how the survey results should be presented. **Joe Pishioneri** received confirmation from the Board to move forward with the evaluation and address surveys at a later date. **Steve Dietrich** reported that he had provided two separate versions of goal setting and self-evaluation throughout the past year, but he used a LRAPA established form and expressed concern as to the proper way to mesh that information with a different evaluation form. **Mike Fleck** indicated the Board could work with the form and goals as presented by the Director.

## 9. OLD BUSINESS: None

## 10. NEW BUSINESS: None

## 11. ADJOURNMENT:

**Chair Pishioneri** adjourned the meeting at 1:37 p.m.

*(Record by Marlene Hockema)*