

A G E N D A S



LRAPA
Lane Regional Air Protection Agency

LANE REGIONAL AIR PROTECTION AGENCY
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
MONTHLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
THURSDAY MARCH 11, 2021
11:00 A.M

Note Location → VIA ZOOM

[Note: Start times for agenda items are approximate.]

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

1. (11:00 a.m.) **Call to Order**
2. (11:05 a.m.) **Introductions**
3. (11:10 a.m.) **ACTION ITEM:** Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2021
4. (11:15 a.m.) **INFORMATION ITEM:** Overview of Budget Process (Nasser)
5. (11:20 a.m.) **INFORMATION ITEM:** Overview of LRAPA Programs (Merlyn)
6. (11:35 a.m.) **DISCUSSION:** Q&A on Overviews (Staff and Everyone)
7. (11:50 a.m.) **WALK-THROUGH OF BUDGET BINDER** (w/focus on highlighted changes)
8. (12:00 p.m.) **DETAILED Q&A AND DISCUSSION OF BUDGET BINDER**
(with follow-up questions to be addressed in the weekly Friday updates)
9. (12:30 p.m.) **ADJOURNMENT OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

[15-minute break]

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

1. (12:45 p.m.) **Call to Order**
2. (12:45 p.m.) **Adjustments to Agenda**
3. (12:50 p.m.) **Public Participation** (time limited to three minutes per speaker)

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 at this time but, if it deems necessary place such items on future agendas.)

ACTION ITEM:

4. (12:55 p.m.) Director Recruitment Update: *Possible Action Item*

[Note: February Consent Calendar items will be included in the April packet]

REPORTS:

5. (1:10 p.m.) Advisory Committee: [VIEW MATERIAL](#)

- Interview candidates
- Flyer Outdoor Burning Alternatives

6. (1:25 p.m.) Director's Report of Agency Activities for February 2021 [VIEW MATERIAL](#)

DISCUSSION:

7. (1:30 p.m.) New Business
8. (1:45 p.m.) Adjournment of LRAPA Board Meeting

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Nos esforzamos por proporcionar accesibilidad pública a los servicios, programas y actividades de LRAPA para personas con discapacidades. Las personas que necesiten adaptaciones especiales, como dispositivos de asistencia auditiva, formatos accesibles como letra grande, Braille, documentos electrónicos o cintas de audio, deben comunicarse con la oficina de LRAPA con al menos 72 horas de anticipación. Para las personas que requieren servicios de interpretación de idiomas, incluyendo la interpretación calificada de ASL, comuníquese con la oficina de LRAPA al menos con 5 días laborables de anticipación para que LRAPA pueda proporcionar los servicios de interpretación que sean lo más completos disponibles. Para todas las solicitudes, envíe un correo electrónico al Coordinador de Antidiscriminatoria de LRAPA a accessibility@lrapa.org o llame a la oficina de LRAPA al 541-736-1056.

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Meeting ID: **848 1931 8524**



MINUTES
LANE REGIONAL AIR PROTECTION AGENCY
BOARD MEETING

March 11, 2021

VIA - ZOOM

ATTENDANCE:

Board: Joe Pishioneri – Board Chair - Springfield; Jeannine Parisi - Eugene; Gabrielle Guidero – Springfield; Mysti Frost – Eugene; Howard Saxion – Eugene; Mike Fleck - Cottage Grove; Matt Keating – Eugene

Absent: Kathy Holston – Vice Chair - Oakridge; Joe Berney – Lane County

Others: Jim Daniels – CAC Chair

Staff: Merlyn Hough; Debby Wineinger; Nasser Mirhosseyni; Colleen Wagstaff; Travis Knudsen; Max Hueftle; Katie Eagleson; Robbye Robinson; Lance Giles

1. **OPENING:** Pishioneri called the meeting to order at 12:47 p.m.
2. **ADJUSTMENTS TO 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.)

Parisi said she read an article in the U of O newsletter. They talked about the new Hayward field expansion and some really high-quality air quality monitoring they were putting in because of wildfire smoke and knowing how athletes might be affected by that, but they also had PurpleAir monitors. The end of the article said that they are managing some 25 installations. And she really thought that it would have been nice if LRAPA had gotten more of a head nod for their work. Because she knows that LRAPA has been more involved.

Frost said she is reapplying for her seat on the LRAPA Board with the City of Eugene. She hopes to be able to continue on the board.

4. ACTION ITEMS: Director Recruitment Update (Possible Action Item)

MOTION: Saxion MOVED LRAPA Board Chair Joe Pishioneri sign and approve the contract for LRAPA’s new Director Steve Dietrich; Parisi SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE ON MOTION: UNANIMOUS

Steve Dietrich was in attendance (guest) during the earlier LRAPA budget meeting and was also connected during the start of this regular Board meeting. He had the following statement to share, “I’ve been following your meeting since 11 o’clock this morning, and pretty insightful group. I am excited to join your team, and work with you as the LRAPA Executive Director. These are exciting times. I know, they are challenging times as well. You guys brought up a lot of good issues that we probably need to explore together. I know we have staff on here as well, that I am going to be excited to work with. And all of you guys individually, all you people. I’m looking to try to come on board on April 5th.”

5. ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

CAC applicant Paul Metzler

He used to live in Eureka, California, where in 1988-1989, he was on a Citizens Advisory Committee, which was pursuant to the big pulp mills water discharge permit there, it was required by federal law, and then that led to more community involvement. He got on staff with the US Congressman who represented that area and worked on a lot of environmental issues. He made a big career change in 2001 and went back to school and became a heating and air technician and then moved here to Springfield in 2011 and continued here as a heating and air conditioning technician. And when COVID hit he got furloughed. He is not officially retired, but it is clear he is never going to go back and run service calls anymore. He feels like it is time for him to step up and do something to serve the community.

MOTION: Fleck MOVED to appoint Paul Metzler to the Citizens Advisory Committee; Guidero SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE ON MOTION: UNANIMOUS

CAC Applicant Eric Burdette was scheduled to also meet with the Board during this meeting. He was not able to attend today. Everyone agreed to reschedule him for the April meeting.

Alternatives to Outdoor Burning Flyer – CAC member Kathy Lamberg was one of the subcommittee members who worked on the flyer. She was available for questions during today’s meeting.

Keating asked about the deletion of recreational burns and cooking fires paragraph. Kathy Lamberg said they were trying to think about their audience. Initially they were working with a template put out by Spokane County, and they had a little information on recreational fires. And they kept it in there. And someone else later on in the process pointed out, did that really belong when they are actually trying to talk about alternatives to burning yard debris? They decided to be very conscious of the space that they were using, and really did not need to talk about recreational fires.

Keating also asked about using QR codes instead of website info. He was wondering how often the QR codes would be used. Kathy Lamberg said they initially had the websites and phone numbers in there for each company. But Travis Knudsen, thought that the QR codes would be very helpful for people. We wanted to produce something that was the most convenient for folks. **Guidero** supported including the website address on there as well as QR code. **Pishioneri** said he did not see any reason why you cannot have both.

Fleck asked to check and see what you might be missing. For example, the city of Cottage Grove, does a limb pick up, two or three times a year? His guess is most cities probably have that sort of thing. He would want the list to also be inclusive.

Kathy Lamberg said the subcommittee will look into making the suggested revisions.

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF AGENCY ACTIVITIES FOR FEBRUARY 2021

Hough spoke about some of the highlights in the report.

He also gave updates on some of the bills on air quality and global greenhouse gases that DEQ is tracking. There is a key date coming up in April that if bills do not get out of committees, by April 12 or so, they are off the docket for consideration. That will be a narrowing down of which ones have potential to be adopted by the legislature. We do not have the resources to look at all of these in detail. We rely on DEQ, or others that have lobbyists to track where these things are. If we get contacts from our local legislators, we will certainly look into those that have the greatest interest in other partners like Oregon Environmental Council. But there are thousands of bills and those could get narrowed down as they go through the legislative process as far as which ones get serious consideration.

Hough wanted to express that he has relied more and more on staff to work on the Directors Report. He has been trying to be in a backup role as much as possible just so the transition is as smooth as possible. Colleen Wagstaff is a key person in preparing this Director's Report summary and key activities. Max Hueftle will be the primary person working with Colleen to make sure that items of national interest are included.

Knudsen said he continues to improve the notification system on the website public access to information. We are overhauling the notifying me portion of our website. This month, we are working on the back end of things to improve workflows but providing essentially more categories for people to sign up to. If they want to receive information they can sign up and receive information.

Hough wanted to remind everyone that upcoming agenda items for the next several months are listed in the report and should be helpful for the new Director. He also wanted to welcome Steve Dietrich as the new LRAPA Director. **Hough** also said a big chunk of his life has been invested in environmental work, the last 15 years or so with LRAPA. And it certainly helps with retirement to have a great staff on board and someone like Steve that is taking over as Director. He has heard great things about him and thinks the Board had excellent candidates to work with. He looks forward to somehow coordinating with him in the weeks ahead, whatever he can do to help make that transition as smooth as possible.

Parisi said she noticed the number of complaints for 2020, compared to the previous years, are categorized as “Unknown”. She thought it was typically around 30, and this year was 74. She wondered if some of the open burning complaints had to do with folks reacting to some of the changes that they made. We have not really heard how that program was going and if it would change the number of complaints as we have tightened down who can burn and who cannot. Maybe it is because more people are home now. What made her think about is, what you do when we are responding to an enforcement action and there is a language barrier? How do we make sure that people understand their options if there is a language barrier? And can we follow up with bilingual communication? She did not expect an answer to all this now. But it crossed her mind when she was looking at the complaints. She is noticing some differences this year, and just trying to really get us ready for what the future is, which is a much more diverse community.

Hough said outdoor burning complaints have been over 300, actually even over 400, some of the last three years. It is not something we can just point our finger to heightened awareness because of wildfire smoke or COVID, or any of those things. We have added a Spanish notification on our meetings. Over the past few years, we have been trying to make sure that we are making our programs as accessible as possible for people with limited English abilities. You will see a lot more Spanish on some of the key documents. Outdoor burning is one of those, home wood heating is another. Some of the key documents that Travis and other staff use as outreach have been translated to Spanish. **Knudsen** said he and Katie Eagleson are the nondiscrimination coordinators for LRAPA. We utilize the services of Linguava Translators, if our enforcement officers, or anybody at LRAPA encounters a situation where they need to interact with someone, they can call someone on the phone and have an interpreter vitalizer service. All of our press releases that we issue are translated into Spanish. And big important public meetings such as the interview of the candidates for the Director position, we also utilized Linguava to provide interpretation services. It is something we think about and really try to make an effort to make sure that limited English proficiency people in Lane county have the ability to participate and receive meaningful information from LRAPA.

Pishioneri said there are services you can tap into immediately and be able to have translation services. **Knudsen** said we will look into it.

7. **NEW BUSINESS: None**

8. **OLD BUSINESS:**

Parisi wanted to thank Joe **Pishioneri** for all the hard work he did to get them through the hiring process. We had a lot of stability with Merlyn for many years. This is a big decision. Thank you to all the Board members and staff, for taking the time to help us through a hard choice. We tried to do our best as a Board to really set this organization up for much success in the future. And the combination of the existing staff who have so much skill set and know our community, and the experience of Steve Dietrich, she really thinks we are going to be in good hands. And Merlyn, thank you for hanging in there with us. It took longer than you wanted it to. She was glad to see him on Facebook out running or walking. He is trying to get himself ready for the next phase of his world. Thank you for helping with the transition and helping set this person up for success. There is still a lot of work to do, but it feels that we are at a good spot. There is so much uncertainty when there's turnover. She imagines for staff this has been a hard year for a lot

of reasons. COVID, wildfires, and a change in leadership. She wanted to share her gratitude for the record.

Pishioneri thanked Jennine. It was very kindhearted of her and he appreciated the comments. Kurt with SGR did a great job, very happy with his services. And the attorney jumped in there, she did not exactly know where we were at, and he discovered many times where we were at, was not where we needed to be. But we got there. Merlyn's not going to be off the hook quite that soon. I imagine he will be at the next meeting unless that's news to him. Steve's first day is April 5, on a Monday. He has looked back and read and listened to many of the minutes for many months back, he is really into educating himself as to the track history and the data that is available. Plus, all the Board actions and where people are at, and also the Citizens Advisory Committee. He is really up to snuff in a lot of areas.

The meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

NOTE: April 8, 2021 meeting will be held via Zoom – details to follow

Respectfully submitted,

Debby Wineinger
Recording Secretary