

AGENDA

LRAPA CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) September 29, 2020

Start promptly at noon, adjourn at 1:00 p.m. or earlier

NOTE LOCATION:

The CAC will meet outdoors utilizing face masks and social distancing. *Members and visitors should provide their own masks and chairs*. The outdoor meeting will be held at the Rosboro Company Springfield Facility. Participants will go to Rosboro's main entrance, located at 21st and South A Streets in Springfield. From Main Street in Springfield, turn south on 21st Street, go one block south, crossing South A Street and entering the Rosboro driveway. Stop at the security station for further direction to the meeting location.

ZOOM meeting information if the above location is cancelled.

Join with Video & Audio https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87367239622

Meeting ID: 873 6723 9622

Join with Audio Only

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Meeting ID: 873 6723 9622

- I. Call to Order/Agenda Review (5 minutes 12:00)
- II. Public Participation (5 minutes 12:05)
- III. Board Meeting overview (5 minutes 12:15)
- IV. Discussion of wildfire smoke issues (10 minutes 12:25)
- V. Continued discussion of alternatives to outdoor burning (25 minutes 12:50)
- VI. Round table (10 mins 1:00)
- VII. Adjournment 1:00 p.m.

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LRAPA CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) Meeting Notes





September 29, 2020

Meeting Location:

Rosboro located at 21st and South A Streets in Springfield. The setting was outdoors with social distancing and mask required.

Attending: Jim Daniels (Chair), Kathleen Lamberg (Vice-Chair), Kelly Wood, Jeff Carman, Evelina

Davidova-Kamis, Gery Vander Meer, Jack Carter

Absent: Link Smith, Paul Ruscher, Terry S. Richardson, Link Smith, Shane Ruddell, Steve

Pelkey

Staff: Merlyn Hough, Travis Knudsen

Call to Order: 12:05 PM

Public Participation - None

Board Meeting Overview:

- Wildfire discussion, specifically air shelters
- Lisa Arkin appointed to Budget Committee.
- State funding is stable.
- Director succession update.

Discussion of wildfire smoke issues:

Discussion began with a recap of the 10-day smoke intrusion event that began Labor Day Evening. Merlyn began with a recap of the smoke moving in. He pointed to Airnow.gov as a good website for checking air quality. Purpleair.com is reliable as well and will show more immediate changes to air quality. Travis touched all the public messaging LRAPA provided through media interviews, social media posts, and public interactions.

Travis mentioned that since our air quality has improved LRAPA's focus is now on asbestos abatement and giving information to people impacted by the Holiday Farm fire. Kathy asked how LRAPA got information to people. Travis said a lot of it was in person. LRAPA participated in the Multi-Agency Resource Information Center (MARC) on 9/25 and planned to do so again on 10/2. The information is available on the website as well.

Jack asked about asbestos rules for when a home is destroyed by fire and if the guidance was the same for people affected by the fire. Merlyn said it is, but due to the high number of people affected at the same time there is consideration by DEQ to try and streamline the process – but that has yet to happen.

Kelly mentioned guidelines she saw from OSHA about when employer should halt outdoor work. Her employer, Wildish, did stop operations at the airport but was asked to resume them so FEMA could arrive at the airport for support of Holiday Farm Fire victims. There was confusion if the Purple Air website was better than the Air Now website. Travis said air now is likely better for employers as they are Federal monitors while purple air is commercial. Merlyn described the difference between Purple Air's 10-minute average and LRAPA/AirNow's weighted 24-hour average.

Gery asked if there were any deaths associated with the smoke. Travis said he was not aware of any, but OHA had said there was about a 10% increase in visits to hospitals and clinics by people reporting respiratory complications. Travis described the health threat of PM2.5 and explained why wildfire smoke – for the average healthy person – was a long-term health concern as opposed to a short-term. Gery mention grass seed burning concerns he encountered years ago, saying concern then was for short term not long-term effect. Travis could not speak to grass seed burning, only PM2.5 health consequences.

Evelina asked about the general guidance during smoke events. Travis answered the best practice is to keep all doors and windows closed. Limit outdoor exposure. To put an air purifier or DIY box fan filter in your bedroom, keep it running and keep the door closed. Supplies for such items were limited during the smoke intrusion, so the time to purchase those items is now when supplies are restocked, and smoke is not an issue. Jeffery mentioned to avoid vacuuming inside when the smoke is bad, as many vacuums do not have a HEPA filter and will only reduce indoor air quality further.

Jim mentioned a report he heard existed from U of O students researching cleaner air spaces in the county, he was unsure what happened from that study. Travis said it was a capstone project conducted by grad students from the School of Planning, Public Policy and Management. Travis promised to forward the report to the CAC group.

Jim asked about the emergency shutdown declaration written into every permit he has seen and wondered if LRAPA ever planned to use it. Merlyn said it is an older rule mandated by the EPA to be in the permits. But says it is intended for situations when air quality is caused by mobile emissions and industry emission – which use to contribute significantly more to Air Quality concerns in the past than they do today. In the case of our wildfires, any shutdown of mobile or industrial emission would make no difference on the air quality and unreasonable to do in our most recent situation as the disruption it would cause would not result in any meaningful improvement to our air.

Time was up for the hour and it was decided to get to the other items on the agenda next month.

Roundtable:

No roundtable items were brought up.

Adjourned 1:05 PM