



MINUTES LANE REGIONAL AIR PROTECTION AGENCY BOARD MEETING

October 13, 2022

VIA - ZOOM

ATTENDANCE:

Board: Joe Pishioneri, Chair; Jeannine Parisi, Vice Chair; Terry Fitzpatrick, Chrissy Hollett, Matt Keating, Howard Saxion.

Absent: Joe Berney, Mike Fleck, Jenna Knee

Others: Jim Daniels - CAC Chair, Josh Proudfoot – Good Co., James Bond - Public Participation

Staff: Steve Dietrich, Beth Erickson, Lance Giles, Max Hueftle, Cassandra Jackson, Travis Knudsen, Julie Lindsey, Robbye Robinson, Aaron Speck, Colleen Wagstaff, Debby Wineinger.

1. Call to Order:

Chair Joe Pishioneri called the meeting of the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) Board to order at 12:19 p.m. **Travis Knudsen** took roll for the Board and other attendees. A quorum was present.

2. Adjustments to Agenda-None

3. Public Participation:

James Bond voiced that he was there to talk about LRAPA Rules and Regulations 15.040 which allowed the Board to further investigate a case. The case he was representing was 22-3859. **James Bond** reported that they had filed an appeal and had a complaint filed against them for not responding in time. He asked for the Board to open to take further action or investigate the case again.

Chair Joe Pishioneri thought it wise to take the comments into advisement and consultant their attorney in the best way to respond.

Vice Chair Jeannine Parisi wanted to hear more context on this complaint. **Steve Dietrich** told her that this was an ongoing case that they were briefed on in a previous meeting. He reminded them that the main issue with this case is timing.

Chrissy Hollett arrived at 12:27 p.m.

C. Comments from Board Members-None

ACTION ITEMS

4. Consent Calendar:

- A. Approval of Minutes September 8, 2022, Board of Directors Meeting
- B. Approval of Expense Report September 2022
- C. Approval of Updated Policies Related to Current Laws

MOTION: Howard Saxion moved, seconded by **Terry Fitzpatrick**, to approve consent calendar items A and B as presented. The motion passed unanimously – 6:0.

Vice Chair Jeannine Parisi appreciated all the work that went into the updated policies. She noticed that at EWEB they had annual training on significant policies, including ethics. **Vice Chair Jeannine Parisi** was surprised to see that LRAPA did not have more edits or additions to their ethics policy. She asked if staff was interested in seeing the EWEB policy. **Julie Lindsey** asked her to send it to her. She clarified that the changes in front of them were related to changes in the law and there would be more changes to come.

MOTION: Vice Chair Jeannine Parisi moved, seconded by **Howard Saxion**, to approve consent calendar item C as presented. The motion passed unanimously – 6:0.

REPORTS

5. Oakridge Air Report:

Josh Proudfoot shared the Oakridge Air Program for October 2022. He shared that they had a new Residential Upgrades Coordinator named **Thaddeus Carter**. **Guen DiGioia**, who held the position previously, would continue to serve part time. Oakridge also had two new Air Outreach Coordinators, **Mariah Hull** and **Vanessa Tharp**.

Josh Proudfoot said that EPA had not yet released the Request for Applications for the new Targeted Airshed Grant (TAG) program. There were discussions between them and LRAPA staff to make sure they were prepared to submit once the applications were open.

In response to the Cedar Creek wildfires, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) offered residential air purifiers for Oakridge community members on Medicare or Medicaid with health concerns. Over 200 purifiers had been distributed.

For the Home Heating upgrade statistics, they had an increase in people waiting in the queue. They would be ramping up their services now that **Thaddeus Carter** was onboarded. There

were 64 houses currently in progress. Also, there was an event planned to distribute some of the chimney sweep vouchers.

Josh Proudfoot stated that in the last quarter, the Oakridge Police Department reported some activities beyond routine code enforcement. On July 1, 2022, there was a report of an illegal burn which was put out with a fire extinguisher. On August 2, 2022, there were reports of a few illegal burns. In September three staff were trained and recertified. There was also one illegal burn in September.

The Oakridge High School Woodshed program would continue. The program had up to eight woodsheds being built at a time.

Josh Proudfoot mentioned that they were interested in pursuing new grants for Firewise and fuel reductions. They wanted to help people learn how to create protective spaces around their homes.

Chair Joe Pishioneri asked in the smoke reduction work it did not say that putting the fire out would help reduce smoke. **Travis Knudsen** had taken calls from people in Oakridge and why the fire had not been put out. He could not speak to how the fire was being fought. **Travis Knudsen** did know the focus was on containing the fire to where it was at that point. There was an expectation that when the seasonal rain arrived the smoke would disperse. **Chrissy Hollett** shared that she was working with the State Fire Marshalls Office on a letting with other supporting agencies to get funding so individuals could get into hotels or receive an air purifier. She emphasized that air purifiers were expensive and not easy to distribute. **Chrissy Hollett** asked for any help that other members could give in getting more air purifiers in Oakridge. Vice Chair Parisi pointed out that they were not supposed to get rain for another few weeks and that strategy needed to change.

Chair Joe Pishioneri thought that LRAPA should make some statement about what was happening in Oakridge. They could state that the situation was a health hazard. **Matt Keating** wanted to make sure they communicated with their elected officials in the correct tone. He knew that **Senator Wyden** was in town the previous day and no doubt knew how bad the severity of the situation. **Chrissy Hollett** agreed that LRAPA was the voice of air quality in the region. She hoped that the group could put together a letter that she could attach to her own.

6. Dashboard Report:

Steve Dietrich reminded everyone that every six months they went over the National Ambient Air Quality (NAAQ) Health Standards and how LRAPA was doing at meeting them.

Their first goal was to review the revised national ambient air quality standards for ozone, assess the status of airsheds in Lane County, and identify next steps. **Steve Dietrich** stated that the current ozone levels at Saginaw and Amazon Park were well below the 70 ppb EPA ozone standard.

The second and third goals were to maintain compliance with the annual PM air quality health standard and the 24-hour PM standards in Eugene/Springfield, Cottage Grove, and Oakridge.

Steve Dietrich reported that EPA was reconsidering the annual PM NAAQs. They were meeting the current standards.

They also had to go over the Air Toxics and Cleaner Air Oregon goals.

The first goal was to continue to develop and implement programs, rules, and fee structures for area source National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP). **Steve Dietrich** mentioned that revised NESHAPs were included in permits at renewal or sooner when necessary.

The second goal was to continue to perform long term trend air toxics monitoring at the West Eugene site and use current state funding to operate a rotating site. **Steve Dietrich** said that currently they had two monitoring sites, one in West Eugene and another one in Oakridge.

The third goal was to implement the Cleaner Air Oregon program. **Steve Dietrich** stated that they had been able to make good progress on the program. Five facilities so far had joined the program.

For Airmetrics **Steve Dietrich** reported that they were working on revising the business plan. It would hopefully be available at the November 10, 2022, Board meeting. They wanted to license the current air samplers and expand the product line to meet demand.

Next were goals for the agency administration.

The first goal was to update LRAPA strategic priorities annually. **Steve Dietrich** said that they were recently updated with some successes and would be presented to the Board every six months.

The second goal was to provide timely permits, inspections, and construction reviews. LRAPA was on track to reduce the administratively extended Title V permits by the end of the year. Two more renewals were planned. LRAPA was also on track to meet all EPA inspection commitments.

The third goal was to improve compliance inspection, reporting, and tracking. **Steve Dietrich** shared that they had been working with LCOG to add Facility Inspections in LINFO in 2021 and had now moved into phase 1 (testing for the new Complaints Module). Phase 2 would include RLID functionality.

The fourth goal was to maintain industrial source LRAPA rules. In April 2022, LRAPA were intended to correct some definition terms in the rules which would allow EPA to approve the delegation request from LRAPA. EPA approved the delegation request on June 22, 2022. More comprehensive rules changes to adopt rules from DEQ would need to be adopted. **Steve Dietrich** reported that they would start developing those rules in 2023.

The fifth goal was to maintain financial stability and visibility of LRAPA and develop a multi-year budget projection annually. **Steve Dietrich** said that the 5-year financial forecast had been updated and would be presented to the Board in January.

The sixth goal was to maintain a full staffing complement for LRAPA. They had on vacancy in administration which should be filled in November.

The last goal was to keep financial reserves at 120 calendar days minimum. LRAPA was keeping that reserve in line. **Steve Dietrich** stated that staff was monitoring funding for the Title V program due to reduced sources and the current fee structure not keeping up with the increased costs of the program.

7. Advisory Committee:

Jim Daniels, Chair of the LRAPA Citizen Advisory Committee, shared that they continued to work on the survey. They took Board comments into consideration and kept some questions so data could continue to be tracked. For question four, they wanted to put the word “regulatory” before fees, so it was less confusing.

Chair Joe Pishioneri asked if instead of “how could LRAPA improve its processes” they should just ask if there were any ways for LRAPA to improve in any way.

The Board agreed that the LRAPA CAC could move forward with the survey.

Vice Chair Jeannine Parisi stated that they wanted to be more mindful of how the LRAPA CAC was functioning. She asked if there were plans to create a work plan for 2023 and if there was any way the Board could support them. **Jim Daniels** responded that their mandate was to work on projects the Board suggested. They were comfortable with continuing how they work and taking projects as they came down from the Board. **Steve Dietrich** noted that some projects they wanted to discuss in work sessions could be delegated to the CAC.

8. Director’s Report of Agency Activities for the Month of September 2022:

Steve Dietrich shared the air quality data for September. They had 29 days above the air quality standards and were in a serious situation. This data will help back up the letter that they would be writing.

The new LRAPA website was launched on September 15, 2022. They were still making some adjustments to the website. They were asking users to submit feedback to help improve the site.

At the November LRAPA BOD meeting they would talk about the IGA partners for fiscal year 2024 and the Airmetrics business plan. In January they were looking to find a topic for the first work session.

9. Old Business: none

10. New Business:

Steve Dietrich stated that there was a new financial system upgrade for the Board to review. They would have a new payroll module available with the upgrade. An update was necessary because the current policy did not reflect the new technology and system. Meal and rest periods,

PTO, vacation, payroll policies, workers compensation would be included in the system. This would make it easier for staff to navigate those areas.

Mary Bridget Smith was still working on the review of the system. They would update the Board on any changes she makes going forward.

Vice Chair Jeannine Parisi asked if there would be a telecommuting policy, whether in this system update or another. **Julie Lindsey** replied that they had a few policies already written up for telecommuting that would come to the Board later. It was not related to payroll so it would not be included in this system.

11. Adjournment:

Chair Joe Pishioneri adjourned the meeting at 1:46 p.m.

(Minutes recorded by Lydia Dysart)