

OLYMPIC REGION CLEAN AIR AGENCY
2940 Limited Lane NW
Olympia, Washington 98502

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – Hybrid via Zoom
April 10, 2024

A video recording of this meeting is available at:
<https://www.youtube.com/ORCAA>
Files discussed at this meeting are available at:
<http://board.orcaa.org/>

Members present: Jim Cooper, City of Olympia (Chair)
Greg Brotherton, Jefferson County (Vice Chair)
Randy Neatherlin, Mason County
Jill Warne, Grays Harbor County
Dave Tobin, Pacific County
Emily Clouse, Thurston County
Michael Steadman, City of Lacey (via Zoom)
Mike French, Clallam County (via Zoom)

Members absent: Joan Cathey, City of Tumwater

Legal Counsel: Jeff Myers, Jakub Kocztorz, and Matthew Sonneby (via Zoom) of Law,
Lyman, Daniel, Kamerrer and Bogdanovich

Staff Present: Jeff Johnston, Ph.D., Executive Director; Mike Shults, Compliance Manager;
Lauren Whybrew, Engineer; Abi Roberts, Engineer (via Zoom); Odelle
Hadley, Ph.D., Senior Monitoring Specialist; Dan Nelson, Communications
Manager (via Zoom); Lynn Harding, Financial Services Manager; Laura
Crawford, Financial Specialist; and Debbie Moody, Office Manager/Public
Records Officer

Cooper called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and asked for roll call. Johnston introduced Laura Crawford, Financial Specialist. Myers introduced Jakub Kocztorz as a new associate. Cooper thanked staff for the new board room.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (3:36)

Cooper asked for approval of the agenda. Brotherton moved approval, the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

CHAIR REPORT (4:00)

Annual Meeting – Election of Officers (Chair/Vice Chair)

Cooper opened nominations for ORCAA Board. Neatherlin nominated Cooper. There were no further nominations. Cooper called for the question; Cooper remains as Chair (unanimous).

Cooper opened nominations for ORCAA Board Vice Chair. Warne nominated Brotherton. There were no further nominations. Cooper called the question; ~~Brother~~ Brotherton remains as Vice Chair (unanimous).

Cooper moved on to Public Comment, however apologized he missed the Finance Committee

update. Brotherton gave a brief update on the Finance Committee meeting, noting our current budget is on track and the draft FY25 budget and the committee had minor recommendations and the draft will be brought before the board in May.

PUBLIC COMMENT (7:52)

There was no public present.

CONSENT AGENDA (8:00)

Cooper asked approval of the Consent Agenda. Tobin moved approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

Rule 4.1 – Gasoline Facility Exemption (8:22)

Shults noted we have gone over this rule previously and while there may be a slight drop (\$7k) in the budget, the workload will also decrease. We did receive 2 comments, one for the rule change and one against the change (both included in Board packets). Staff is asking approval of the rule change.

Brotherton asked for a response to the comment against the rule change. Shults noted all stations below the de minimis threshold still must follow the rules, they just won't be paying registration fees, and we won't be doing routine inspections. Shults added, this doesn't mean we can't stop by and check on them from time to time.

Cooper opened the public hearing at 10:18am. There was no public comment. Cooper closed the public hearing at 10:19am and opened the floor up for discussion.

Neatherlin was supportive as long as staff considers periodic inspections to ensure they are following the rules. Shults reiterated ORCAA's intention to periodically stop by to inspect the newly exempt facilities.

Cooper noted there was general consensus around the room and requested a motion. Neatherlin moved the approval. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 284-AQ Awareness Week 2024 (16:57)

Nelson noted this is an annual resolution related to EPA's AQ Awareness Week each year.

Brotherton noted he would like to see more information on indoor health as well. Nelson and Johnston noted that is under the Board of Health. Cooper asked if there was any significance in the timing of the campaign. Nelson noted it takes place in May which in much of the country is the start of ozone season.

Tobin moved to approve Resolution 284. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Updating ORCAA's Penalty Matrices (asbestos and demolition) 2 of 3 (21:53)

Shults went over the updates and explained the reasons for the changes on the Asbestos and Demolition/Renovation matrices. Shults noted the asbestos worksheet focused more on public and environmental health impacts.

Brotherton asked if the Benefit component is an add on. Shults stated it is, for instance if they decide a penalty is not as expensive as following the rules to save money; we can add on the cost they avoided. Neatherlin asked if we allow settlements. Shults stated we definitely allow recipients of NOV's to request mitigation or remission. Shults noted they can also request a hearing before the Pollution Control Hearings Board. Johnston noted we regularly mitigate penalties.

Shults went over the Demolition/Renovation form. Shults noted the demolition matrix does not go to the highest amount because the asbestos violations are where the health hazards occur. Demolition/renovation violations are primarily administrative.

Brotherton moved approval of the matrices and direct staff to begin using them. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Johnston asked if the Board would be interested in a presentation on why we care about asbestos. The Board noted they were interested in a presentation.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Compliance Manager Update (41:45)

Shults noted we are hoping to have a new Inspector Supervisor in May, in the meantime we have Rob Wyland taking on additional duties.

Shults briefly went over the reports, noting we are spending a lot of staff time on PNWRE and hope to move forward on the permit soon. We have a couple of sources (AGP and Weyerhaeuser) out for public comment with hearings scheduled. Shults noted if there were any questions on the report, he is happy to answer them.

Shults gave a brief history on Silver Springs Organics in preparation for the Board tour later this afternoon.

Whybrew went over a PowerPoint (included in the Compliance Board report) regarding Silver Springs Organics permit limitations and how they compost, as well as the emissions.

Senior Air Monitoring Specialist Update (1:02:39)

Hadley went over the March air quality data, noting Port Angeles only has 11 days of validated data due to quality check failure.

Other monitoring activities were highlighted by Hadley.

Communications Manager Update (1:08:31)

Nelson noted EPA shared they have grants for electric school buses – we will share the information from EPA. Nelson noted we had two home shows last month and have one in April and another in May. Nelson will be participating in Wildfire Smoke & Extreme Health training in Jefferson County.

Nelson will be meeting with the HOA near Crown Cork & Seal and will be explaining what Crown Cork & Seal does and what ORCAA does as well.

We are working with EPA regarding personal air sensors (PurpleAir). EPA has a loan program and is leading an effort working with libraries. We are looking forward to working on this program.

Nelson noted the wood smoke program continues. It was noted, even though we had a late start, we expect to be through our funds prior to the end of the cycle.

Financial Services Manager Update (1:15:30)

Harding thanked the Board and Director for allowing us to hire a Financial Specialist. Harding noted we are fully rented and have not heard of any potential vacancies. Harding stated staff will be presenting a draft budget to the Board in May.

Harding noted ORCAA's Wellness committee works with staff to promote healthy habits and is an important part of our work.

Executive Director Update (1:18:18)

Johnston, we now have our new Financial Specialist and Tiffany Flores is returning as our Records Specialist next week. Our newest engineer, Abi Roberts, has jumped in and is doing great work with Whybrew on Emissions Inventory, as well as getting through the First Contacts.

Johnston noted zoning is important to ORCAA because a lot of our complaints come from incompatible placement of business vs homes and how it might impact air quality. Johnston asked that counties and cities keep ORCAA in mind during that phase of the processes. Clouse asked if there was any type of zoning in particular. Johnston noted it is important where industrial zones are being placed near or in residential areas. Shults noted any time industrial encroaches on residential it may have an impact on us. Clouse noted there is a development in Tumwater, and she stated she made a note to invite ORCAA to that meeting.

Cooper suggestion a letter from Johnston to the mayors/commissions.

Johnston explained ORCAA doesn't regulate mobile sources, however he noted EPA has rolled out new regulations on mobile sources which will significantly reduce emissions of criteria and climate pollutants in the coming years.

Johnston briefly went over his performance measures which had been finalized last June. Cooper noted we will plan an Executive Session at the May meeting to discuss Johnston's performance measures.

GOOD OF THE ORDER (1:32:48)

Cooper asked if there was a good of the order. Myers noted with regards to the permit issuance case, the Advocates for a Cleaner Tacoma (ACT) did file an appeal to the State Supreme Court, so the case is still alive. It will likely be a couple of months before the Supreme Court will respond.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (per RCW 42.30.110)

There was no Executive Session.


ADJOURNMENT (01:35:22)

Cooper adjourned the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the ORCAA Board of Directors held on April 10, 2024, in Olympia, Washington.

ATTEST:



Jeff C. Johnston, Ph.D., Executive Director
Olympic Region Clean Air Agency

Jim Cooper, Chair
ORCAA Board of Directors

DATED: 5/8/2024