

VENTURA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
August 25, 2020
MINUTES

Chair Sara Head convened the meeting at approximately 7:35 p.m.

I. Director's Report

Dr. Laki Tisopulos, Air Pollution Control Officer, started off thanking committee members for making themselves available to participate remotely and hoped all were well, that everyone's families were healthy during these times. Dr. Tisopulos shared that VCAPCD was celebrating his first year as Director, and there were no dull moments while having to deal with the Coronavirus. Staff was able to prepare a plan to allow staff to continue District operations from home, which allowed for rapid transition once the shelter in place orders were given by the Governor. During this time, 15-20% of the District's workforce continued to work at the office, who's duties were unable to be completed remotely. For many employees at the District, Covid-19 has required updated procedures to deal as best we can. Starting in mid-July the office has been open by appointment only.

Recently a few articles have been published in the VC Star, most recently one about the SMOG alert issued due to the fires north of us impacting our air pollution here and the efficacy of different types of masks in protection from ash vs. virus transmission. The second article, published on August 25, 2020, focused on litigation against the U.S. EPA for approving the 2016 AQMD approval. The litigation is centered around the contingency plan for the 2008, 75 ppb ozone standard where VCAPCD proposed to amend Rule 74.2 if the 75-ppb standard is not met by the end of this year.

The District has also been much more aggressive in pursuing state and federal funds. One bright spot has been securing funding to continue implementation of the Vessel Speed Reduction (VSR) Program, one of the most effective emission reductions programs at the District. In addition to these grant funds being pursued, the District is proposing to amend multiple fee rules which the Advisory Committee will review this evening to increase District revenue. Expenditures are significant, in part due to the new building the District purchased and plans to move to at the end of this year. The other expenditure has been upgrading equipment and software which will allow the District to modernize operations.

Dr. Tisopulos explained how the District intended to amend Rule 42, Permit Fees, and Rule 45.2, Asbestos Removal Fees earlier this year but due to Covid-19 had to delay development. The amendments being presented this evening would have a delayed implementation of July 1, 2021 but are very important to a District striving for fiscal responsibly.

II. Call to Order

Chair Sara Head called the meeting to order at approximately 7:46 p.m.

III. Roll Call

Present

Michael Hughes
Richard Nick
Randy Chapman
Andy Sobel
Sara Head

Joan Burns
Kim Lim
Donald Bird
Edward Carloni
Hugh McTernan

Absent

Jay Berger
Thomas Lucas
Paul Meehan
Stephen Frank

Ronald Fazzolare
Alice Sterling
Steve Colome (Excused)

Staff

Laki Tisopulos
Keith Macias
Danny McQuillan

Ali Ghasemi
Tyler Harris
Alan Ballard

Public

None

Representing

IV. Minutes

Ed Carloni moved to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2019 Advisory Committee Meeting. Richard Nick seconded the motion. The Committee voted 10 yes, 0 no, with 0 abstentions.

V. Committee Comment

There were no Committee comments.

VI. Public Comment

There were no public members present.

VII. Officer Elections

Sara Head, the current Committee Chair, shared she was willing to serve again as chair, if the committee decided so. Randy Chapman moved to elect Sara Head as Chair and it was seconded by Hugh McTernan. The Committee voted unanimously to reelect Sara Head as Chair.

Paul Meehan, current Vice-Chair, though not present was nominated to serve as Vice-Chair again by Joan Burns which was seconded by Richard Nick. The Committee voted unanimously to reelect Mr. Meehan as Vice-Chair.

VIII. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

IX. New Business

Proposed Amendments to Rule 42 Permit Fees, Rule 45.2 Asbestos Removal Fees, and Rule 128 Compensation - Hearing Board Member

Mr. Ghasemi provided an overview of the proposal to amend Rule 42 and a brief PowerPoint presentation (see attached slides). Mr. Ghasemi explained how District has reduced expenses to continue to keep permitting costs low. The proposed changes would increase permit renewal fees in Rule 42 (Section H) by 3 percent, effective July 1, 2021, which is below the CPI of 3.34 percent. This would increase the minimum annual renewal fee for most sources by \$19. Proposed changes would increase the Districts revenue by approximately \$62,000. Rule 45.2 has not been amended since 1992, which is used to charge fees for implementation of Rule 62.7 and NESHAPS for asbestos removal. The fees are proposed to be increased to comparable to, or less than neighboring Districts to a level that covers District resources. Rule 128 has not been amended since 2001 and is proposed to be increased from \$75 to \$150 to provide compensation for the time provided by hearing board members.

There was discussion about Rule 45.2 implementing an application fee, applicable for demolition and renovation projects that contain zero asbestos containing material (ACM). This was confirmed by staff that is the intent and this application fee is similar with other districts. There was discussion about how this fee schedule would impact a school district that has to remove a few panels of ACM, staff confirmed that these fees would apply to school districts as there was no exemption for them.

The proposal to amend Rules 42, 45.2, and 128 was moved by Michael Hughes and seconded by Andy Sobel. The Committee approved the proposed amendments with 9 votes in favor and Hugh McTernan voting against due to no exemptions existing for school districts. There were no abstentions.

X. Adjournment

There was discussion about moving the start time of the September 22, 2020 Advisory Committee to 6:00 P.M. An adjusted start time of 6:00 p.m. for the September 22, 2020 meeting was moved by Richard Nick and seconded by Ed Carloni. The Committee approved the motion with 10 votes in favor and zero votes against. There were no abstentions.

Having no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m.

Prepared by:

Danny McQuillan
Air Pollution Control District Staff

Attachment 1: Rules 42, 45.2, and 128 Proposal PowerPoint Slides

Advisory Committee – Attendance & Voting Record

Date: August 25, 2020

Member	Attendance *	Approval of September 24, 2019 minutes			Officer elections Sara Head as Chair		
		Moved	Second	Vote**	Moved	Second	Vote**
Michael Hughes	P			Y			Y
Joan Burns	P			Y			Y
Richard Nick	P		X	Y			Y
Jay Berger	N			-			-
Ronald Fazzolare	N			-			-
Thomas Lucas	N			-			-
Kim Lim	P			Y			Y
Randy Chapman	P			Y	X		Y
Donald Bird	P			Y			Y
Andy Sobel	P			Y			Y
Alice Sterling	N			-			-
Edward Carloni	P	X		Y			Y
Paul Meehan	N			-			-
Steve Colome	N			-			-
Sara Head	P			Y			Y
Hugh McTernan	P			Y		X	Y
Stephen Frank	N			-			-

Ventura County Air Pollution Control District

Advisory Committee – Attendance & Voting Record

Date: August 25, 2020

Member	Attendance*	Officer elections Paul Meehan as Vice Chair			Approve proposed amendments		
		Moved	Second	Vote**	Moved	Second	Vote**
Michael Hughes	P			Y	X		Y
Joan Burns	P	X		Y			Y
Richard Nick	P		X	Y			Y
Jay Berger	N			-			-
Ronald Fazzolare	N			-			-
Thomas Lucas	N			-			-
Kim Lim	P			Y			Y
Randy Chapman	P			Y			Y
Donald Bird	P			Y			Y
Andy Sobel	P			Y		X	Y
Alice Sterling	N			-			-
Edward Carloni	P			Y			Y
Paul Meehan	N			-			-
Steve Colome	N			-			-
Sara Head	P			Y			Y
Hugh McTernan	P			Y			N
Stephen Frank	N			-			-

Ventura County Air Pollution Control District

Advisory Committee – Attendance & Voting Record

Date: August 25, 2020

	Attendance *	Move to start at 6 pm					
Member		Moved	Second	Vote**	Moved	Second	Vote**
Michael Hughes				Y			
Joan Burns				Y			
Richard Nick		X		Y			
Jay Berger				-			
Ronald Fazzolare				-			
Thomas Lucas				-			
Kim Lim				Y			
Randy Chapman				Y			
Donald Bird				Y			
Andy Sobel				Y			
Alice Sterling				-			
Edward Carloni			X	Y			
Paul Meehan				-			
Steve Colome				-			
Sara Head				Y			
Hugh McTernan				Y			
Stephen Frank				-			