

Clean Air Fund Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

April 15, 2021

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:18 p.m. by Mike Stubblefield.
- II. Approve summary of the June 18, 2020, meeting: Mr. Stubblefield moved and Mr. Bullard seconded approval. The Committee approved the summary unanimously.
- III. Public Comment: Ms. Jan Deitrick shared that she would like to share her support for the Ventura project but would like to hear the proposals before commenting. Committee members shared those public comments can be shared after each proposal later in the meeting.

IV. Staff Report:

Laki Tisopulos: Mr. Tisopulos thanked the committee for sharing their time in evaluating the proposals. He shared that the VCAPCD has finally moved to the new building, and that future meetings will hopefully be held at the new office where we can share the location with the committee.

Fund Update: The current permanent endowment fund balance is \$638,314 (April 15, 2021), and the amount available for distribution in the next fiscal year is \$32,838. All projects recommended for funding at the last CAFAC meeting have been executed and implemented. Mr. King requested amending the operations of the committee to increase funding from 5% to something greater, possible 5% per quarter, to fund bigger projects moving forward. Mr. McQuillan shared he would review the bylaws to see what was possible and would report back to the committee at the next scheduled meeting along with a review of the funds.

V. Old Business:

No old business.

VI. New Business:

1. Election of CAFAC Chair and Vice Chair:

There was a motion to elect Kent Bullard made by Mr. Merkord and Mr. Rubin seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously approved the election of Mr. Bullard as the Chair. A motion was made to reelect Ron Merkord as the new Vice-Chair by Mr. Rubin and Ms. Rivers seconded the nomination. The Committee unanimously approved the election of Mr. Merkord as the new Vice-Chair.

2. Grant Proposals:

Lake Casitas Rowing Association: Ms. Powers presented the LCRA project which would repower a coaching boat with a battery electric motor. The grant funds requested would be

to fund the motor, inverter, and battery which would be matched through the LCRA funding the purchase and installation of a charging system on a dock which utilizes solar power. The project would remove a four-stroke gasoline combustion engine from the Ojai Valley contributing towards reduced ozone levels in the area.

City of Ventura: Ms. Kessler presented the proposal to create a blower exchange program for residents and businesses in the City of Ventura. The project would allow residents and businesses of Ventura to turn in their old equipment to a partnered vendor in exchange for a discounted battery electric blower. The funding requested would 100% be used for discounted sales while administrative overhead would be covered by the City of Ventura and volunteers.

California State University Channel Islands: Ms. Beigel-Coryell presented the proposal to electrify a riding mower with autonomous battery electric lawn mowers. Campus policy requires old mowers be auctioned off, but these funds would accelerate the retirement of these units.

Ms. Rivers motioned \$10,000 be set aside for the City of Ventura pending the CAFAC approval at a later date pending an updated proposal that addresses some concerns. The motion was not seconded but the committee agreed to discuss the terms of such a motion later in the meeting.

Ms. Deitrick commented her support for the City of Ventura proposal, on behalf of the Climate Hub. She mentioned a pilot project has the ability to not only provide a service to replace equipment but also educations for the residents of the benefits of electric landscaping equipment.

Concerning CSUCI, committee members commented and expressed concern about the loss of jobs that would be associated with autonomous mowers. If the project proposal was modified to not reduce jobs the committee would be willing to reconsider.

Concerning the City of Ventura, the committee agreed that vouchers would be the best way to implement the program but the proposal needed to be refined. Committee members discussed if this project is successful, funding could be increased in the future.

Concerning LCRA, the committee agreed it would be a new technology demonstration. There was some concerned expressed about those who would benefit from this project, which is primarily affluent community members and the minimal benefits to the air quality as this project would only reduce about 3 gallons of gasoline used a week.

Mr. Merkord motioned to fund the LCRA project as presented for up to \$15,000 and Ms. Rivers seconded the motion. The committee voted 8-1 in favor of the project, with Mr. Rubin opposing. Mr. Rubin shared that the cost-benefit was not that great and it does not help any of the disadvantaged population. In light of the comments shared by Mr. Rubin, Mr. Logan changed his vote to no as well. The motion passed with 7 voting for, and 2 against.

Mr. Merkord motioned to tentatively fund the city of Ventura up to \$10,00 for the blower replacement program, pending an amended project proposal that integrated: rebates covering only up to 50% of the equipment cost, retired equipment is retired and destroyed, vouchers are used to track funds spent, and Mrs. Rivers seconded the motion. The Committee voted in favor 8-0-1, with one abstention by Mr. King.

Mr. Bullard motioned to not fund CSUCI's project as written, but if the project was amended to replace the equipment with battery powered riding mowers the committee would reconsider funding. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion and the committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

VII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.
Prepared by: Danny McQuillan, Air Pollution Control District Staff

Member	Attendance	Approval of Minutes			Chair Kent Bullard		
		Moved	Second	Vote	Moved	Second	Vote
Bullard	Y		X	Y			Y
Sell	Y			Y			Y
King	Y			Y			Y
Kromka	Y			Y			Y
Logan	Y			Y			Y
Meeker	E			-			-
Merkord	Y			Y	X		Y
Rivers	Y			A			Y
Anderson	E			-			-
Stublefield	Y	X		Y			A
Fagan	E			-			-
Rubin	Y			Y		X	Y

Member	Attendance	Vice-Chair Ron Merkord			Recommend LCRA \$15,000		
		Moved	Second	Vote	Moved	Second	Vote
Bullard	Y			Y			Y
Sell	Y			Y			Y
King	Y			Y			Y
Kromka	Y			Y			Y
Logan	Y			Y			N
Meeker	E			-			-
Merkord	Y			Y	X		Y
Rivers	Y		X	Y		X	Y
Anderson	E			-			-
Stubblefield	Y			A			Y
Fagan	E			-			-
Rubin	Y	X		Y			N

Member	Attendance	Recommend Ventura \$10,000 pending amended proposal			Motion to not fund CSUCI but encourage resubmission		
		Moved	Second	Vote	Moved	Second	Vote
Bullard	Y			Y	X		Y
Sell	N			Y			Y
King	Y			A			Y
Kromka	N			Y			Y
Logan	Y			Y			Y
Meecker	Y			-			-
Merkord	Y	X		Y			Y
Rivers	N		X	Y			Y
Anderson	E			-		X	-
Stubblefield	Y			Y			Y
Fagan	Y			-			-
Rubin	Y			Y			Y

APCD Staff:

Laki Tisopulos
 Ali Ghasemi
 Tyler Harris
 Danny McQuillan
 Miles Bergeson

Guests:

Paula Powers
 Simon Chatwin
 Tom Martin
 Kristen Kessler
 Roxane Beigel-Coryell
 Jan Deitrick