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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Northwest Clean Air Agency was held at 1:30 p.m., Thursday, March 11, 2010, at 1600 South Second Street, Mount Vernon, Washington.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Skagit County	Ron Wesen
Island County	No one present
Whatcom County	David Webster Carl Weimer
Member-At-Large	Terry Nyman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Cathy Rosen, Joe Lindquist, Angie Homola

ALSO PRESENT:

NWCAA Staff Members	Mark Asmundson, Mark Buford, Rebecca Brown, Julie O'Shaughnessy, Erica Shuhler, Gail King, Margarita Smith
Advisory Council	Anne David
Legal Counsel	Simi Jain for Loch Clark

CALL TO ORDER

Terry Nyman, Board Secretary, called the meeting to order at 1:50 p.m., when a quorum of Board members was present.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

On motion by David Webster, seconded by Ron Wesen, the minutes of the February 11, 2010 Board meeting were approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Asmundson officially notified the Board to possibly expect a request for Board review of an information request denial given to Aaron Clark of the Bloomberg News in February 2010. When an official request for review is received, the Board must respond within two days. Asmundson provided a copy of a similar denial of a request by Clark to disclose confidential refinery information in April 2009. Clark did not request Board review in 2009.

Liz Daly of BP Cherry Point Refinery asked to make a statement about the disclosure of confidential refinery information. She commented that different information sources try to acquire turnaround and malfunction information at refineries so as to facilitate particular moves for accelerated commercial gain. It is important that this information remain confidential. The refineries, however, are required to submit this information to NWCAA.

PRESENTATIONS

Diesel Retrofit Program – Rebecca Brown

Brown presented an overview of the Diesel Retrofit Program since its inception in 2003 when the Washington State Legislature set aside \$5 million/year for 5 years. Between 2003 and 2007 the NWCAA received \$1.2 million to reduce diesel exhaust emissions in our three-county jurisdiction.

Diesel emissions emitted in vehicle exhaust are a major hazardous air pollutant. These emissions consist of particulate matter (pm_{2.5}), 40 cancer-causing chemicals, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Health impacts are well documented, including respiratory impacts and its potential of being a carcinogen.

Brown described 4 different types of devices to reduce diesel emissions from moving vehicles. The closed crankcase ventilation (CCV) devices reduce emissions inside the cab, and the Diesel Oxidation Catalyst (DOC) is used for older buses, those from 1982-2000. The Diesel Multi-Stage Filters (DMF) are used in newer buses of 2001-2006, with 50-70% reduction in emissions, and Diesel Particulate Filters are used in transit buses.

The Agency began by retrofitting school buses and achieved 100% participation of public and private school buses in our jurisdiction. A total of 558 buses were retrofitted. Results show a reduction of 11 tons/year of CO and a significant reduction in particulates. These efforts will improve life span and have future impacts on health related costs.

The NWCAA is now accepting applications for municipal fleets and hopes to provide retrofits for the construction industry in the future. Under review is a request to fund a diesel particle filter cleaner for the Whatcom and Skagit Transit buses. These filters are fragile for mailing and need to be serviced frequently.

Asmundson praised Brown for her persistent and effective efforts to secure 100% participation by local school districts and thus improve our air quality.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 428 – Amend Provisions of the NWCAA Money Purchase Pension Plan & Trust – Mark Asmundson/Scott Allison

Asmundson presented Resolution 428 to amend the NWCAA Money Purchase Pension Plan & Trust (MPPPT) to keep it current with changes in pension law and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations. There are no changes to the amount paid in by the Agency or employees. Motion to approve Resolution 428 made by Carl Weimer, seconded by David Webster, was approved unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

Director's Report – Mark Asmundson

Asmundson reported to the Board on the following matters:

- The regular, ongoing business of the Agency has gone well.
- In this legislative session several bills of interest to us are moving forward. These include: S HB 2481 which would authorize DNR to contract for the removal of biomass from State forests (forest slash) has passed both houses; S HB 2545 which would modify State GHG reporting requirements to more closely align the State requirements with the requirements of the Federal Government has passed both houses; and HB 3181 which would increase the tax on hazardous substances three fold and expand the eligible uses of the MTCA like account into which these taxes are deposited. This bill passed in the House, but the bill did not pass in the Senate. The House also rolled all of the substantive provisions into HB 3204. As it is likely that there will be a special session, the formerly dead bills may come back to life.
- There is a position on the Advisory Council which will open up in May. Satpal Sidhu, who has served in that position for many years, has been unable to attend for more than one year due to a change in his work location. This is not a 'designated' position other than being a Whatcom County position.

Laurie Caskey-Schreiber, who formerly served on the NWCAA Board, has submitted an application to fill this position when it becomes vacant in May. The Advisory Council considered her interest to serve and is enthusiastic in their support of her application to serve on the Council.

Asmundson requested that the Board take action on this appointment to the Advisory Council by simple motion. Motion to appoint Laurie Caskey-Schreiber to the Advisory Council beginning May 2010 made by Carl Weimer, seconded by Ron Wesen, was approved unanimously.

- At our last meeting Asmundson reported on the expected EPA Greenhouse Gas Rule which will be issued at the end of March. As presently estimated, within 1-½ years, all air permitting agencies will be addressing GHG's in the permitting process. It is not certain at this time whether the rule will be issued as there is some movement in Congress to strip EPA of authority to regulate greenhouse gasses. We shall see.

- Our agency work continues as a convener of various interested groups and organizations concerning climate change. We have a tentative time block (June 1-3) for our first half-day session which will be a formal outreach effort. The agenda for this meeting is being finalized and speakers being arranged at this time.
- We are busy preparing the FY 2011 draft budget for consideration by the Advisory Council and the Finance Committee in April. The Finance Committee meeting will take place at the NWCAA office on April 8th at noon.
- We have selected the software for the new accounting system, and it should be implemented this spring and early summer. Thanks to Scott Allison for getting to this matter. It should increase our efficiency, vastly improve management knowledge of current financial information, and serve as an excellent long-term investment.
- Finally, and happily, none of our employees' cars were stolen from the agency parking lot in the last month.

New Source Review & Air Operating Permit (AOP) Update – Mark Buford

Permit Actions – None

Ongoing OAC Projects - 7

- Shell Puget Sound Refinery (4) – Changes to existing OAC for AOP cleanup
- Socco, Inc. – Installation of Wood Fired Boiler, Two New Lumber Kilns Incomplete Application
- Farm Power Rexville – Modify OAC
- McEvoy Oil Company – Gasoline Station Modification

New Applications Received – 3

- Fred Meyer Fuel Stop #24 – New gasoline station
- Fred Meyer Fuel Stop #25 – New gasoline station
- Port of Anacortes – Loading of prilled sulfur

Air Operating Permit - 11

- Chemco – Initial permit underway
- BP Cherry Point Refinery (Blaine) – Renewal underway
- ConocoPhillips Refinery (Ferndale) – Renewal underway
- PSR Shell (Anacortes) – Renewal underway
- Sierra Pacific – Initial permit underway
- Tenaska – Administrative Amendment
- PSE – Encogen – Renewal underway
- PSE – Whitehorn – Renewal underway
- PSE – Fredonia – Renewal underway
- PSE – Sumas – Initial Permit underway
- Fibrex Corporation (Burlington) – Initial permit underway

MISCELLANEOUS

Approval of Bills and Claims

On motion by David Webster, seconded by Ron Wesen, the Board approved Bills and Claims for February 2010.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, April 8, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Terry Nyman adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the NWCAA Board of Directors held on March 11, 2010, in Mount Vernon, Washington.

ATTEST: _____
Terryl Nyman, Secretary
NWCAA Board of Directors

Cathy Rosen, Chair
NWCAA Board of Directors

DATED: April 8, 2010