



1610 S. Technology Blvd., Suite 101
Spokane, WA 99224

SpokaneCleanAir.org

**SPOKANE REGIONAL CLEAN AIR AGENCY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

July 7, 2022 9:30 a.m.

Spokane Clean Air in Person and Remotely

BOARD MEMBERS:

Al French, County Commissioner (Chair)
Jim Simon, City of Spokane Representative (Remote)
Tom Brattebo, Member at Large
Kevin Freeman, Mayor of Millwood, Small
Cities & Towns Representative (VC) (Remote)
Rod Higgins, City of Spokane Valley

STAFF MEMBERS:

Scott Windsor, Executive Director
Michelle Zernick, Finance & HR Section Mgr.
April Westby, PE, Supervisory Engineer
Lori Rodriguez, Compliance Section Manager
Lisa Woodard, Communication/Outreach Sect. Mgr.
Mark Rowe, Monitoring Section Manager
Margee Chambers, Rule Writer/SIP Planner

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michelle Fossum, Legal Counsel

WORK SESSION: 9:32 a.m.

1. Prevent Non-Attainment (PNA) Grant Update – Lisa presented a PowerPoint presentation of the grant. PNA grant is a community engagement, citizen-science project. Two distinct components of this grant are 1) PurpleAir sensors (PAs) for all library branches (City and County) and PurpleAir sensors for eight pilot schools, including air quality-related curricula/activities that tie-in with the PAs. PAs are handheld sensors that use laser counters and draw in air through a fan and the air bypasses lasers every five seconds over the course of a 120 seconds they take readings of particle counts; 2) Community education/awareness campaign on fine particle pollution (What is it, how it affects health, where it comes from, what you can do).

Component 1 – Now through May 2023. PurpleAir Sensors for all library branches (City and County), digital display/data dashboard for DT library – PurpleAir Sensors for up to eight pilot schools – Each school and library branch get two sensors (for indoors and outdoors) – Schools identified/signed-on to date: The Community School, Shadle Park High School, Lewis & Clark High School, Chase Middle School and Yasuhara Middle School – Grant funds cover the hiring and development of supplemental curriculum on air quality.

Kids Making Sense is a grade 6-12 supplemental science curriculum, with a complete lab kit that engages students through scientific inquiry. The kits contain supplies, mobile sensors, cell phones, and NGSS and Common Core aligned lessons. There is a version for high school AP classes. The curriculum covers the fundamentals of air pollution science; teachers integrate KMS into their classroom at their own pace. Students actively build their scientific knowledge by conducting hands-on experiments, designing their own air pollution research studies, and collaborating with career scientists. The grant does not cover KMS kits or teacher trainings. So, we are seeking private sponsorships and will also be asking the Board for approval to use Supplemental

Projects Funds at the August board meeting. The grant covers the consulting, coordination, and evaluation of the program.

Component 2 – Research, plan and develop a public awareness campaign strategy with these overall objectives: Increase awareness and knowledge of what fine particle pollution (PM_{2.5}) is and how it can affect people; What are the main sources of PM_{2.5} in our county; What individuals can do to reduce PM_{2.5}; and Where can people find current PM_{2.5} levels and associated health protective measures. The timeline is in the fall secure consultant; winter/spring – develop strategy; spring-summer – implement elements of strategy based on funding. Some discussion ensued.

2. Marijuana Program Update – Lori gave an overview of the Marijuana program history. The number of complaints has decreased significantly. Inspections have not resulted in increased enforcement. Industry Development: The number of sources is decreasing; the industry is maturing in the standard industry practices, decreasing “Cottage Industry” sources, and multi-state industry consisting of 19 states recreational and 39 states medical; and the potential impact of likely nationalization. Air emissions are insignificant and has a low VOC emission rate with very low to negligible impact on both ozone and PM_{2.5} formation. An overview of the Marijuana expenses was given. Marijuana 70% of direct program expenses spent on collecting fees, 30% is for compliance and enforcement. We have spent \$64,473 to collect \$103,365. Direct Program costs \$84,175 and keep in mind that the legal/enforcement costs must be paid by local assessment and that was about \$10,200 for this year. If SRCAA just did complaints, that would cut total costs by 85%. Discussion ensued between the Board, legal Counsel, and Staff on keeping the Marijuana Program running, eliminate registration and do complaint response only, register/inspect some sources (nuisance facilities and facility type (indoor, outdoor, exempt)) or find a different fee collection option through local jurisdictions. Commissioner French talked about making the basic registration \$100 if they can go a full year without getting a complaint and if they get a complaint, their registration fee jumps considerably (\$1,500 to \$2,000). It’s not technically a fine, it’s a cost adjustment based on performance. Lori stated that odor complaints can be for many reasons from the complainant and odor violations are hard to establish because you must be in the right place at the right time. It would need to be something in between the two. We would need to figure out what would trigger the increased fees. Rod Higgins asked what would be wrong with having a meeting and explain where we’re going; you can police yourselves or SRCAA would do it for you and that would be pricy; that would get SRCAA out of this business and it also puts them in a responsibility mode. Other discussion ensued. The Board would like SRCAA to do an industry outreach and notice it as a special meeting of the Board, with no action to be taken and identify it as a work session. Lori stated that the meeting would probably be a couple of months out to identify participants and issue appropriate notices.

BOARD MEETING: 10:31 a.m.

1. **Advisory Council Report** – The Council received the Municipal Waste Combustor State Plan update from Margee, the Climate Commitment Act, and Lisa provided an update on the Prevent Non-Attainment Grant.
2. **Executive Director’s Report** – Scott gave an overview on the 2021 CR-103E Adoption by L&I; Spoke at a press conference concerning smoke forecasting at the National Weather Service with Senator Cantwell; Wildfire smoke partners (local Spokane agencies) continue to meet monthly; Participated in the NACAA Criteria pollutants meeting; Presented to the Advisory Council on the PNA Grant planning; Participated with the NW-Airquest meetings; The Agency continues to see strong NOC and PSP applications; and past registration fee practices for future recommendations as to structure has been reviewed.
3. **Public Comment** – There were no public comments.

ACTION ITEMS/POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS:

4. Consent Agenda – Action Item:

- a. Approval of the June 2, 2022 Board Minutes
- b. Approval of Vouchers for June 2022, numbered 12793 thru 12796, 12799 thru 12813 and 12815 thru 12819 with Claims totaling \$51,162.54 and Payroll numbered 12797, 12798 and 12814 and EFTs totaling \$186,811.01 – for a Grand Total of \$237,973.55

Rod Higgins moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Tom Brattebo seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Executive Session(s) – There was no executive session.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS #6 & 7:

Commissioner French opened the public hearing. There was no public in attendance in-person, call-in or online.

6. Resolution No. 22-06 – Margee went over the resolution to be submitted for the updated Municipal Waste Combustor state plan.

There were no public comments. Rod Higgins moved to approve Resolution No. 22-06 as presented and Tom Brattebo seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Resolution No. 22-07 – Michelle stated that the Board, at the last board meeting, wanted to add \$80,000 to the local assessments to help cover the NOC and Marijuana programs. This is the average of the prior year's costs averaged out to what local assessments was helping to bring those program costs to balance. Page 11 shows the \$80,000 added to the 18% to the local assessments to raise that cost to \$1,013,392. This leaves \$40,000 for the Marijuana program and \$40,000 for the NOC program left in the General Fund. We have been able to increase the bottom line for the General Fund Unreserved balance up to \$93,000 from the \$13,000 that was originally shared with the Board in the original budget. The amended budget also shows the new costs for each city and towns on page 27. There were no questions from the Board.

There were no public comments. Rod Higgins moved to approve Resolution No. 22-07 as presented and Tom Brattebo seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

There were no public comments. Commissioner French closed the public hearing.

NON-ACTION ITEMS:

8. Activity Reports – May

a. Lisa gave a brief overview of the community/school events, upcoming events, print/online/social, asbestos, wood stove changeout grant (from Ecology), wildfire smoke season planning and Prevent Nonattainment (PNA) Grant.

b. Lori gave a brief overview of the compliance activities for inspections, complaints, asbestos, and Notices of Violations. Outdoor burning complaints have been different this year, they have been more in the metro area.

c. April gave a brief overview of the permitting activities. The permitting activity has been pretty active (52 applications) over the last fiscal year. The AOP renewal has been issued to the Waste-to-Energy facility on July 1st. Melcher Manufacturing is no longer an AOP, it is a Synthetic Minor because they were able to cap their emissions and an Order was issued to them on July 1st that caps their emissions to below the AOP levels. A couple more AOP permits will be issued this summer.

d. Mark gave a brief overview of the air monitoring activities. Ozone monitoring started again in May and was the predominant pollutant for May. It has been a pretty good year so far for air quality.

e. Michelle gave an overview of the financial status. Michelle will email the Board an estimated year-end balance for Registration, Marijuana, and the NOC program. Some discussion ensued.

9. Board Concerns – There will be a quorum for the August 4, 2022, board meeting. Kevin Freeman may participate remotely at the July meeting.

Next Board Meeting – 9:30 a.m., Thursday, August 4, 2022.

10. Adjournment – The board meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

COMMISSIONER AL FRENCH, CHAIR

SCOTT WINDSOR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR