



329 North First Street, Yakima WA 98901  
 Phone: (509) 834-2050 Fax: (509) 834-2060  
 Website: <http://www.yakimacleanair.org>

**Meeting Vita**

**Location:** Yakima County Courthouse  
 Commissioners Hearing Room, B33

**Time: 2:00 p.m**

1. **Tom Gasseling, Chair**, called the Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
2. **Clerk of Board – Roll Call** *There was a quorum.*

<b>PRESENT WERE:</b>	
<b>BOARD MEMBERS:</b> Tom Gasseling, Member-at-Large, Chair Bob Jones, Small Cities Rep., Vice-Chair Bill Lover, Large City Representative Dick Camp, County Representative  <b>LEGAL COUNSEL:</b> Gary Cuillier, Board Counsel  <b>ABSENT:</b> Rand Elliott, County Commissioner Mike Leita, Alternate County Commissioner Allen Schmid, Alternate, Small Cities Rep Neil McClure, Alternate, Large City Rep Ron Gamache, Alternate, Co Commissioner	<b>STAFF:</b> Gary W. Pruitt, YRCAA Director Patty Walker, Clerk of the Board Staff, Engineering/Planning Division Staff, Fiscal Manager Staff, Compliance/Monitoring Division  <b>VISITORS:</b> Larry Fendell, Citizen Jim Dyjak, Citizen Dustin Harrington, YRCAA Compliance Officer  <b>MEDIA:</b> Bonnie Lozanno, YPAC

3. **Additions and Deletions to Agenda** – Tom Gasseling, Chair asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda. There were none.
4. **Public Comment** – Tom Gasseling asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 5.1 By consent, approve Minutes of December 11, 2008 Board.
- 5.2 By consent, accept and file YRCAA Calendar of Meetings.
- 5.3 By consent accept and file YRCAA November, 2008 Activities.
- 5.4 By consent, approve YRCAA Handbook for staff, per Resolution 2008-13.
- 5.5 By consent, approve and file 2009 YRCAA Board Meeting Dates.
- 5.6 By consent, approve and file 2009 Holiday Schedule for YRCAA staff, per Resolution 2008-14.
- 5.7 By consent, amend administrative Code Part B, Sections dealing with “Public Notices” per Resolution 2008-15.
- 5.8 By consent, approve 2009 Merit Performance/Incentive Pay disbursement.

Bob Jones moved to approve Consent Agenda items 5.1 thru 5.8. Bill Lover seconded. Consent Agenda items were approved.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

6. **Director’s Report – Refer to written report for detail**  
 Gary reported to Board on the following items:  
Legislative Update  
 State - Staff reported to Board the legislation proposed by Ecology the increase the cap for agricultural burning was denied by the Governor. We will continue to work with our local Agricultural Burn Task Force and continue to work with legislature to increase the cap. There

was discussion by Board and staff about agricultural burn fees, and perhaps inviting our legislative representatives to the next Task Force Meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Federal – The National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA) has been supporting regulation of GHG Emissions under the Clean air Act (11/26/08) and the use of appropriate regulatory authorities to address the urgent problem of global warming. The comments were: 1) Support a finding by EPA that GHGs endanger public health and welfare; 2) Do not support setting a GHG National Ambient Air quality Standard; 3) Support setting GHG New Source performance Standards; and 4) Support setting mobile source GHG emission standards. NACAA believes EPA has the discretion to limit permitting requirements to large sources of GHG emissions and recommends that EPA not impose mandatory permitting requirements on smaller sources. YRCAA will continue with our practices and incorporate as needed. Staff believes it will take time for all the regulations to be in place as they will consider economics and the impact on industry.

#### Audit

Tom Gasseling and Bob Jones attended our entrance conference with the State Auditor. We will keep Board apprised as to the outcome of this audit. We are audited every two years. We feel their comments are an opportunity for improvement.

#### Staffing

We have concluded interviews for the Engineering position that was left vacant. We considered leaving it vacant but determined it was not fair to those needing to start a business, or make changes to their business with delays in getting their permit application reviewed and approved.

We had good applicants and will offer the position to the successful applicant to begin working January 5, 2009. The planner position is not budgeted and will remain vacant at this time. There was discussion about having other staff increased work load to include planner duties. Staff will consider filling in the future as current staff has more than one position they are now working in.

#### Budget

Staff has completed a survey conducted by NACAA to determine additional funding needs from the Federal Base Grants. Staff has determined that an additional \$607,842 per annum above FY07 revenues would be needed to fully implement all of the State and Federal Clean Air Acts.

There was discussion about PM2.5 requirements, staff work load, requirements by the Clean Air Acts and our Regulation 1. Board thought it might be better to call a curtailment and continue it for a longer period of time and may help reduce confusion by the public. Staff advised how the public is notified and why curtailments have been handled as they have been. Burn information is posted on our website, which is the easiest way of getting information to the public and we have had better coverage by the media.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **7. 2009 Permit Fee Adjustments per Resolution 2008-12**

Gary Pruitt asked Board to consider the CY 2009 Permit Fee Schedule which is continued from the last Board Meeting. Dick Camp reported to Board that he had met with Gary, and had his questions answered.

Bob Jones moved to approve CY 2009 Permit Fee Schedule per Resolution 2008-12. Bill Lover seconded. CY 2009 Permit Fee Schedule was approved.

### **DIVISION/PROGRAM REPORTS**

Gary Pruitt, Executive Director, began the Division and Program Reports:

**Refer to written reports for clarity.**

**8. Accept Engineering and Planning Division Report**

Hasan Tahat, Engineering and Planning Division Supervisor reported that staff has received data analysis for the speciation monitor for the first season (Nov. 10, 2008 to Apr. 30, 2008). Staff gave a power point presentation of the data results from the speciation monitor. Staff outlined the elements and compounds that had been analyzed from the filters. He presented the data, graphs and a pie chart. The results are not conclusive yet as they are limited to the first season. However, pollutants transport from another area is a possibility but data could not be conclusive. Transport from sources i.e., power generating plant may be present. Chemical elements and compounds results in relation to wood burning, internal combustion, and other sources of air emissions were discussed relative to the total and elemental organic carbons. There was discussion by the Board and staff on the results and how it is reflective of our seasonal temperatures and surroundings.

There was discussion on how the monitors operated, sample schedules, and that a total of 60 samples are taken from October 3<sup>rd</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>. For the three seasons of gathering data there will be a total of about 180 samples. The total carbon results indicate that burning of natural vegetation/wood is present and is apparent from the preliminary results. Thus, the effects of burning in our area and the importance of calling burn bans to control air emissions, leading to healthier air and avoiding the possibility of non-attainment is very important.

Staff advised that a copy of a meeting summary of the November 12<sup>th</sup> Agricultural Burn Task Force and advised that they will be meeting again on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Staff informed Board of the monthly PM<sub>2.5</sub> data, it reflects exceedences during the month of November. There were 14 burn bans called.

**9. Accept Compliance and Air Monitoring Division Report**

Keith Hurley, Compliance and Air Monitoring Division Supervisor reported that during the month of November there was an increase in the number of complaints received. As reported there were Staff was asked what type of violations and responded outdoor and agricultural burning. Several Notices of Violation have resulted with staff being out in the field during burn bans.

Staff reported that the Compliance Division has completed 14 inspections of minor sources in addition to collection Speciation, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub> samples. Three Notice of Violations, and 26 Assurances of Discontinuation (AOD) were issued with the month. The Monitoring Section successfully passed a Speciation Audit conducted by DOE. Mr. Dustin Harrington was appointed the new Complaints Program Manager. This allows Mr. Carl Brookshire to concentrate of his responsibilities as the Information Technology Program Manager.

**10. Accept Fiscal Reports and Approve Vouchers**

Lyne Monroe, Fiscal Program Manager, gave the fiscal report. Staff requested Board to approve the Accounts Payable for November 7<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> and December 1, 2008 payroll. Bill Lover moved to approve. Bob Jones seconded. Board approved transmittals and payroll.

Staff continued that only Toppenish, Wapato and Harrah had not paid their Supplemental Income. Budget Verification Analysis (BVA) and the BVA for November were presented to Board.

Staff thanked Tom Gasseling and Bob Jones for attending the entrance conference with the State Auditor. Tom Gasseling felt it was interesting and important to see the emphasis the Auditor was placing on the report. Staff asked if there were any questions. There were none.

**11. Accept Public Information Program Report**

Dave Caprile, Public Information Officer, reported that currently the woodstove change out program is in process. The initial six stoves have been changed with 17 stoves are in the process. OIC is now available to process and verify households for the program. Staff will keep Board informed.

Staff reported that during the burn bans there has been good coverage from the news media such as local television, radio and newspapers. As an added note, EPA has been complimenting our county burn bans with the issuance of concurrent burning restrictions on the Yakama Indian Reservation lands. This speaks to the fact that we are getting better cooperation with EPA. There was a meeting with Gary Olsen, EPA, and Jerry Craig, EPA program manager to the Nation, for calling burn bans. With the data we receive from NOAA in Pendleton, OR for forecasting and showing lower level atmospheric conditions it enables staff to call burn bans earlier. Staff is happy to report that we are having better cooperation with EPA.

**12. Other Business & Adjournment**

Tom asked if there was any other business. There was none. Bob Jones moved to adjourn. Bill Lover seconded. Board adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.

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Tom Gasseling, Board Chair

**Audio CD of this meeting is available at the YRCAA.**  
*Minutes submitted to Board for approval January 8, 2009..*

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Patty Walker, Clerk of the Board