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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 2:10 p.m.
2. **Clerk of Board – Roll Call** *There was a quorum.*

PRESENT WERE:	
BOARD MEMBERS: Tom Gasseling, Member-at-Large, Chair Bill Lover, Large City Representative Kevin Bouchey, County Commissioner Bob Jones, Small Cities Rep., Vice-Chair Dick Camp, County Representative	STAFF: Gary W. Pruitt, YRCAA Director Patty Walker, Clerk of the Board Staff, Engineering/Planning Division Staff, Public Education Outreach Staff, Fiscal Manager
LEGAL COUNSEL: Gary Cuillier, Board Counsel	VISITORS: Larry Fendell, Citizen Jim Dyjak, Citizen Jerry Craig, US EPA
ABSENT: Allen Schmid, Alternate, Small Cities Rep Neil McClure, Alternate, Large City Rep Rand Elliott, Alternate, Co Commissioner	MEDIA: Bonnie Lozano, YPAC

3. **Election of 2009 Boar Chair and Vice-Chair** – Tom Gasseling asked for nominations for Chair. Bob Jones nominated Tom Gasseling, Bill Lover second. There were no other nominations. Tom moved to closed nominations. Tom Gasseling was elected for 2009 Board Chair.

Tom opened nominations for Vice-Chair. Bob Jones nominated Bill Lover. Bill Lover nominated Bob Jones. Tom moved to close nominations. There were no votes for Bill Lover, Bob Jones was elected 2009 Vice-Chair.

Tom Gasseling thanked the Board for their confidence in him. Tom stated that he feels a lot of good things have been done for the residents of Yakima County over the years.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- 6.1 By consent, approve Minutes of January 8, 2009 Board.
- 6.2 By consent accept and file YRCAA January, 2009 Activities.
- 6.3 By consent, approve Administrative Code Part B, Revisions to Section 11, Classifications and Positions.

Bob Jones moved to approve Consent Agenda items 6.1 thru 6.3. Bill Lover, seconded. Consent Agenda items were approved.

REGULAR AGENDA

7. **Director’s Report – Refer to written report for detail**
 Gary Pruitt introduced Jerry Craig, US EPA’s representative on the Yakama Reservation. Staff

acknowledged that our relationship with the Tribe and EPA has greatly improved since we have been working with Mr. Craig. Gary continued with the Director's report on the following items:

Legislative Update

State - Staff reported to Board regarding some of the bills we have been watching during this Legislative Session. We have been trying to get RCW 70.94.650 revised to allow us to possibly fund our agricultural burn program. We may have some wording that we may be able to have someone sponsor to revise the RCW. Staff appreciates the help that Mr. Keith Matthews, Yakima Valley Growers and Shippers, and Jay Penner, Wheat Growers Association, has been providing in these efforts.

In reference to the bills listed in the Director's Report, Board will notice that there are some bills that staff strongly supports and those that we strongly oppose. One that we strongly oppose is HB 1265 Allowing Outdoor Burning in Urban Growth Areas this would seriously affect our PM_{2.5} in November. One in particular that we support is HB 1577, Seller's Disclosure Statement. This bill would have the on the seller's disclosure statement to include a requirement to disclose if they have an uncertified wood stove, and negotiate at time of selling having it changed out at time of sell.

HB 1864, Supplemental Income Requirements, if approved, would set a dangerous precedent for other exemptions to be proposed. HB 1864 exempts cities and towns lying within an Indian reservation from the requirement to pay supplemental income assessments. Staff has been working with Representative Dan Newhouse to have it withdrawn.

Federal – Staff continued that if SB 5022 Outdoor Wood-fired Boilers is approved that many of the Boilers that would not meet specifications for the Eastern portion of the country could end up here. We want tighter standards, and that they meet the same standards as our woodstoves. There was discussion about boilers and woodstoves.

Economic Recovery Act - This Act would include \$300 million for Diesel Reduction Act (DERA) expenditures. Staff supports this legislation and, if passed, will pursue grant funds to retrofit off-road equipment and local fleet vehicles.

Audit

Staff reported that we still have not received our report. The audit was more extensive for everyone and has resulted in taking longer to go through all the documentations, etc.

Staffing

Staff reported that Ms. Filipy is doing well. She is exceeding our expectations.

Budget

Staff reported that our Budget review shows there are no surprises. We have 56% revenue and 60% expenditures of the budget. The variance is due to the Woodstove Change-Out Grant. We invoice Ecology and then they reimburse for the expenditure.

Climate Change

Staff reported that the Engineering staff attended a workshop for fleet owners or operators at Central Washington Department of Ecology on January 27th, Hasan will give you more information.

Agency Wellness Program

Staff reported to Board that staff has participated in a Wellness Grant through our insurance provider. As a result of staff participation the number of sick days taken in 2008 compared to 2007 was reduced by 28%. Staff commended Patty Walker for her efforts in securing and administering the Grant.

Jim Dyjak, Hwy. 24, Moxee, WA., had a question on the Seller's Disclosure Statement. How would the owner know if their stove was certified or not? Staff responded that it should have a plate on it showing that it was certified. If it was bought after 1993 it is probably certified. There was a short discussion on certified and non-certified stoves being sold. Staff suggested that if they are not sure if it is certified, they can call YRCAA with the brand and model we will check on it for them.

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items at this meeting.

DIVISION/PROGRAM REPORTS

Refer to written reports for clarity.

8. Accept Engineering and Planning Division Report

Tom Gasseling asked Hasan for his Division Report. Hasan reported that the 2009 Registration program is in progress. The deadline is February 17, 2009. Registration is doing well, we have received about 2/3 of registrations sent out, and certificates are being sent to completed sources.

Staff reported that he and Gary had attended the State Agricultural Task Force meeting, February 10th. Staff reported of the improved relationship with the Task Force Members. It is likely that the fees for agricultural burning will be increased. The local Agricultural Task Force will be meeting February 19th. Staff reported on the agricultural burn program for 2008 revenue was about \$8K, which does not recover the cost of the program. Staff would like guidance from the Board. Staff discussed the issue of requirements for PM_{2.5} standards, and risk of being found in non-attainment. There are still requirements we will need to do even if we are designated as non-attainment.

There were 13-days in January when we called burn bans. Staff has attached graphs showing monitor data. There were no exceedences in January. Staff reported that he attended the Workshop at DOE Central Regional Office, and offered his help to those who may need it on reporting their greenhouse gas emissions.

Commissioner Bouchey asked how the wheat burning issue affected Yakima County as there were very few wheat growers here. There was discussion on the impact of the wheat growers' support in getting the language changed in the RCW for agricultural burn permit fees. Gary Pruitt responded, the State Agricultural Task Force has mainly been dominated by wheat growers. That is why it is important to have their support.

9. Accept Compliance and Air Monitoring Division Report

Gary reported that Keith Hurley could not attend today as he was at a dental appointment. Staff reported that Compliance had received 36 complaints, performed 38-minor source inspections, and one Title V inspection. Air Monitoring processed 22 Speciation Samples, 11 PM_{2.5} and six PM₁₀ Federal Reference Monitor samples.

The Division issued six Notices of Violations, 31 Assurances of Discontinuance, one violation by a Title V source, one asbestos violation, two agricultural burning violations, and two residential burning violations. There were 17 Notices of Penalty issued for previously issued NOV's.

In reviewing of the 2008 PM_{2.5} data shows there were four exceedences of the 24-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standards, which will probably takes us into Non-attainment designation by EPA sometime this year. Staff is working on a plan of action for the 2009-2010 winter wood smoke season. There is a need for additional staffing to ensure better compliance. Need to have a more visible presence to the public.

There was Board discussion on the issue of repeat and first time violators; how they are handled and how Board will not be lenient with repeat violators. Gary Pruitt expressed his appreciation for Board support.

10. Accept Fiscal Reports and Approve Vouchers

Tom asked Lyne Monroe to give her Fiscal reports. Ms. Monroe, Fiscal Program Manager, asked Board to approve payment of Fiscal vouchers in the amount of \$16,481.84 and payroll in the amount of

\$61,555.13. Bob Jones moved to pay both vouchers and payroll. Bill Lover seconded. Fiscal Vouchers and payroll were approved.

Ms. Monroe reported that the 2009 Supplemental Income spreadsheet and Budget Verification Analysis are for their review. Staff asked if there were any questions, there were none.

11. Accept Public Information Program Report

Tom asked Dave Caprile to give his Program Report. Dave, Public Information Officer, reported that the staff has contacted 94 prospects for the 2009 Woodstove Change-Out Program. There were 24 appointments scheduled, 15 stoves have been installed, and 18 scheduled for installation. There is an ad on FOX-TV regarding the Woodstove Change-Out Program.

Staff reported 15 days of burn bans, with his reporting. Staff appreciates the media keeping the public informed during the weather spots, etc.

Staff continued that on January 14th and 15th YRCAA attended the Northwest Air Quality Communicators meeting. Public Information and Education staff attended the meeting. There was an exchange of information regarding air quality programs and challenges across the Pacific Northwest area.

Two staff members attended YCTV video equipment training on January 22nd. The training will enable staff to use video and production equipment for local programming outreach, which will increase public awareness on both YCTV and YPAC.

12. Other Business & Adjournment

Tom asked if there was any other business. Kevin Bouchey informed Board as to the reason future Board Meetings will be at the City Council Chambers, and thanked the City of Yakima for providing the facility for meetings. Bob Jones moved to adjourn. Kevin Bouchey, seconded. Board adjourned at approximately 2:55 p.m.

Tom Gasseling, Board Chair

Audio CD of this meeting is available at the YRCAA.
Minutes submitted to Board for approval March 12, 2009..

Patty Walker, Clerk of the Board