



**Summary of the Special Governing Board of Directors Meeting**

**Location, Date and Time:**

**Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency**

**February 3, 2015**

**Time: 1:00 p.m.**

1. **John Gawlik, Board Chair**, called the Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. **Patty Walker, Clerk of the Board**, conducted roll call. *There was a quorum.*

<b>PRESENT WERE:</b>	
<b>BOARD MEMBERS:</b> John Gawlik, Small City Representative Rand Elliott, County Representative Jon DeVaney, Member-at-Large Steven Jones, County Representative  <b>LEGAL COUNSEL:</b> None  <b>IDENTIFIABLE VISITORS:</b> Jim Dyjak, Moxee	<b>STAFF:</b> Gary Pruitt, Executive Director Patty Walker, Clerk of the Board Keith Hurley, Compliance/Monitoring Division Hasan Tahat, Permitting/Planning Division Mark Edler, Executive Division Quatandra Jarvis, Executive/Engineering  <b>MEDIA:</b> None

3. **Discuss 2015-2020 Strategic Plan** – John Gawlik, Board Chair, opened the Special Board Meeting to discuss the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan (Plan) and turned the meeting over to Gary Pruitt, Executive Director to present the Plan.

Mr. Pruitt began we are here to review the Plan, we have had some individual discussions, and my role today is to answer your questions. The paragraph concerning Climate Change was removed per comments received. This is the second version of the Plan. Much of what we do is to reduce greenhouse gases in the implementation of both the federal and state Clean Air Acts. Many collateral objectives are achieved as well.

Dr. Steven Jones stated he thinks the “Our Message to You” sounded too stern and regulatory rather than collaboratively working with public, etc. Dr. Jones would prefer it more in line with the Agency “Mission Statement”. Dr. Jones believes the document is heavy handed and could not find any reference of the “Mission Statement”. Mr. Pruitt responded this is the what, and the how comes in the strategies. Mr. Pruitt continued he needs specific instructions to know the direction they would like to go. We are currently doing most of this. This is to tell the public how we are going to do it.

Mr. Rand Elliott would like it simple and straight forward. Mr. Elliott would like to see statements relating to social justice removed. We are here to get the air quality to meet mandated standards. He wants “health and improve neighborhood” removed. Statements such as, “highly impacted communities”, “both fiscally and environmentally responsible”, and “equitable manner” removed throughout the Plan. Improving public health is implied with the things we are mandated to do to improve air quality. Discussion continued on the fifth bullet in the ”About Us” section, “Educating people and businesses about clean-air and climate-friendly choices they can make”.

Mr. Pruitt related how Environmental Justice is based on the Civil Rights Act which requires compliance with the Act to receive federal funds. An attempt should be made to provide equity. Discussion continued with being equitable and social justice. It was suggested if social justice needs to be in the Plan, put it in a footnote. The programs we are currently doing provide we are equitable.



Mr. Jon DeVaney continued the history of the case for the social justice issue in air quality issues. Our Woodstove Change-Out Program (WSCO) replaces stoves for those who cannot afford it on their own. He believes it is better to talk about the regulatory issues to keep us under the limits focusing on areas that create the greatest pollution for our area without invoking the quasi legal process. There was discussion on the WSCO program budget. Mr. Mark Edler responded the previous two year grant was \$625,000.

Dr. Jones discussed the issue of bringing new industry to the area. There was discussion on permitting and air quality issues that would cause industry to not come to our area. Dr. Jones believes part of the strategy should be in that direction, such as expedited permits, etc., should be directed to encourage industry. Staff responded we are already doing it, and acknowledged it should be stated in the Plan.

Mr. DeVaney believes we should restate our Mission Statement in the Plan. Mr. Pruitt stated climate change is indicated in the Mission Statement. There was discussion on the effects of climate change and our efforts to reduce emissions for our area, meeting goals and where we go from there. Air Quality Standards are reviewed by EPA every five years. There was discussion on things that are being done to help us reach and maintain these goals. Staff described how the in-kind (leveraged funds) required for WSCO grant, and how the retailers, installers, advertisers, and Pacific Steele rebates the amount they receive for stoves they recycle. Mr. Edler continued with the various change-out and rebate programs.

Mr. Pruitt stated the Agency's desire is to be transparent to the public, and work collaboratively with industry. Staff discussed direct interaction with industries. Mr. Pruitt relayed Mr. Jim Dyjak's comment that the Plan looked familiar to others he had seen. Mr. Pruitt stated it was taken from Puget Sound Clean Air. He removed things that did not relate to our area, and added where needed to meet the needs for Yakima County.

Board is in favor of having a Plan. Board understands the strategy, but does not want to promise something they cannot deliver. Following discussions on the Plan, Board agreed to make their individual changes, email them to Patty to be distributed to other members via email. Mr. Pruitt would prefer they use track changes format, Mr. Pruitt will review them, make changes, and provide a copy for review for the Board.

Mr. Gawlik said there is no deadline in place. Changes will be routed through Patty.

**4. Other Business and Adjournment**

Board Chair asked if there was any other business. There was none. Rand Elliott moved to adjourn. Jon DeVaney seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

  
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John Gawlik, Board Chair

  
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Patty Walker, Clerk of the Board

**Audio CD of this meeting is available at the YRCAA.**  
*Meeting Summary submitted to Board for approval February 12, 2015*