

The City Selection Committee was convened as required pursuant to RCW 70A.15.2010-2020. Meeting announcements were published in the Yakima Herald-Republic, Sunnyside Sun, Grandview Herald, La Voz, and El Sol, a press release was provided to television and radio station outlets, and the agenda was posted to the Agency web site. The meeting was open to the public and accessible via video-conference (with details provided in the posted agenda).

1. Call to Order

Thornsbury called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. in the conference room, Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency; 186 Iron Horse Ct. Ste. 101; Yakima, Washington. The start of the meeting was delayed until a quorum was achieved. Thornsbury welcomed the mayors present and thanked mayor Roger Bell for his assistance in arranging the meeting. He explained the statutory duty to convene the committee when a vacancy in one of the city representative positions occurs and noted the requirement to appoint a representative for the city with the largest population in the county—the City of Yakima—under RCW 70A.15.2000(2)(a).

Thornsbury added the term of service for the appointee is four (4) years pursuant to RCW 70A.15.2000(4) and offered a summary of the agenda. Gonzalez asked Thornsbury to repeat the size of the city referred to in RCW 70A.15.2000. Thornsbury stated the figure was 400,000 and Yakima County is currently estimated at 260,000 to 270,000 [by the Office of Financial Management] and this required the Committee to appoint a representative for the city with the largest population.

Frausto inquired as to the current composition of the board. Thornsbury explained there are two appointees of Yakima County, Dr. Steven Jones and Commissioner Amanda McKinney, two appointees of the City Selection Committee (with one currently vacant), Dr. Hilda Gonzalez, and when there is an even number of members, a fifth appointed by the other four members as a tie-breaker, Jon DeVaney (and the director for the Washington State Tree Fruit Association).

2. Roll Call

All members of the committee present stated their name and the city for which they serve as mayor. Quorum was established with the presence of nine out of fourteen mayors.

Mayors: Roger Bell, City of Selah
 Hilda Gonzalez Ed.D., City of Granger
 Pat Kruger, Town of Harrah
 Vicky Frausto, City of Sunnyside
 Rob Adams, City of Tieton
 John Hodkinson, City of Union Gap
 Margaret Estrada, City of Wapato
 Matt Brown, City of Yakima
 Scott Carmack, City of Zillah

Staff present: Marc Thornsbury, Executive Director

3. Introduction

Thornsbury briefly explained the process of accepting nominations and appointing a representative to the Board. He added the group would need to select a chairperson for the committee.

4. Selection of Chairperson

Hodkinson nominated Roger Bell. There were no other nominations for chairperson. By consensus, the committee selected Bell as chairperson.

5. Public Comment

No members of the public were in attendance.

6. Nominations

Bell opened the floor to nominations for a city representative to the YRCAA Board of Directors and reminded committee members anyone nominated would need to be an elected councilor of the City of Yakima. Brown nominated Juliet Potrykus. Gonzales asked if there was a way to know the people serving as councilors for the City of Yakima. Thornsby stated that information was available on the City of Yakima web site and could be printed. Gonzalez explained she was unfamiliar with the current city council. Brown noted the council is comprised of Leo Roy, Felisa Gonzalez, Patricia Byers, Juliet Potrykus, Rick Glenn, Reedy Berg, and himself. Gonzalez asked who Brown was nominating. Brown stated it was Juliet Potrykus.

Frausto asked if any other persons could be nominated. Thornsby affirmed, adding the Committee—not the City of Yakima—determined nominees, but the City was free to offer up a nominee. Hodkinson asked if Potrykus would accept the appointment. Brown confirmed. Gonzalez stated her interest in gaining some perspective regarding the nominee and expressed concern it appeared a selection had been determined prior to the meeting of the Committee. Hodkinson noted the nomination was made by the City of Yakima, not by any of the other members of the Committee.

Gonzalez stated her belief this constituted a predetermined and biased decision and it is the responsibility of the committee to make a selection. Brown stated the Yakima City Council had directed him to offer Juliet Potrykus as a nominee, adding none of the other council members indicated a willingness to serve. Gonzalez noted she would have preferred to have had the committee make that determination for itself so she could have some context and knowledge regarding the nominee and explained she was not aware other council members had been asked to serve and had declined to do so. She stated some discussion before nominations were accepted would have been helpful. Brown noted the committee chairperson had called for nominations and he had simply put forth the name given to him by the Yakima City Council.

Frausto stated she is new to her position as mayor, the committee, and the process of appointing a representative to the board, adding she had asked about the composition of the board to have a better understanding. She explained she did not have previous knowledge regarding how nominations were handled and, had that been the case, she would likely have sought to know more about the councilors serving the City of Yakima in order to make a more informed decision. Frausto expressed her concern without such information she would be unable to do so. She concurred with Gonzalez there appeared to have been a predetermination and asked Bell if the floor remained open for the nomination of other persons.

Bell stated nominations could still be made. He noted that if a person were appointed that refused to accept the appointment and serve, the Committee would have to reconvene. Bell reminded the committee members the person nominated by Brown had agreed to serve. Frausto stated her opinion

the nominee offered by the City of Yakima should have been present at the meeting so more information about them could be obtained.

Bell asked if there were any other nominations, adding one nomination had been presented. Thornsbury noted one nominee, Juliet Potrykus, had been offered and the floor remained open for additional nominations. Bell asked for any other nominations. None were offered.

7. Selection of Appointee

Bell called for a vote to appoint the sole nominee, Juliet Potrykus. Potrykus appointed on six (6) aye (yes) votes, three (3) nay (no) votes, and no abstentions.

Frausto reiterated her belief nominees should be present at the meeting. Brown explained he had been asked to attend the meeting himself as the mayor of the City of Yakima and Potrykus was neither asked to attend nor was she aware of any expectation she would attend. Gonzalez noted the Committee is comprised of mayors responsible for nominating for a vacant position and suggested when persons are nominated for that position the process should include the presence of those persons so they can explain to the members of the Committee why they wish to serve on the board, their understanding of service on the board, and that they would accept appointment to the board.

Bell asked if there were any other items to be addressed. None were presented.

8. Adjournment

Bell adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

Roger Bell, Chairperson

Marc Thornsbury, Executive Director