

# State of California, County of Siskiyou

## Air Pollution Control District Minutes, March 21, 2023

The Honorable Directors of the Air Pollution Control District Board of Siskiyou County, California, met in special session this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 2023; there being present Directors Ray Haupt, Ed Valenzuela, Michael N. Kobseff, Brandon Criss, Takeshi Murakami, and Julianna Lucchesi, Deputy District Counsel Dana Barton and County Clerk and ex-Officio Clerk of the Air Pollution Control District Laura Bynum by Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Criss. Director Juliana Lucchesi led in the salute to the flag of the United States of America.

**Air Pollution Control District Governing Board** - Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2023. Directors Lucchesi and Kobseff elected Chair and Vice Chair, respectively.

It was moved by Director Valenzuela, seconded by Director Criss and carried, with Directors Haupt, Kobseff, Valenzuela, Lucchesi, Murakami and Criss voting YES, to elect Director Lucchesi as Chair for 2023.

It was moved by Director Valenzuela, seconded by Director Murakami and carried, with Directors Haupt, Kobseff, Valenzuela, Lucchesi, Murakami and Criss voting YES, to elect Director Kobseff as Vice Chair for 2023.

### **Public Comment**

There were no public comment received.

**Air Pollution Control Officer** – Discussion and possible direction re an update concerning the Lower Klamath Dam removal project, including the County's Project Manager consultant and interactions with the Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRC).

Air Pollution Control Officer Jim Smith appeared before the District Board, providing an update regarding the status of staffing in the Air Pollution Office, including an overview of ongoing efforts to fill certain positions. Mr. Smith voiced concerns regarding the need to find volunteers to be on the Air Pollution Control District Hearing Board and the impact of discontinued geothermal activities in the Medicine Lake Highlands on Air Pollution's Geothermal Fund. In addition, Mr. Smith shared concerns regarding potential negative impacts to the County's compliance associated with an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposal to change 2.5 particulate matter standards.

Discussion followed between members of the District Board and Mr. Smith regarding the current status of the Geothermal Fund, the anticipated one year timeframe before the funding is depleted, ongoing efforts to research and secure other funding sources and the possible need to increase Air Pollution District fees.

Mr. Smith provided an overview of recent meetings with the Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRC) and their consultants regarding possible permitting required for equipment that could be used during dam decommissioning/removal. Mr. Smith voiced concerns regarding the potential lack of staffing to provide necessary inspections and monitor for compliance.

Further discussion followed regarding the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC's) and the state and federal EPAs' authority with regard to the dam removal project, the potential difficulties facing the Air Pollution Office during the dam removal project (i.e. asbestos in older structures, manpower, resources), the anticipated process to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (similar to the County's) to cover certain costs with the KRRC and the potential timeframe to provide monitoring of the project.

**Minute Approval** – April 19, 2022. Approved.

It was moved by Director Kobseff, seconded by Director Murakami and carried, following a roll call vote with Directors Kobseff, Valenzuela, Lucchesi, Murakami and Criss voting YES and Director Haupt ABSTAINING to approve the April 19, 2022 minutes as presented.

**March 21, 2023**

**Adjournment** - There being no further business to come before the Air Pollution Control District, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:  
Laura Bynum, County Clerk

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Juliana Lucchesi, Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy