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CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD MEETING

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IN RE: Public Health's Air Management
Services

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DATE: Thursday, July 30, 2026

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LOCATION: Zoom Teleconference

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Reported by: Jill Piper

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Job No.: 1734718

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1 ATTENDANCE
2 MR. JOSEPH MINOTT, BOARD CHAIR
3 DR. PALAK RAVAL-NELSON, BOARD MEMBER
4 DR. TERRY SOULE, BOARD MEMBER
5 DR. FRANK ARTHUR, BOARD MEMBER
6 DR. CAROL ANN GROSS-DAVIS, BOARD MEMBER
7 DR. THOMAS V. EDWARDS, BOARD MEMBER
8 DR. MARIEL DIANA FEATHERSTONE, BOARD MEMBER
9 DR. KASSAHUN SELLASIE, DIRECTOR AMS

10
11 ALSO PRESENT:
12 BENJAMIN HARTUNG
13 RICHARD ANNUNZIATO
14 GALEN ROSE-KING
15 INDIA MCGHEE
16 TUNG VU
17 MENELIK NEGASH
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PROCEEDINGS

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MR. MINOTT: I would like to
announce a few reminders before the meeting
begins. The public meeting is being recorded
and will be posted online as per City
ordinance.

9

MS. GROSS-DAVIS: I apologize, Mr.
Minott. I have to stop you because I don't
think that the public has been let in. The
participants and --

13

MR. SELLASIE: They are in.
Commissioner, they are already in. The
public is in.

16

MS. GROSS-DAVIS: Are they on the -

17

- I don't see them.

18

MR. SELLASIE: Yeah.

19

MS. GROSS-DAVIS: Okay. Because
people are -- okay. They're still starting
the Teams meeting, so apologies. I didn't
realize they were in.

23

MR. MINOTT: Well, that's fine.
That's not a problem. Let me start again.

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1 So, I would like to announce a few
2 reminders before the meeting begins. This
3 public meeting is being recorded and will be
4 posted online per city ordinance. Your
5 participation in this meeting constitutes
6 consent thereto. All microphones are
7 automatically muted for participants, with
8 the exception of the board members and
9 panelists.

10 And if you have any questions,
11 please wait until the presenter finishes the
12 presentation. After that, we will have time
13 for questions and answers. Thank you very
14 much.

15 MR. SELLASIE: Just introduce
16 yourself and the board members, Joe.

17 MR. MINOTT: Yes. I am Joe Minott.
18 I'm chair of the Air Pollution Control Board.

19 MR. SOULE: I'm Terry Soule, board
20 member.

21 MR. FRANK: Dr. Arthur Frank, board
22 member.

23 MS. GROSS-DAVIS: Dr. Carol Ann
24 Gross-Davis, board member.

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1 MR. EDWARDS: I'm Tom Edwards. I'm
2 a board member. Sorry.

3 MS. FEATHERSTONE: Dr. Mariel Diana
4 Featherstone, board member.

5 MS. RAVAL-NELSON: Dr. Palak Raval-
6 Nelson, Health Commissioner and board member.

7 MR. MINOTT: Okay. Well, that
8 means we should have a quorum, which is good
9 news.

10 MR. SELLASIE: I think Dr. Richard
11 is also here. Dr. Rich Pepino?

12 MR. MINOTT: I don't see him, but
13 he's here?

14 MR. SELLASIE: Is he in, Menelik?

15 MR. NEGASH: Dr. Richard, no, he is
16 not.

17 MR. SELLASIE: Not yet? It's okay.
18 He was waiting for us to let him in. Oh,
19 okay, sorry. So he's not. He talked about
20 Rich, our chief on asbestos.

21 All right. Go ahead, Joe. Discuss
22 about the minutes. The first agenda is
23 minutes. The July -- sorry, April 30th, 2026
24 minutes.

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1 MR. MINOTT: Hopefully you've all
2 gotten a copy of the minutes of the last
3 meeting, and I'd like to make a motion to
4 adopt the minutes.
5 MR. FRANK: Second. Or make a
6 motion to adopt the minutes.
7 MS. RAVAL-NELSON: Second.
8 MR. MINOTT: All in favor?
9 MS. GROSS-DAVIS: Aye.
10 MR. EDWARDS: Aye.
11 MR. SOULE: Aye.
12 MR. FRANK: Aye.
13 MR. MINOTT: Okay. That should do
14 it. Thank you. The minutes are adopted.
15 MR. SELLASIE: Okay. The next
16 agenda is me. Good afternoon, Chairman Joe
17 Minott, members of the board, and guests. My
18 name is Kassahun Sellasie, Air Management
19 Director, and I would like to report to the
20 board on AMS progress since our last meeting
21 on April 30th, 2026. The board and guests
22 will receive an overview of procedures and
23 housekeeping regulation from Mr. Benjamin
24 Hartung. So, Benjamin, it is your turn.

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1 MR. HARTUNG: Thank you, Dr.
2 Sellasie. One second. I just wanted to
3 explain the public comment process for this
4 meeting. If you would like to submit a
5 public comment, please use the raise-your-
6 hand function on the Zoom app. And this will
7 be after the presentations by the board
8 members or other presenters today. And I
9 will call on the individual based on the
10 order their hand was raised. And then I will
11 unmute you and you will have one to two
12 minutes to comment, and then I will mute you
13 and move on to the next commenter.

14 If you would like to comment by
15 email, there is an option to do that as well.
16 And you can send your comment directly to me.
17 That's Benjamin, B-E-N-J-A-M-I-N, dot
18 Hartung, H-A-R-T-U-N-G, at Phila.gov. And I
19 can read the comment into the record. Thank
20 you very much.

21 MR. SELLASIE: Thank you, Ben. Is
22 it on already? You see on your laptop?

23 MR. HARTUNG: No.

24 MR. SELLASIE: You don't see?

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1 Sorry, just second. This is another one. I
2 don't think so. Sorry about that.

3 Okay. This is our agenda. Welcome
4 by the Air Pollution control board chair,
5 done. Action on minutes is done. Program
6 updates, I have 30 minutes. I have a lot of
7 slides, but I'll try to finish under 30
8 minutes because I added the forest fire and
9 others. So, air quality, state
10 implementation, EPA updates, PID updates.
11 The regional planning commission updates,
12 city update, AMS update, and question and
13 answers at the end.

14 So, air quality. So from April 1st
15 to June 30th, 2006, there were 57 good days,
16 32 moderate days, and 2 unhealthy days.
17 Current, 2025, eight hour ozone -- of 73
18 parts per billion, which is marginal in this
19 case. So, current 2025 annual PM2.5
20 concentration is 8.43. That's good. It
21 shows that 2025 is good, the whole year
22 average. So with 2025 design value 10.3,
23 that is the 2023, forest fire increase to
24 10.3. You see 2025 there was no forest fire,

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1 but it has been -- it was 8.43. So, we'll
2 see that next year might be increased.

3 From April 1st, 2026 to June 30th,
4 2026, PM2 point concentration is still low,
5 8.3. So, we -- in the past we were around 8
6 microgram per meter cube average. Now we
7 kept that value this time.

8 NAAQS and SIP. June 26, this is
9 circuit uphold the 2024 PM NAAQS. S3 judge
10 panel for the US Court of Appeals for that
11 this circuit has upheld the 2024
12 reconsideration of the primary annual PM2.2
13 NAAQS, which is from 12 to 9 microgram per
14 meter cube, and refuse EPAs 2025. So, the
15 EPA puts 2024 from 12 to 9 and the EPA 2025
16 appeal that one. So the appeal, I don't
17 think so it works now. But still we have to
18 wait a letter from EPA to put that standard
19 nine microgram per meter cube.

20 June 10, -- EPA release 2025 air
21 quality design value. So the design values -
22 - the design values for six criteria
23 pollutants, pollutants usually then. So, all
24 six criteria pollutants, which is the design

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1 value we have, which is -- which are under
2 NAAQS, National Ambient Air Quality Standard.
3 So, we have here issue is only ozone, for
4 now.

5 So, the ozone value is -- they
6 consider the metro area, including New
7 Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland. So
8 these are the area. If one area, one
9 location and one monitor is above a certain
10 amount, so we take only the highest on that
11 monitor value. So that is an issue ozone.
12 So, most of the time now, the Berks County,
13 Bristol, that is the highest they have.

14 So, Maryland, Delaware, they won't
15 be apart from this metropolitan area,
16 including New Jersey, maybe, I don't know,
17 we'll deal with only Pennsylvania 66 counties
18 in the future. So we are good as it's so
19 marginal. We are 73. But, but instead of
20 marginal, we have to work on serious, very
21 serious. Which is very high really. So
22 that's going to happen. But there will be a
23 discussion coming EPA meeting that everybody
24 asks question about this. So why Bristol is

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1 high and how can we deal with the ozone
2 value? Last time the EPA air director region
3 3 was here with me, we discussed about that
4 one. So the next one, that will be one of
5 our discussion.

6 June 10 EPA release 2025 air
7 quality, that's already done. Okay.

8 EPA updates. A new bill introduced
9 by senator. It is about the enforcement of -
10 - the enforcement of full range of
11 environmental and energy mix impact from
12 their facilities, including emission and --
13 This is, I believe, the data center, AI data
14 center. So, yeah, from Pennsylvania, they
15 are 81, as I saw 81 projects different
16 counties. But most of the counties like King
17 of Prussia and others, they refuse and I
18 don't think so, we have in Philadelphia, the
19 way I see.

20 There was no any discussion or
21 application permit and anything we have with
22 this AI. The previous was like around 40
23 megawatt electricity, which is 40,000
24 kilowatts. That's huge. And maybe emergency

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1 generator equal to that one. Imagine how
2 many emergencies generator will run here. So
3 that is an issue in the future, as the
4 Congress says. So we have to report if we
5 will have the fuel usage, the electricity,
6 the infrastructure, all those kind of stuff
7 in the future. So for now we do have that
8 one. I don't know. When will happen or how
9 it will happen.

10 May 15th, state health expert
11 release new risk assessment, which is
12 ethylene oxide and acryline. So which is
13 high. I think it is around 800 in a million.
14 That is very, very high. Our risk
15 assessment, if you know, it is one in a
16 million, or 10 in a million. So, 800 is
17 really high.

18 So we don't have ethylene oxide
19 here because of sterilizing the hospital
20 stuff or those kind of stuff. We don't have
21 here. We ban that one. So glad our case is
22 not a concern ETO. But acryline, acryline is
23 a huge concern everywhere in the United
24 States. Because the source is forest fire,

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1 is the main source for that one, and some
2 smoke and industries emission and vehicle
3 emissions. And even gas and wood burn, all
4 those kind of stuff, are an issue.

5 So, we'll find out the
6 concentration here. But for now, I think the
7 California governor has put around 230,000, I
8 believe, to study about these emissions.

9 May 11, EPA issue guidance on --

10 MR. MINOTT: Can board members ask
11 questions, or we'd have to wait until the
12 end?

13 MR. SELLASIE: I think the end
14 would be good. I don't know. How did you
15 want?

16 MR. MINOTT: Well, I was just
17 wondering why --

18 MR. SELLASIE: Because I have 30
19 minutes.

20 MR. MINOTT: Okay. I'll be quiet -
21 - I'll be quiet. Go ahead.

22 MR. SELLASIE: Okay. All right.
23 Just write down and I will go back to the
24 slide. Just write which slide is that. So I

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1 will do that.

2 Okay. EPA issue guidance on
3 expediting title 5 operating permit. In the
4 past was 45 days for EPA. We're in title 5.
5 So now they want to reduce less days. I
6 don't know how they're going to do it, but
7 that is about the title 5.

8 Data shows March 2020 was the
9 warmest march on record. It is, what, 18
10 something was the last in March. It is not
11 high, but compared to -- in 100 years, 136
12 whatever years. So this is, yeah, March was
13 hot. I don't know. I thought maybe the
14 weather or the climate change, something.
15 So, yeah, March was very high.

16 PADEP updates. April, Governor
17 George Shapiro, he put like 267 million
18 investments in 31 manufacturing projects. So
19 it reduced by a lot of 1.3 million metric
20 tons of carbon dioxide, equivalent within the
21 first year implementation. Which means he
22 remove like 320,614 cars from the road. So
23 that is a good one. He tried -- that
24 governor tried to work a lot and hard to

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1 reduce emission from Pennsylvania and the
2 surrounding one.
3 the City and the Delaware Valley,
4 which is April 10, City launched 2026
5 community resilience and environmental
6 justice. So they have 12 projects working.
7 So, we have also environmental justice in the
8 commissioner office. So, we are working on
9 that one, how to reduce a lot of stuff.
10 April 27, air quality awareness
11 week kickoff ozone season. Delaware Valley
12 regional planning commission, which will be
13 from May 4th to 8th, 2026, which is ozone air
14 quality awareness.
15 AMS update outreach. So, we went a
16 lot of places. The first one is the OOS,
17 office of sustainability. We are working
18 indoor air. So we started that discussion
19 how to reduce the indoor air and how to work
20 on that one. So AMS and OOS are working on
21 that one. NASCAR cars, we try to go
22 everywhere to give idea about AMS, what AMS
23 is doing and how we do, with flyers and
24 posts, to explain to the public. That's what

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1 we do every time.

2 So these are among the many. We
3 attended the public meeting. This kind of
4 stuff. So we go everywhere. And of course
5 Aurora from Commissioner Office, she helps us
6 a lot. She connect with other industries,
7 universities, stakeholders, so we can attend
8 that meeting.

9 Air monitors -- air monitors. We
10 gave the air monitor to the EPA on time. So
11 we added, I will show you on the map the
12 width, which is nearby the SEPTA, Nicetown.
13 So we added one because public request. So
14 we asked EPA and they allow us to put one.
15 So it is functioning now. It is working. It
16 is good. We have electricity and the police
17 -- the police district also cooperate with
18 us. So we are working on that one.

19 So, FIFA, we were standby if
20 anything happened. So we measure the air
21 pollution every day, every hour, during FIFA
22 time. So laboratory, as usual, we still
23 keeping everything village green, flood
24 healthy, quality survey, which is black

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1 carbon also very important in the city that
2 we are measuring that one too. And all nuts
3 from DC, we take samples and measure here of
4 your carbonyl.

5 Toxic monitors is working. So
6 PM2.5 fuel oil sampling. We sample fuel from
7 oil, and coring and paint analysis we do. So
8 those are in our laboratory. There was --
9 training, but it is less than the OSHA
10 standard. MMS, the mobile monitoring system,
11 battery we replace. So we bought additional
12 four batteries. So, if one is done, so we'll
13 replace immediately. So we don't have to go
14 charging or doing something. So that is --

15 Also we change the process. We
16 install software. So it automatically send
17 data to me and to the public and air vision.
18 So, the public has immediately data, our
19 data. But to be sure, we should go through
20 me and I will check and I will send to the
21 panel.

22 Ozone modules from clarity have
23 been installed. Entrance gates of the
24 Xfinity Stadium, FIFA -- we put there

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1 additional one. So we were ready around the
2 stadium during FIFA time.

3 So here is a regulatory one. AMS
4 issued 184 permits. AMS service 110 citizen
5 complaints. AMS performed 395 inspection in
6 this quarter, from April 1st to June 30th.
7 AMS observed eight vehicle idling at five
8 locations. That's what we are doing. Maybe
9 in the future we improve that one. AMS issue
10 307 new notice of violation in the quarter.
11 AMS resolved 314 NOVs. AMS collected
12 \$314,729.

13 AMS has air monitors. So I'm happy
14 -- AMS is -- health department is happy,
15 thrilled, because always on time. I'm
16 surprised. We have something on time. So
17 this clarity monitors, especially during the
18 forest fire time, so people check that one
19 every time. So more than 41,000 individuals
20 check the clarity data during the forest
21 fire. That's a lot. So I think we have a
22 good one. That it is installed the same with
23 dust control. When we have regulation dust
24 control, there were a lot of questions from

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1 the public counsel and everyone.

2 So I think we have good terms at
3 regulation, too. And I think health
4 department and City is doing great. So this
5 is how everybody knows how to do and how to
6 open simple. We have here air management
7 service prepare everything. That makes
8 easier for the community to open and check
9 and review the data with clarity. So this is
10 air monitors, the one I mentioned SEPTA.
11 Nicetown we added this one with. So it is
12 working now.

13 Accomplishment. Just to let you
14 know, a lot of people they don't know
15 including some even industry or stakeholders,
16 what have been done in Philadelphia. So we
17 tried our best, voluntary works most of the
18 time. I was involved with. I was one of the
19 three leading panel, the time that was long
20 time start, go, when Morris Fine was the
21 director. I don't know, John, you may know
22 or attend few of the diesel. I know we work
23 together there. But Morris Fine and I, he
24 appointed me, representing AMS. That was

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1 what? 2005, 2006. So, since then up to
2 2014, '15 we worked with airport.

3 So on both -- we work on both
4 airport and ports facilities. This control
5 and mitigation regulation also, a year 600,
6 800 projects per year for construction,
7 demolition, all those kind of stuff. Even
8 Illinois told us this year it might increase
9 by a lot. So we have that regulation. We
10 are ready for that one.

11 Fuel oil phase out. We phase out
12 all heavy fuel four, five, six. No selling,
13 no burning in Philadelphia, this heavy fuel,
14 we bought by regulation. Even number two
15 fuel oil, from 2000 parts per million to 15
16 only 15 per meter. I show you the laboratory
17 check the fuel sulfur content all the time.
18 They pick from one facility and we measure
19 that one, the sulfur content. If they
20 violate, which is violation.

21 Advanced air monitoring technology
22 deployed advanced management air monitors
23 including clarity packs Pandora, which is a
24 satellite one, NASA satellite tracking, and

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1 mobile monitor system. So we have a lot of
2 stuff we did in Philadelphia to protect the
3 public. This is done in Philadelphia to
4 reduce emission from non-road vehicle and
5 aviation.

6 City is transitioning to electric
7 ground support equipment. Ground support
8 equipment such as -- can you put join this
9 one? -- So we put like such as pushback
10 tractor, baggage tractor, and belt loaders.
11 Additionally, airport get electrification.
12 That's a big one we did. And instead of
13 running the APU, the auxiliary power unit, so
14 they use plugin for electricity, and for air
15 condition they use preconditioning air sent
16 to the plane. So it's reduced by a lot,
17 thousands and thousands gallons of fuel.
18 Especially the 747 consume a lot of fuel in a
19 minute or two minutes. So that is a big
20 change.

21 The same with airport. The port,
22 there was a big discussion about the huge six
23 crane. So, they said AMS cannot involve
24 because it is mobile they said. Because

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1 moving one location from left to right, we
2 say no. As far as it is more than a year in
3 one location one place, that is stationary.
4 And APM involvement, lawyers involvement
5 then, at the end, we permit all six, so we
6 control the emission. At the end we discuss
7 with them they switch to electricity. So
8 that is a huge reduction.

9 Also through data, we replace 270
10 older track by replacing their engines with
11 new zero emission alternatives. So here and
12 Wilmington.

13 Air management regulation 9
14 enforced by Philadelphia Air Management
15 Service, regulation mobile source emission
16 which is idling. So still long time this one
17 even before EPA established, we are checking
18 the idling of vehicles. Under executive
19 order also we are doing non-road vehicles and
20 construction equipment. So that is also
21 another one. In summer training smoke from
22 large scale wildfire, that I mentioned
23 emission is high. EPA exceptional event
24 role, they didn't exclude, but now, the new

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1 EPA role required to exclude that special
2 exceptional events from forest fire or
3 volcano or similar to that one.

4 Okay. AMS update 2026 forest fire.
5 Sorry, I have to run. Still I don't know.
6 How many minutes?

7 MR. NEGASH: 10 minutes.

8 MR. SELLASIE: 10 minutes. Oh, I
9 have enough. Okay.

10 During the July 2023 forest fire in
11 Canada, so -- you didn't change the 30,000 --
12 so they are 41, 000, 41,000, more than 41,000
13 people log in to clarify which in the future
14 we use that one. Even it has alert. When
15 the air quality is bad, it will send alert to
16 the public. So that really we are happy, the
17 health department is happy to have that one.

18 July 15th, 2026, 7:00 p.m. start
19 the plume arrived reaching a code red air
20 quality level, which is 75 microgram per
21 meter cube. And July 16th was the worst,
22 that was the worst, July 16, which is
23 Thursday 8:00 p.m., pollution levels worsen.
24 Two code purple with some areas reaching code

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1 maroon, low maroon, so that 257.37 microgram
2 per meter cube, which is AKY 302. That is
3 really high. 300 is the limit for maroon.
4 301, sorry, 301. It is almost yet to the
5 lost nerve.

6 July 17th, 2026, 12:00 p.m., levels
7 began to decline dropping back to code red.
8 In the most location, code purple still
9 remain there. July 18, 12:00 p.m., level
10 continue to drop reaching code red and code
11 orange ranges. July 19 is the best day which
12 was, I believe, Sunday. Concentration return
13 to normal with PM2.5.

14 So this was when it started July 15
15 goes and this is July 16, very high. This
16 regulatory monitors. Then start coming down
17 18th and at the end, it became normal. This
18 is how we report every hour to the community
19 through the communication directors and other
20 and health department. So this is clarity
21 one. One is the air quality index, the other
22 is concentration. So it was high that the
23 same they both more than 250 or something
24 shows.

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1 So, also we send the monitor mobile
2 van monitors. It measures similar high. So
3 we also took grab samples laboratory
4 analyzing some toxics.
5 And I don't know. Can we run this
6 one, Menelik?
7 MR. NEGASH: Click on the --
8 MR. SELLASIE: Just 30 seconds to
9 show. Notes for. You see the map now?
10 MR. NEGASH: No we don't see. I'll
11 share on the -- I'll send a video link.
12 MR. SELLASIE: Okay. Do that one.
13 So, I'll go to the other one. Did you exit?
14 No. Yes I.
15 MR. NEGASH: Yes, I have to.
16 MR. SELLASIE: Presentation, okay.
17 Sorry, Menelik we will show the --
18 okay. So the next one is update
19 emission trends. So this is the trends we
20 have since 1999. So it reduce every time.
21 Even now, even the PM2.5, this is 9 still not
22 approved, finalized, I mean, but it shows.
23 We are even close to the 9 microgram per
24 meter cube, which is 2024 standard. So the

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1 2023, as you see, the forest fire is higher
2 that time because of forest fire. Maybe 2026
3 will be even higher. But still we are close
4 to the new standard even, the PM2.5. So, it
5 is reducing. It is improving. It is not
6 worse or it is not F.

7 So this is -- you see the unhealthy
8 days were very low compared to in the past,
9 '90s. So, it reduced every year. So it is a
10 great progress. So this is the one we have
11 emission trends which is -- we send -- sorry.
12 We send this to everyone to the community
13 public. Whenever we go, we give this one,
14 the flyers. For the PM, for example, this is
15 for nitrogen dioxide. This is a limit we are
16 low from the limit, so we don't have to worry
17 any sulfur dioxide. So this is PM to the
18 point daily which is a 98 percentile we take
19 for the year. So the 98th percentile. We
20 take that one, and we put, you know, start
21 reducing. This is the standard. So it is
22 really very, very low.

23 The same ways -- the same ways here
24 annual, already I mentioned. I show you

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1 this, the PM2.5. And here also the ozone.
2 So, we are on the 70, close to 70 standard,
3 for ozone. So, we have a lot of progress you
4 see coming down and down. So we are close to
5 70, to the border.

6 MR. NEGASH: You have two minutes.

7 MR. SELLASIE: Okay. So this is
8 what we have. So, agency mission is,
9 management services is committed to
10 protecting the health well-being and quality
11 of life of the people who live, work, and
12 visits Philadelphia. Organizational value we
13 have, protecting and improving public health,
14 proactively providing quality and responsive
15 service tailored to address the new of our
16 stakeholders. Interactively communicating
17 with our stakeholders and each other, and
18 treating all with courtesy, dignity, and in
19 professional manner. Working effectively and
20 efficiently and be accountable. Integrity
21 commitments and accountability are the core
22 foundation for the city's public health
23 mission. Dr. Palak Raval-Nelson and health
24 commissioner.

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1 So these are the semi-state reduce
2 the trend, all pollutants, PM2.5. And this
3 is what we have. This is the one you see in
4 the old age, 1960. This might be like, like
5 F maybe, or D, whatever you give. But this
6 is clean, should be A. So comparing to what
7 AMS is doing in the city and health
8 department.

9 Thank you very much. I believe I
10 am on time. No? One minute more. So I'm
11 done. Thank you so much. I have a lot of
12 stuff, I'm sorry, because I have to present
13 everything.

14 MR. MINOTT: Don't worry about it.
15 It was good. I'm jumping in as the chair for
16 a couple things. One is, it looks like the
17 court reporter is asking for lists of
18 participants. Have we provided that to them?

19 THE REPORTER: I think I was able
20 to --

21 MR. MINOTT: The court reporter,
22 whoever the court reporter is, is asking for
23 --

24 MR. SELLASIE: Oh, I did. I sent

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1 that one. No, I did send.

2 MR. MINOTT: Okay. Now I just want
3 to make --

4 MR. SELLASIE: The next day,
5 actually, not the same day. When I send the
6 minutes and the agenda, I sent the next day
7 that one. Check the next day. No, I did
8 send.

9 MR. MINOTT: Okay. I just want to
10 --

11 MR. SELLASIE: I sent the next day.
12 I did. If not, let me know. I will send you
13 again.

14 MR. MINOTT: Two short questions,
15 and then I'll be quiet.

16 MR. SELLASIE: Okay.

17 MR. MINOTT: One is, I would like
18 to ask Ben to, either at the next meeting or
19 the meeting after that, explain to the
20 members of the board what their obligations
21 are under Pennsylvania's Environmental Rights
22 Amendment, which is something that is near
23 and dear to my heart. But I don't think I'm
24 the right person to sort of bring it up and

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1 explain it to you, so ask Ben or someone from
2 the Philadelphia Law Department to do that.

3 The second and my last question is,
4 do we have any data as to what the impact of
5 the very high particulate matter has had on
6 Philadelphians in terms of hospitalizations
7 and that type of stuff? Do we have that
8 information, or was it too quick?

9 MR. SELLASIE: Maybe we don't, I'm
10 sorry. Hospitalization, we started this one
11 with the -- with the health department in the
12 past and other departments, to find out the
13 emergencies, hospitalization and how many
14 people. We started. So that is our future.
15 That's a good point, but sorry, we didn't do
16 anything. So that's the future program
17 service I gave them to find out, you know,
18 what relates the air pollution with the
19 medical kind of stuff, the health of the
20 public, and how many emergencies. I have all
21 those lists, you know, emergency per day, per
22 year, per quarter, so because of emission,
23 all those kind of stuff. So we'll figure
24 out.

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1 So, I think the health department,
2 we have some unit or division, I don't know
3 what happened in the past. Dr. Washington,
4 he was working with us, with AMS. So, I
5 think there is another person. Maybe Dr.
6 Palak left. I think she -- oh, maybe Carol,
7 Dr. Carol, may know. Someone is there, what
8 you call the Dr. Washington was there, now
9 replaced by somebody else. So we are working
10 with them about that one question.

11 MR. MINOTT: Okay. I think that's
12 good news.

13 So I see Arthur Frank has his hand
14 up. So, Arthur, go ahead.

15 MR. FRANK: Thank you, Mr.
16 Chairman. Dr. Sellasie, thank you for that
17 presentation.

18 MR. SELLASIE: Thank you.

19 MR. FRANK: I have a comment and
20 maybe a question, and then a very different
21 one. I was pleased to note that the air
22 pollution unit is involved in educating the
23 public and talking about indoor air issues,
24 which are much less thought about than

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1 outdoor air issues.

2 I was wondering if, at any of those
3 activities, they also have referrals to
4 people that have asthma that should go see
5 their doctors about indoor air, because there
6 are some programs available, or at least used
7 to be available, to clean up homes of mold
8 and things like that, so. I think that's
9 probably a new activity for the air pollution
10 unit, but, you know, indoor air really
11 accounts for at least 50 percent of asthma
12 admissions and so is an important issue. I
13 don't know if you want to comment on that,
14 and then I have a completely different
15 question after that.

16 MR. SELLASIE: Yeah, thank you, Dr.
17 Arthur. Yes, the program service now we
18 assign -- AMS assigned Galen -- I think Galen
19 is here. We assign him to work -- and
20 Menelik, you are also working, yeah, Menelik,
21 Galen, and Rahel, three people are working
22 with the Office of Sustainability. So we
23 just start, as you said, we started.

24 So we are collecting data and how

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1 to implement and how to deal. I hope Dr.
2 Carol Ann is also, in the future, should be
3 involved because she is an expert too. So
4 that's what we are doing. Yeah, we started,
5 but we'll consider your question, a good
6 question about asthma and other kinds of
7 health. Yes, we will study that one.

8 MR. FRANK: Yeah, and I think you
9 get a lot of expertise on this board that
10 could --

11 MR. SELLASIE: Okay. You're right.

12 MR. FRANK: -- you know, just if
13 you have questions or want some insights.

14 The other completely different
15 issue. I noticed that there were a
16 significant amount of fines levied for air
17 pollution issues, but also for asbestos. I
18 was just curious, you know, when dealing with
19 asbestos, which is an issue near and dear to
20 me, there were \$24,000 worth of fines for 8
21 violations. That's \$3,000 per violation,
22 which strikes me as -- I don't know what the
23 range is that you're allowed to charge, but
24 for exposing people, even environmentally, to

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1 a very hazardous and well-known carcinogen,
2 seems particularly low. And, you know, these
3 are big companies, or -- you know, it's not a
4 lot of money that's going to dissuade people
5 from putting asbestos into the environment.

6 MR. SELLASIE: Yeah, I believe
7 because it is not NESHAP or major demolition
8 or source, maybe a minor one, but Rich is
9 here. I believe Rich can explain. He's an
10 expert on asbestos. Rich you are in.
11 Please, can you answer Dr. Frank's question?

12 MR. ANNUNZIATO: Can you hear me?

13 MR. SELLASIE: Yes, thank you.

14 MR. ANNUNZIATO: So I think -- I
15 think that was -- I think one of those was a
16 \$15,000 penalty, and the remainder were
17 others. They don't all balance or zero out
18 to \$3,000 each. There was an industrial
19 facility that had a steam leak in, in
20 February, I think it was, and the cleanup was
21 a million dollars. And I think the NESHAP
22 penalty and ACR penalty with that was 15,000.
23 The rest of those are, you know, smaller
24 localized violation settlements.

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1 MR. FRANK: Okay. I appreciate
2 that. But, you know, that even is more
3 concerning in some ways, that these smaller
4 emissions, you know -- there's not a lot of,
5 you know -- nobody thinks it's a big deal to
6 put asbestos out there if the fines are that
7 low. But thank you for the clarification.

8 MR. MINOTT: I'm going to exercise
9 my immense power as the chair and move Carol
10 as the next person who hasn't had her hand
11 up.

12 MS. GROSS-DAVIS: Hi. Thanks, Joe.
13 I have two comments. I will say, going back
14 to your other question about hospital visits,
15 I know, you know, Dr. Raval-Nelson's not on
16 the call, but I definitely know that that was
17 something that the health department was
18 looking at. You know, to mean -- so as we
19 get that, you know, specific data in, that
20 was something, you know, on her radar. And
21 again, we will, you know, continue, as we
22 advance some of our plans with especially the
23 clarity sensors, as we're going to have more
24 spatial data on air pollution, to figure out

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1 how we can, you know, have a better
2 connection to that. So, we were working on
3 that.

4 And then my other, I guess, comment
5 to Dr. Frank, which I, you know, I totally
6 agree, and I'm, you know, excited that we're
7 going to do something around indoor air. EPA
8 does not regulate indoor air at all, right?
9 So there's no federal, you know, thing for
10 the city to lean on. So the fact that we're
11 doing that, I think, is a really important
12 thing, especially when we think about the
13 burden of asthma for the residents of
14 Philadelphia.

15 And I want to offer, Kass, you know
16 and I'm happy to, to work with you on that
17 is, to connect with our Pediatric
18 Environmental Health Specialty Unit here in
19 Region 3, which I think still is Villanova
20 University, that I've worked closely with at
21 EPA. And they can be a real help from that
22 medical perspective on connecting what to do,
23 similar to what Dr. Frank had said, to kind
24 of have that other expertise in from the

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1 medical side, that we are giving really good,
2 you know, connection with the physical things
3 to do and then treatments, just connecting,
4 you know, that material in a way that's
5 consumable by families around indoor air,
6 because we really don't have a regulatory arm
7 in that.

8 So I just think there's, you know,
9 again, lots of specialties here in
10 Philadelphia to do that, and on the board,
11 but the PEHSU, I think, is going to be a good
12 -- could be a really good resource for us
13 that is also free. So we don't have to, you
14 know, necessarily pay for them to help us.
15 That was one to offer that. Thanks.

16 MR. MINOTT: Awesome.

17 MR. SELLASIE: Yeah. That good
18 question is -- the question is great because,
19 if you remember, we publish every year, I
20 believe, the asthma in the City of
21 Philadelphia. If you see the, I believe, the
22 Nicetown area, the Center Nicetown area,
23 there are like 22, 24 percent of children
24 affected by asthma. So that is not the

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1 surroundings, the outdoor, but the study
2 shows the indoor. Because of indoor air
3 pollution, the asthma is high, especially in
4 children in Philadelphia, which is 22 to 24
5 percent are affected by asthma. So that's --
6 I think that's a good study to obey, and we
7 are still working with the sustainability.

8 So I hope we reach something to
9 reduce, not only study, but to mitigate, you
10 know, what we need, or the community or each
11 household should do to reduce or eliminate
12 that asthma. So, I think that is a good
13 study and I second that.

14 MR. MINOTT: I agree. I think
15 indoor air pollution is, is a tremendous
16 threat, and it'd be great if we could take
17 that on.

18 I want to get Terry to speak, and
19 then, if there's anyone else in the audience,
20 I will give them a chance to speak too. So,
21 Terry, go ahead.

22 MR. SOULE: I was curious as to the
23 idling violations. We seem to have quite a
24 few of those each quarter. Are these

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1 widespread, or they appear to be more
2 isolated?

3 MR. SELLASIE: Sorry, Terry, say
4 that again. I was just asking him --

5 MR. SOULE: On the idling
6 violations, are they widespread or are they
7 more isolated? I'm curious --

8 MR. SELLASIE: The violation, it is
9 -- it is isolated, most of it, because we
10 give, like, this kind of violation when
11 people complain. It depends which one, the
12 asbestos or the air pollution. So the air
13 pollution, most of the time, the public
14 complain. So industry or warehouse, those
15 kind of stuff, and trash truck -- trash
16 truck, yes.

17 So when, when like, outside the
18 limited hour, like midnight or 3:00 a.m.,
19 4:00 a.m., so, people complain and they call
20 us. We're schedule and go there, and if we
21 find out, yeah, we issue a violation. The
22 asbestos is whenever there is a demolition or
23 something, or sometimes Rich can tell you
24 there is even a prison time which we charge

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1 people. Asbestos which affects the public
2 and they landed to prison.

3 So this kind of stuff. So most of
4 the time, as you know, the only one that is
5 mobile is, like, trash idling anywhere, but
6 still, stationary one, we are doing most of
7 the time. So only the mobile is idling or
8 black smoke. And asbestos is a little bit
9 different. So those are the violations we
10 have most of the time. It is isolated most
11 of the time.

12 MR. SOULE: So, for the most part,
13 there are complains. They're being called
14 in. It's not like we have an enforcement
15 program to, I guess, aid in reducing or
16 preventing the idling of the vehicles. And
17 I'm focused more on the idling, the idling of
18 the vehicles as opposed to the asbestos.

19 MR. SELLASIE: Great point.
20 Exactly, Indiana is -- India is here. We
21 just discussed, you know, this enforcement is
22 done by, by police, Air Management Services,
23 and Philadelphia Parking Authority. So the
24 best thing now we are discussing in the

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1 future planning is, how we can coordinate and
2 work with Philadelphia Parking Authority.
3 They are everywhere, as you see, in the city,
4 everywhere. So, we discussed with them, and
5 I think they will work on this kind of idling
6 or anything they see. So I think cooperation
7 is a great one. So that's our future plan,
8 working with them. I have a lot of idling
9 violations.

10 MR. MINOTT: Let me just hop in for
11 a second. In New York, citizens can actually
12 film idling cars and send that in, and they
13 get a reward for it. So I think that's sort
14 of something to talk about at some point.

15 I really want to open it up to, if
16 there's anyone that is not on the board, to
17 see if they have any questions.

18 MR. SELLASIE: Is there any
19 question?

20 MR. NEGASH: Yes, from the
21 attendees, asked if slides will be sent to
22 all attendees after the meeting.

23 MR. SELLASIE: Yeah, I think so.
24 We can do that. So one of the attendee asked

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1 if they will find or get the slides, the
2 PowerPoint presentation. So I'll discuss
3 with India, and yeah, I don't think so. Is
4 there any issue? Yeah, we will send that
5 one.

6 MR. MINOTT: Yeah, that should be
7 easily, easily shared, but I don't -- there
8 was nothing confidential in that.

9 MS. MCGHEE: Yeah. We can -- we
10 can post that with the minutes if you like.

11 MR. SELLASIE: Yeah, exactly.
12 True. Yeah. Okay.

13 MR. MINOTT: Anyone else out there
14 with question?

15 MR. SELLASIE: Is there another
16 question?

17 MR. NEGASH: No.

18 MR. SELLASIE: That's the only
19 question we have.

20 MR. MINOTT: Well, surprisingly,
21 that puts us with extra -- an extra four
22 minutes to do whatever we want with. Going,
23 going, gone.

24 I move that we -- what's the proper

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1 word? End this session, or whatever --
2 whatever the proper --

3 MR. SELLASIE: So the next meeting
4 will be October -- what is it? October 30th
5 or 29th? Next one.

6 MR. MINOTT: You have to tell us.
7 And actually, if you could give us, as you
8 did last year, a list of the four -- the four
9 dates for the year, that would be helpful
10 too.

11 MR. SELLASIE: Okay. I will -- I
12 will send -- I'll send it. Yeah, I'll send
13 the whole year. Okay.

14 MR. MINOTT: Okay. Anyone else
15 have any questions, or did I rudely interrupt
16 people?

17 Okay. Going, going, gone. Thank
18 you all very much. It was a great meeting.

19 MR. SOULE: Thanks a lot, Joe.

20 MS. FEATHERSTONE: Thank you.

21 MR. FRANK: Move to adjourn.

22 MR. MINOTT: Second.

23 MR. SOULE: Aye.

24 MR. SELLASIE: Thank you. Have a

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good day.

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(Proceedings concluded at 2:57 p.m.)

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