

Dear YRCAA Board of Directors - I am Jean Mendoza from White Swan.

Three minute is not long enough to share information. I will try to address the Compensation Study, Resolution No. 2022-07, and Letters from Friends of Toppenish Creek.

Regarding the Compensation Study:

- Regarding this study I speak only for myself and not for FOTC.
- It appears to me that women at YRCAA will be paid less than men under the proposed compensation scale. In my opinion their work is equally valuable and requires the same or higher skill levels. Currently three women work for YRCAA, and they are at the very bottom of the proposed salary scale
- I question why the Fiscal Programs Manager is classified at 21 when that person will have the duties of Audit Officer if Resolution 2022-06 passes. This is a position with a great deal of responsibility to my reading of RCW 42.24.080.
- It appears that there is no compensation for being bilingual. It appears that bilingual staff are expected to donate this skill to the YRCAA and thus work harder than their monolingual peers.
- On the YRCAA opening web page the agency states:

*YRCAA Notice of Non-Discrimination*

*The Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency (YRCAA) does not discriminate on the base of race, color, national origin, disability, age, or sex in administration of its programs or activities, and the YRCAA does not intimidate or retaliate against any individual or group because they have exercised their rights to participate in or opposed actions protected by 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7, or for the purpose of interfering with such rights.*

Regarding Resolution No. 2022 – 07

Most people in the LYV work during the day. It is very difficult to take time off from work, travel from Grandview, Sunnyside, Mabton, White Swan to Yakima and sit through a meeting where we are allowed to speak for a maximum of three minutes.

This should be obvious to the members of the YRCAA Board of Directors because two directors who are expected to represent the public under the law, frequently miss board meetings due to work obligations.

A better way to engage the public would be to hold meetings in the evening and to hold some meetings in the LYV.

Regarding FOTC letters:

- The bottom line is that people in the Lower Yakima Valley were denied the opportunity to provide input on hiring of the new APCO/Executive Director, a betrayal of promises made by this board. The public should be able to trust you to keep your word. There is a

difference between arguing technicalities in the law and fulfilling the intent of the law. The YRCAA board of directors should know this.

- Newspapers and radio stations do not know about the requirement to ask to be on a /the mailing list to receive notifications. How could the media know about this requirement unless the YRCAA tells them? How can the public know about meetings if you do not inform the media?
- FOTC sent emails to the APCO mailbox for the past year and never received an email saying the mailbox was not attended.
- It is concerning that the YRCAA does not feel obligated to comply with the HEAL Act or the Climate Commitment Act. Air quality is an essential part of both statutes. The YRCAA is the regulatory agency with authority in Yakima County. When the YRCAA does not comply with these laws this means that Washington State treats people in overburdened parts of Yakima County differently compared to people in other overburdened parts of the state.
- It is incorrect and misleading to say that the YRCAA “is statutorily prohibited from voluntarily adopting its (HEAL) requirements.” The YRCAA has the authority to adopt, amend, and repeals its own rules and regulations pursuant to RCW 70A.15.2040(1) and can certainly incorporate HEAL guidelines.
- Ecology is currently conducting on-line public meetings to gather input regarding overburdened communities. The YRCAA has not publicized these meetings. Why not?

For the record, FOTC asked this board to address permitting of RNG operations that harvest methane from cow manure. The board declined to put this topic on today’s agenda. This is an important topic that deserves timely public discussion. RNG operations will most likely increase air pollution in the LYV.

For the record I ask you to consider me for the citizen at large position on the YRCAA Board of Directors. I have expertise in public health, climate change and air science.

## General Classifications and Grade Assignments

Job Title	Current Grade	Level	Proposed Grade	Proposed Grade MID
Front Office Assistant/Admin Assistant	AS	I	20	\$41,830
Records Administrator	AS	I	21	\$50,196
Fiscal Programs Manager	AS	III	21	\$50,196
Compliance & Engineering Field Agent	AQS	I	22	\$60,235
Compliance & Engineering Lead Field Agent	AQS	II	22	\$60,235
IT Manager	AQS	II	22	\$60,235
Engineer Trainee	ES Training		ES Training	\$71,156
Administrative Division Supervisor	DS	I	23	\$72,282
Engineer/Planner	ES	I	24	\$86,739
Engineering, Compliance and Planning Division Supervisor	DS	III	25	\$104,086
Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO)/Executive Director	N/A		26	\$130,108

From the May 2021 Board Packet Power Point Budget Description, page 63/89

### Appendix A

#### FY 2022 YRCAA Employee Salary Costs

Name / Class	Salary	Benefits	Total
Keith Hurley / Director	\$ 96,000	\$ 30,188	\$ 126,188
Carl Brookshire / AQS II	\$ 34,128	\$ 7,154	\$ 41,282
Itza-Vel Duarte / AS I	\$ 33,280	\$ 17,762	\$ 51,042
Pamela Herman / AS I	\$ 37,440	\$ 7,639	\$ 45,079
Wade Porter / ES I	\$ 42,373	\$ 16,344	\$ 58,177
Christa Owen / AS III	\$ 51,049	\$ 17,615	\$ 68,664
Kelsey Sanford / AQS I	\$ 36,888	\$ 19,072	\$ 55,960
Dustin Harrington / AQS II	\$ 47,719	\$ 19,949	\$ 67,668
Hasan Tahat / DS III	\$ 83,553	\$ 25,127	\$ 108,680
Mark Edler / AQS II-DS1	\$ 54,815	\$ 18,562	\$ 73,377
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 517,245</b>	<b>\$ 179,411</b>	<b>\$ 696,656</b>

## **RCW 42.24.080**

### **Municipal corporations and political subdivisions—Claims against for contractual purposes—Auditing and payment—Forms—Authentication and certification.**

(1) All claims presented against any county, city, district or other municipal corporation or political subdivision by persons furnishing materials, rendering services or performing labor, or for any other contractual purpose, shall be audited, before payment, by an auditing officer elected or appointed pursuant to statute or, in the absence of statute, an appropriate charter provision, ordinance or resolution of the municipal corporation or political subdivision. Such claims shall be prepared for audit and payment on a form and in the manner prescribed by the state auditor. The form shall provide for the authentication and certification by such auditing officer that the materials have been furnished, the services rendered, the labor performed as described, or that any advance payment is due and payable pursuant to a contract or is available as an option for full or partial fulfillment of a contractual obligation, and that the claim is a just, due and unpaid obligation against the municipal corporation or political subdivision. No claim shall be paid without such authentication and certification.

(2) Certification as to claims of officers and employees of a county, city, district or other municipal corporation or political subdivision, for services rendered, shall be made by the person charged with preparing and submitting vouchers for payment of services. He or she shall certify that the claim is just, true and unpaid, and that certification shall be part of the voucher. [ 2008 c 198 § 6; 1995 c 301 § 72; 1965 c 116 § 1.]