

Brain & Lung Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation

21865 Copley Drive ❖ Diamond Bar CA 91765

Michael D. Antonovich, Chair

Robert Davidson, Vice Chair

Minutes February 21, 2007

Chair Antonovich called the meeting of the Brain & Lung Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation to order at 4:32 p.m. Present by teleconference from the locations indicated were the following Directors (in alphabetical order):

Michael D. Antonovich - 500 W. Temple St., 869 Hall of Administration, Los Angeles CA
Robert Davidson - 3360 E. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles CA
Hal Bernson - 1059 Dewitt, Encinitas, CA
Jim Silva - State Capitol Office, Room 3147, Sacramento, CA

Also present were the following individuals (in alphabetical order):

Tania Christman, Foundation Secretary
Dr. Jean Ospital, Health Effects Officer
Dr. Barry Wallerstein, Foundation Chief Executive Officer
Kurt Wiese, District Counsel

1. **APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2006 MEETING**
Moved (Davidson), seconded (Bernson) and unanimously approved.
2. **DISCUSSION: ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BRAIN & LUNG TUMOR AND AIR POLLUTION FOUNDATION TO BE PRESENTED AT THE MARCH 2, 2007 MEETING OF THE AQMD GOVERNING BOARD**
 - a. **Report on Current Research Projects Funded by the Foundation:** Dr. Jean Ospital reported that two projects have been completed as follows:
 - (1) The study conducted by Dr. Keith Black of Cedars-Sinai, which included initial funding of \$1.5 million, was to investigate the short-term effects of animal exposure to ambient particulate matter for a one- and a three-month period. The preliminary results are on-going to be completed in June with the analysis of tissue being done. A longer term exposure of one year is also being conducted, with results expected toward the end of this year.
 - (2) Dr. John Peters and his colleagues of the USC School of Medicine have compiled data on brain tumor incidences on children under the age of five in the four-county area. The data was collected from children born from 1991 to 2002. This completed the work scope of the research grant.

A preliminary analysis using residential zip codes to estimate exposure to particulate matter, specifically PM2.5, was additionally conducted by the researchers.

Jim Silva joined the meeting at 4:34 p.m.

The analysis found that there is a correlation that is statically significant with PM2.5 and brain tumor incidences within the four counties with the highest incidences occurring in Los Angeles County. A 10 ug/m3 increase of PM2.5 was associated with a 33% increase in brain tumor risk. The investigators conducted this preliminary study on their own with no additional funding. An informal proposal was received to conduct additional, more rigorous analyses using air quality data from specific residence addresses and to estimate traffic exposures. The direct cost is estimated at \$110,000. If the study is initiated through USC, the cost will likely be about \$200,000 when the University indirect costs are factored in.

Mr. Davidson left the meeting at 4:38 p.m.

Dr. Ospital continued that the financial report shows that approximately \$23,000 remains in the Foundation account.

Dr. Wallerstein suggested that \$180,000 in funds can be found to assist USC in applying for the grant for AQMD. Mr. Silva asked how difficult it would be to locate money to fund this item, and Dr. Wallerstein stated that since Dr. Ospital stated the preliminary results of the study are intriguing, the Foundation Directors can report to the Governing Board that there is a need to find funding. Dr. Ospital stated that the remaining funds of \$23,000 in the account could be used to initiate the grant process. Motion (Bernson); seconded (Antonovich); and unanimously approved.

b. **Future Research Opportunities for the Foundation:**

3. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None
4. **NEXT MEETING** - Will be scheduled as needed.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - There was no public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:41p.m.

Dated: February 21, 2007

Tania Christman, Foundation Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Date: _____