District welcomes new board members

The Air District's Governing Board roster changed dramatically with the coming of 2007.

Several board members were termed out of office, while others took on new positions or decided to allow colleagues the opportunity to serve.

The Governing Board is made up of one Supervisor from each of the eight Valley counties, and one city council member from each of the three District regions, totaling eleven members.

County Supervisors who sit on the Board are appointed from within their own ranks while the California League of Cities is responsible for appointing city council members. The League selects one council member from a small city, one from a medium-sized city, and one from a large city.

The previous seats on the council that represented Valley cities were held by Dan Prince from Ripon, who represented a small city in the Northern Region, Sam Armentrout from Madera, who represented a medium-sized city in the Central Region and Mike Maggard from Bakersfield, who represented a large city in the Southern Region.

Other Board members who left the District in 2006 were Susan Anderson of Fresno County, Tom Mayfield of Stanislaus County and Jack Sieglock of San Joaquin County.

The following introduces the Governing Board's newest members:

Raji Brar, the small city representative on the Board was elected to the Arvin City Council in 2006. She holds degrees in Biology and Health Care Management and is a small business owner.



Jon McQuiston, elected to the Kern County Board of Supervisors in 1996. He holds a degree in Professional Aeronautics and a Juris Doctorate.

William O'Brien, elected to the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors in 2004. He holds degrees in Business Administration and Financial Management and manages Daily Operations at O'Brien's markets.





Leroy Ornellas, elected to the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors in 2002. He is a third-generation dairy farmer and founding member of

the San Joaquin County Citizens Land Alliance and Tracy Tomorrow and Beyond committee.

Henry T. Perea, the large city representative on the Board was elected to the Fresno City Council in 2002. He currently serves as the Acting Council President and holds a degree in Political Science.





Chris Vierra, the medium-size city representative has served on the Ceres City Council since 2003. He holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering and is currently employed by Thompson-Hysell Engineers.

Six of the Board members are returning:

Tony Barba, elected to the King's County Board of Supervisors in 1994 and currently serving his third term. He worked as a California Highway Patrol Officer for more than 26 years.





Judy Case, elected to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors in 1998. She and her husband live on a ranch, raising cattle and running a bed & breakfast. She holds degrees in nursing and business administration.

Ronn Dominici. elected to the Madera County Board of Supervisors in 2000. He retired from the California Highway Patrol earlier that year, after 33 years of service.





Mike Nelson, elected to the Merced County Board of Supervisors in 2002. He holds a degree in Crop Science and has a background in farm management.

Steven Worthley, Board Chair, elected to the Tulare County Board of Supervisors in 1998 and holds a degree from the McGeorge School of Law at the University of the Pacific.

