

Action Summary Minutes
San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Central Region Office, Governing Board Room
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, CA

March 2, 2021
10:00 a.m.

Meeting held via video teleconferencing with the Central Region Office (Fresno). This meeting was also webcast. Given the international COVID-19 pandemic, and consistent with the California Department of Public Health's recommendations and Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, no physical location was provided for public attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Kevin Abernathy, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. He announced the District was responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by holding this meeting in a manner consistent with Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20 and California Department of Public Health's recommendations for social distancing. He quickly summarized that the meeting was being held via video teleconference and webcast with no physical location for public attendance. However, he said members of the public who wished to address the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) members would be provided the opportunity to do so during the appropriate commenting periods. He thanked the CAC members and the public for their patience as we continue with the Zoom meeting format in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was present to hold the meeting and to take action.

<u>County</u>	<u>Member Name/Interest Group</u>	<u>Location</u>
Fresno	Manuel Cunha / IAIG (P)	VTC
	Gary Yep / CIG (P)	VTC
Kern	Les Clark / IAIG (P)	VTC
	Carolyn Temple / EIG (P)	VTC
	Wayne Clausen / CIG (P)	VTC
Kings	Laura Brown / IAIG (P)*	VTC
	Kelly Deming / EIG (P)	VTC
	Dennis Tristao / CIG (P)*	VTC
Madera	Don Horal / IAIG (P)	VTC
	Brittany Dyer / EIG (P)	VTC
Merced	Kevin Abernathy / IAIG (P)	VTC
San Joaquin	Roger Hoffdahl / IAIG (P)	VTC
	Ned Leiba / EIG (P)	VTC

Stanislaus	Chris Savage / IAIG (P) Richard O'Brien / CIG (P)	VTC VTC
Tulare	Derek Williams / IAIG (P) Jose Sigala / CIG (A)	VTC VTC

**arrived at 10:40 a.m.*

** (P) = Primary, (A) = Alternate, IAIG = Industry/Ag Interest Group, EIG = Environmental Interest Group, CIG = City Interest Group*

3. APPROVE MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 2, 2021 – Chairman Abernathy asked for member comments on the minutes. Hearing none, he deemed the minutes as approved.
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None
5. CHAIR COMMENTS – None
6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/APCO COMMENTS – Morgan Lambert, Deputy APCO, provided the CAC members an update on a few key items:
 - In February 2021, the Governing Board approved the extension of the agreement with Great Basin APCD to administer the Carl Moyer Program on their behalf for an additional five years. Since 2008, this agreement has brought an additional \$2.9 million in Carl Moyer incentive funds to the Valley.
 - In February 2021, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted their staff's recommendations on the District's 2020 Report and Recommendations on Agricultural Burning. The CARB action included full short-term concurrence with the District's report through August 31, 2021, longer term concurrence with many of the District's recommendations through 2025, and additional criteria for longer term concurrence beyond August 2021 including a timeline for the near complete phase-out of agricultural open burning by January 1, 2025. CARB highlighted and affirmed the critical role that the state plays in securing needed incentive funding to support the transition and in addressing barriers to new bioenergy solutions. The District is in the process of evaluating CARB's action and will continue to engage with CARB and stakeholders to assess and implement the recommendations.

In light of the agricultural burning recommendations recently adopted by CARB and the financial commitment by the state to assist with the transition to eliminate agricultural burning in the Valley, Mr. Cunha suggested revising the CAC letter on state budget

recommendations, approved by the CAC at the last meeting, to incorporate additional information regarding incentive funding necessary to facilitate the transition away from the open burning of remaining categories of agricultural materials. Mr. Lambert responded that it appeared Mr. Cunha's suggested revisions were consistent with the action taken to approve the budget recommendations letter in February, and could be added to a new version of the letter without additional action from CAC members at today's meeting. It was consensus of the members present to revise the letter to add the information suggested by Mr. Cunha.

Mr. O'Brien asked for information to be sent to him on the emissions reductions from using alternative practices rather than open burning. Mr. Lambert said the information would be sent to Mr. O'Brien after this meeting.

Public Comment: None

7. UPDATES ON ATTAINMENT PLANS AND RULES – Jon Klassen, Director of Air Quality Science and Planning, provided an update on the District's planning and rule development efforts.

Public Comment: None

8. VERBAL REPORT FROM CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD – Laura Carr, CARB representative, gave a brief update on the actions taken by CARB at their meeting held in February 2021.

Mr. Clark asked for clarification of the public meeting that CARB will be holding to consider a proposed research contract with the University of California to evaluate post-Covid transportation scenarios. Ms. Carr responded this was one of several research contracts approved by the Board to look at transportation & land use policies that have been affected by Covid-19. Mr. Clark asked for additional information on this study. Ms. Carr responded with CARB staff contact information.

Mr. O'Brien commented that they have been doing studies in the Riverbank area utilizing different modes of transportation, including ride sharing and how it impacts in the city, not only in a rural setting but providing transportation throughout different counties. Mr. Clark expressed concerned with this study being tied in with Covid-19.

Public Comment: None

9. CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CAC SUBCOMMITTEE FOR HEARING BOARD APPOINTMENTS – Mr. Lambert said one of the roles of the CAC is to provide recommendations to the Governing Board on candidates to fill vacancies on the

District's Hearing Boards. He said at the last meeting, the Chair appointed Ms. Zimmerman, Mr. Cunha, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Clausen, and Mr. Hamilton to an ad hoc subcommittee to interview an applicant for the Southern Region Hearing Board Engineer Primary vacancy.

Mr. Lambert said after conducting the interview, there was unanimous support amongst the subcommittee members that the CAC should forward a recommendation to the Governing Board for final consideration and appointment of Mr. Blaine Neptune to the Southern Region Hearing Board.

Laura Brown and Dennis Tristao arrived at 10:40 a.m.

Public Comment: None

Moved: O'Brien
Second: Clausen
Ayes: Clark, Brown, Horal, Hoffdahl, Savage, Williams,
Temple, Deming, Dyer, Abernathy, Leiba, Yep, Clausen, Tristao
O'Brien, Sigala
Nays: None

Motion unanimously carried to approve recommended appointment of Mr. Blaine Neptune as the Primary Engineer member on the Southern Region Hearing Board and forward the recommendation to the Governing Board for final approval and ultimate appointment.

10. DISCUSS NEXT STEPS FOR ATTAINMENT PLANNING EFFORTS FOR FEDERAL PM2.5 AND OZONE STANDARDS – Jon Klassen, Director of Air Quality and Analysis, and Jessi Fierro, Assistant District Counsel, provided an update to the CAC on the District's status and next steps for attainment planning efforts for federal PM2.5 and ozone standards.

Mr. Abernathy thanked staff for the great historical perspective that provided highlights for the CAC members who have been working on air quality for a long time, as well as the newer members who are just getting involved in this important issue in the Valley.

Mr. Cunha said we have come a long way in this very difficult situation thanks to the SJVAQS/AUSPEX Regional Modeling Adaptation Project (SARMAP) and Central California Ozone Study (CCOS) developed by the San Joaquin Valleywide Air Pollution Study Agency. He commended District staff and the research part of the District for having the right information, the correct statistics and reaching out to all.

Mr. Leiba asked if there were some prominent cases in the last 5 to 10 years where federal sanctions have actually been applied, such a loss of highway funds or other

draconian measures. Ms. Fierro responded that it comes up on occasion. She added the threat is very real. Mr. Leiba noted it would be helpful to have additional studies that show the dramatic changes in mortality and morbidity as PM2.5 standards drop from 60 micrograms to 18.

Ms. Zimmerman thanked District staff and CAC members who have worked through the past iterations of these plans.

Mr. Abernathy said CAC members must give the District a tremendous amount of kudos from the standpoint that if it wasn't for their visionary look and the fact that the Board consists of many elected officials, who have to react and respond to their constituents who elected them to their offices, we would be far away from meeting attainment and would have never have met any of the mandates. He thanked everyone for making such huge improvements.

Public comments: None

11. UPDATE ON DISTRICT'S RESPONSE TO CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD'S REVIEW OF THE DISTRICT EMISSION REDUCTION CREDIT PROGRAM – Morgan Lambert, Deputy APCO, provided an update to the CAC on the status of the District's response to California Air Resources Board's review of the District Emission Reduction Credit Program.
12. AB 617 IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES –
 - a. Ryan Hayashi, Deputy APCO, provided an update on the District's ongoing activities related to AB 617 implementation. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the District has been working with the Community Steering Committees to re-envision the process and community engagement in light of stay-at-home orders and social distancing recommendations. The Community Steering Committees are continuing to have meetings utilizing online meeting tools. The South Central Fresno and Shafter communities are continuing to work on implementing the Community Emission Reduction Programs (CERPs) approved earlier this year. Mr. Hayashi shared that two new air monitoring sites have been deployed in the Shafter community and one more in the process of being completed. The Stockton community is working to develop a Community Air Monitoring Plan and CERP for consideration by the Mr. Hayashi reported that the District has submitted 4 project plans to CARB for the use of Community Air Protection incentive funds to implement measures contained in the South Central and Shafter CERPs. These following projects are currently under review by CARB:
 - Vehicle Charging Station Infrastructure
 - Educational Training for EV Mechanics

- Heavy-Duty Truck Replacement
- Zero Emission Yard Truck Replacement

During their meeting on February 25, 2021, Mr. Hayashi reported that CARB selected Arvin/Lamont as a Year 3 AB 617 community. The District is currently accepting applications for the Community Steering Committee and is working with community stakeholders to set up a kick-off meeting.

- b. Karen Buckley, CARB Office of Community Air Protection, provided an update on efforts underway by CARB to implement AB 617. Moving forward, CARB will be partnering with the districts on CERP implementation, working on updates to the AB 617 Blueprint based on lessons learned during Year 1, compiling and sharing resources on strategies, and continuing the development of tools to support the program (AQ View Data Portal, Emissions Inventory, and Technology Clearinghouse). In addition, each year CARB considers the selection of new communities for the program. On February 25, 2021, CARB selected two new communities (Arvin/Lamont and South Los Angeles) for air monitoring and emissions reduction programs and one community (San Pablo-Richmond) to transition from a monitoring only community to an emissions reduction program.

Ms. Buckley also discussed recent new faces in CARB leadership including the Chair Liane Randolph, Board Members Dr. Tania Pacheco-Werner, Gideon Kracov, and Davina Hunt, Deputy Executive Officer for Environmental Justice Chanell Fletcher, and Director of the Office of Community Air Protection Deldi Reyes.

Public Comment: None

13. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS REPORT – Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, provided an update on District outreach activities, including the end of the Check Before You Burn season on February 28th. She also gave updates on the Kid's Calendar contest, as well as the fact that there would be no in person Earth Day events this year due to Covid-19.

Public Comment: None

14. CAC MEMBER COMMENTS – None
15. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING – Mr. Abernathy volunteered to present the report during the March 18, 2021 Governing Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Next Meeting –The next CAC meeting is scheduled on April 6, 2021. The meeting will be held via video teleconference (VTC).