

Action Summary Minutes

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Thursday, March 16, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Meeting was held via video teleconference (VTC): Central Region Office, Governing Board Room, 1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, the Southern Region Office, VTC Room, 34946 Flyover Court, Bakersfield, and teleconference in the Northern Region Office, VTC Room, 4800 Enterprise Way, Modesto. Members of the public were allowed to participate in-person at any of the referenced locations or remotely via Zoom webinar. The meeting was also webcast.

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER – The Chair, Supervisor Vito Chiesa, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.
- 2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was present.

Present:

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|--|-----------------------|
| Vito Chiesa, Supervisor, Chair ¹ | Stanislaus County |
| Deborah Lewis, Councilmember, Vice Chair | City of Los Banos |
| Drew Bessinger, Councilmember | City of Clovis |
| David Couch, Supervisor | Kern County |
| Lloyd Pareira, Supervisor | Merced County |
| Alvaro Preciado, Mayor | City of Avenal |
| Robert Rickman, Supervisor | San Joaquin County |
| Alexander Sherriffs, M.D. | Appointed by Governor |
| Amy Shuklian, Supervisor ² | Tulare County |
| Buddy Mendes, Supervisor | Fresno County |
| Tania Pacheco-Werner PhD | Appointed by Governor |

Absent:

Supervisor Macaulay, Supervisor Robinson

- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

¹ Left meeting at 10:15 a.m.; Returned at 11:23 a.m.

² Arrived at 9:10 a.m.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR – ITEM NUMBERS (14-17)

14. APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF FEBRUARY 16, 2023

15. RECEIVE AND FILE LIST OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR 2023

16. RECEIVE AND FILE OPERATIONS STATISTICS SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY 2023

17. RECEIVE AND FILE BUDGET STATUS REPORTS AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2023

Public Comment: None

Moved: Sherriffs

Seconded: Mendes

Ayes: Couch, Bessinger, Lewis, Mendes, Pacheco-Werner, Pareira, Preciado, Rickman, Sherriffs, Shuklian, Chiesa

Nays: None

Motion carried to approve Consent Calendar (Items 14-17).

5. PUBLIC COMMENT – The following individual(s) provided public comments at this meeting:

- Connie Young, Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL)
- Janet Dietz-Kamei, Resident
- Nancy Richardson, Resident
- Veronica Aguirre, Resident

6. REPORT ON CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES – Manuel Cunha, Citizens Advisory Committee Chair, reported on highlights from the meeting held on March 7, 2023.

7. ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE \$13,150,710 IN STATE CAP AND TRADE FUNDING FOR THE BOARD-APPROVED SOUTH-CENTRAL FRESNO ZERO-EMISSION DELIVERY TRUCK DEMONSTRATION PROJECT – Todd DeYoung, Director of Grants and Incentives, presented recommendations to accept \$13,150,710 from the California Air Resources Board and California Energy Commission to fund the Governing Board approved South-Central Fresno Zero Emission Pepsi Delivery Truck Demonstration project.

Mr. Chiesa inquired if near-zero infrastructure will be funded under the project. Mr. DeYoung clarified this project will fund zero-emission electric trucks and related zero-emission charging infrastructure.

Mr. Bessinger said that it will be important to include school districts and community colleges to work on specific courses and programs to create the necessary workforce to service these vehicles.

Mr. Mendes asked if it was a 1-to-1 relationship between chargers and trucks for this project. Mr. DeYoung explained that the trucks will be deployed in a manner to be able to share chargers. Mr. Sheikh added that with these types of demonstration projects there is very intense planning that goes into determining the infrastructure requirements.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner expressed her excitement to see this project come to Fresno County and looks forward to see comparisons between the Modesto and Fresno projects.

Mr. Preciado remarked that a few weeks ago he was invited to Bakersfield to visit and ride on their hydrogen bus, and that he was told that their college already has classes for maintaining hydrogen and electric busses.

Dr. Sherriffs commended the work on this very important project and the extraordinary partnership and collaboration.

Mr. Chiesa echoed Dr. Sherriffs comment about this great project and is excited to see it come to Fresno, since a similar project in Modesto has been very well received.

Public Comment: *The following individual(s) commented on this item:*

- Manuel Cunha, Nisei Farmers League (NFL)
- Kevin Abernathy- Milk Producers Council; Dairy Cares

Moved: Pacheco-Werner

Seconded: Mendes

Ayes: Bessinger, Couch, Lewis, Mendes, Pacheco-Werner, Pareira, Preciado, Rickman, Sherriffs, Shuklian, Chiesa

Nays: None

Motion unanimously approved to (1) accept \$13,151,710 from the California Air Resources Board and California Energy Commission to fund the Board-approved South Central Fresno Zero Emission Pepsi Delivery Truck Demonstration Project; (2) approve the attached Budget Resolution to amend the 2022-23 District Budget to appropriate \$13,150,710 in unanticipated revenue; (3) authorize the Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO), on behalf of the Board, to negotiate and enter into any agreements with CARB and CEC to accept and administer the funding; and (4) authorize the Board Chair, with Executive Director/APCO recommendation, to negotiate and execute any agreements with subcontractors, as necessary, to administer the funding.

8. RECEIVE AND FILE THE DISTRICT'S ANNUAL AIR TOXICS REPORT FOR 2022 – Seth Lane, Program Manager, presented the District's Annual Air Toxics Report for 2022.

Mr. Bessinger commended the presentation and inquired about what general category do the current 19 high priority facilities fall. Mr. Lane explained that due to the very conservative nature of prioritization screening, numerous types of facilities can be prioritized as high depending the actual compounds emitted, the proximity to receptors, meteorological conditions, etc. The current 19 facilities are primarily oil field operations which need to conduct refined health risk assessments to determine their actual risk.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner thanked Mr. Lane for a great presentation and appreciated that the reports are becoming more understandable each year.

Ms. Lewis inquired if there were any specific reasons that the reports showing some spikes after downward trends in the 1990's. Mr. Sheikh explained that with trends like these, the results are driven by a number of factors such as growth in population and mobile sources. Mr. Sheikh added that the implementation of regulations along the way also showed some tremendous reductions.

Dr. Sherriffs inquired about what component was listed as other mobile sources, Mr. Sheikh replied that it would consist of off-road equipment, locomotives, agriculture, and construction sources.

Public Comment: *The following individual(s) commented on this item:*

- Janet Dietz-Kamei, Resident
- Roger Isom, Western Ag Processors Association & California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations

Moved: Sherriffs

Seconded: Mendes

Ayes: Bessinger, Couch, Lewis, Mendes, Pacheco-Werner, Pareira, Preciado, Rickman, Sherriffs, Shuklian, Chiesa

Nays: None

Motion unanimously approved to (1) receive and file the District's Annual Air Toxics Report for the Year 2022, and (2) authorize District staff to distribute the report to county boards of supervisors, city councils, and local health officers, and make the report publically available on the District website.

9. DISCUSS AIR QUALITY RESEARCH PRIORITIES AND POTENTIAL AIR QUALITY SYMPOSIUM – Jon Klassen, Director of Air Quality Science and Planning, presented a review of the District's scientific research priorities and related projects.

Dr. Sherriffs thanked Mr. Klassen for the presentation and commented on the importance of the overall health improvements for the Valley residents as well as the research to demonstrate the impact of the community health impact of community driven projects.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner also thanked Mr. Klassen for the presentation and shared her support.

Public Comment: *The following individual(s) commented on this item:*

- Janet Dietz-Kamei, Resident
- Cynthia Pinto-Cabrera, Central Valley Air Quality Coalition (CVAQ)
- Connie Young, CCL
- Manuel Cunha, NFL

10. RECEIVE UPDATE ON ATTAINMENT PLANNING EFFORTS FOR FEDERAL PM2.5 STANDARDS – Emily Kneeland, Program Manager, and Jon Klassen presented an update on the status and next steps for District attainment planning efforts to address federal ambient air quality standards.

Mr. Rickman inquired if there could be an exemption in the Open Area rule for fire breaks necessary to stop fast moving grass fires that are seen in canyons and the foothills. Mr. Sheikh appreciated Mr. Rickman's point and responded that as we think about this measure, it is important that the realities that the rural communities face of implementing these suggestions is taken into account as we work with EPA in considering measures like these for contingency.

Ms. Lewis remarked that she is positive and reassured that the District staff is going to move forward and do what they have to in order to ensure there is a contingency plan to submit.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner mentioned that she appreciates the staff's willingness to dig in and to wanting to get the contingency right. She also thanked the staff for upcoming workshops.

Public Comment: *The following individual(s) commented on this item:*

- Janet Dietz-Kamei, Resident
- Manuel Cunha, NFL
- Vanessa Aguirre, Resident
- Dr. Carolina Simonovich, Resident
- Roger Isom, Western Ag Processors Association & California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations

11. VERBAL REPORT ON CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD (CARB) ACTIVITIES– Dr. Pacheco-Werner provided an update on California Air Resources Board activities and that the upcoming April meeting will include the

voting on the Advanced Clean Fleet Regulations. She encouraged the board to be a part of the public process. Dr. Pacheco-Werner also shared that she will continue to work with CARB on the PM2.5 issues.

12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/APCO COMMENTS – Samir Sheikh shared thoughts and support for any communities and residents who are impacted by the flooding. Mr. Sheikh highlighted an event that was a great opportunity working with Valley agriculture to highlight funding opportunities for small farmers. Mr. Sheikh also provided an update on the advocacy efforts happening at the state-level for the FARMER program.

Mr. Sheikh shared information about the multiple Earth Day events going on that the District will be taking part in throughout the valley. Mr. Sheikh concluded with a comment regarding concerns from the public member regarding the Avenal landfill, expressing that this is something that is being actively worked on and the District looks forward to continuing the work with the community to address concerns.

13. GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS – Mr. Chiesa and Ms. Shuklian asked about the Board Members support for advocacy efforts, and Mr. Sheikh thanked them for that support and recognized the importance of local representation with these advocacy efforts.

Ms. Lewis concurred with Mr. Chiesa and Ms. Shuklian and offered her support in advocacy efforts as well.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner shared that the Social Science Research Council released 'Portrait of the Valley', which is a human development index that shared different aspects of the Valley. Dr. Pacheco-Werner found it informative and said it highlights opportunities for how the health of Valley residents can be improved.

Mr. Mendes commented on the current weather and how it is going to affect the Valley with record levels of the snow pack and more storms still approaching.

Ms. Lewis remarked that she will be attending a conference with information about sustainability solutions and looks forward to seeing if they have solutions that will be good for our communities.

ADJOURN

Chair Chiesa adjourned the meeting at 11:41 a.m.