

## Action Summary Minutes

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

### **SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING:** **REVIEW OF 2023-24 RECOMMENDED BUDGET**

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

**Thursday, May 18, 2023**

***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 Vice Chair, Supervisor Vito Chiesa, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.
2. **ROLL CALL** – was taken and a quorum was present.

*Present:*

Vito Chiesa, Supervisor, <b>Chair</b>	Stanislaus County
David Couch, Supervisor	Kern County
Buddy Mendes, Supervisor	Fresno County
Lloyd Pareira, Supervisor	Merced County
Rusty Robinson, Supervisor	Kings County
Robert Rickman, Supervisor	San Joaquin County
Alexander Sherriffs, M.D.	Appointed by Governor
Robert Macaulay, Supervisor	Madera County
Rosa Escutia-Braaton, Councilmember	City of Modesto
Gilberto Reyna, Councilmember	City of Wasco
Amy Shuklian, Supervisor <sup>1</sup>	Tulare County
Alvaro Preciado, Mayor <sup>2</sup>	City of Avenal
Tania Pacheco-Werner, Ph.D. <sup>3</sup>	Appointed by Governor

*Absent:*

Drew Bessinger	City of Clovis
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<sup>1</sup> Arrived at 9:06 a.m.

<sup>2</sup> Arrived at 9:16 a.m.

<sup>3</sup> Arrived at 9:37 a.m.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. WELCOME NEW GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS COUNCILMEMBER ROSA ESCUTIA-BRAATON AND COUNCILMEMBER GILBERTO REYNA – Chairman Chiesa introduced and welcomed to their first meeting the District’s newest Governing Board members, Councilmember Rosa Escutia-Braaton from the City of Modesto and Councilmember Gilberto Reyna from the City of Wasco.
5. PUBLIC HEARING FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT ON DISTRICT’S 2023-24 RECOMMENDED BUDGET – Samir Sheikh, Executive Director/APCO, advised the Board that this was the first of two public hearings required by the California Health and Safety Code on the District’s 2023-24 Recommended Budget. The purpose of this hearing is solely to present and receive public feedback on the Recommended Budget, and there can be no formal action by the Governing Board at this hearing. He said staff would return to the Board at the June 15, 2023, meeting to present the Recommended Budget for adoption.

Mr. Sheikh also thanked Chairman Chiesa, Dr. Pacheco-Werner, Councilmember Bessinger, Supervisor Macaulay, Supervisor Robinson and Supervisor Rickman for serving on the Board’s Ad Hoc Budget Subcommittee and providing guidance to staff as the budget was prepared.

As presented, the budget highlights included:

- Total operating budget up 1%
  - Reflects 3<sup>rd</sup> year of labor agreement
  - Full-year funding of recent position enhancements funded by state revenues
  - 6% salary savings through position control
- Significant workload absorbed through efficiency and program flexibility
- Strong public education and outreach
- Expeditious administration and use of emission reduction incentive funds in wide range of applications (\$650 million in funding)
- Balanced budget, with adequate reserves and contingencies

Mr. Chiesa thanked the members who served on the Budget Sub-Committee. Mr. Chiesa asked for clarification on appropriation for contingencies and the use of those funds. Mr. Sheikh clarified that the use of contingency funds is controlled at the Board level and requires a majority vote of the Board to use the funds.

Ms. Lewis commended staff on their great work with this presentation and inquired about the Clean Green Yard Machine program, specifically if a contractor is eligible to apply more than once to convert all of their equipment. Mr. Sheikh responded that the program will be re-launched soon with new state funding and some new components to increase the caps to assist with this type of concern. Mr. Sheikh shared that the Board will be updated on the new program.

Mr. Preciado asked about the increase projected for Legal Services. Mr. Sheikh responded that this account reflects potential future litigation.

Mr. Mendes shared his appreciation for the team and commented on how the finance and leadership team are doing a great job at condensing the information to be streamlined and informative. Mr. Mendes inquired if the increase in Legal Services are for outside counsel. Ms. Ballatore confirmed that the funds are budgeted for outside counsel to support the District for potential future litigation.

Dr. Sherriffs said he appreciated the elevation of climate change in the budget, since the work will continue to be more challenging and these changes will be important for the health of Valley residents.

Ms. Shuklian expressed appreciation for the committee members.

Public Comment:

- Manuel Cunha, Nisei Farmers League
- Connie Young, Citizens Climate Lobby
- Janet Dietzkamei, Resident

5. PUBLIC COMMENT- *The following persons provided comment on this item*

- Janet Dietzkamei, Resident

## **ADJOURN**

*Vice Chair Chiesa adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.*