

## Action Summary Minutes

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

### **GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

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

**Thursday, December 17, 2020**

**9:00 a.m.**

***Meeting held via Zoom Webinar and 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 MEETING TO ORDER – The Chair, Supervisor Pedersen, called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m.
2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was present.

*Present:*

Drew M. Bessinger, Mayor	City of Clovis
David Couch, Supervisor	Kern County
Kuyler Crocker, Supervisor	Tulare County
Bob Elliott, Supervisor	San Joaquin County
Christina Fugazi, Councilmember	City of Stockton
Buddy Mendes, Supervisor	Fresno County
Kristin Olsen, Supervisor	Stanislaus County
Tania Pacheco-Werner, Ph.D.	Appointed by Governor
Lloyd Pereira, Supervisor, <b>Vice Chair</b>	Merced County
Craig Pedersen, Supervisor, <b>Chair</b>	Kings County
Alvaro Preciado, Councilmember	City of Avenal
Monte Reyes, Councilmember	City of Porterville
Dr. Alexander Sherriffs	Appointed by Governor
Tom Wheeler, Supervisor	Madera County

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS, SUPERVISOR ELLIOTT, SUPERVISOR OLSEN, AND SUPERVISOR CROCKER – Chairman Pedersen and Samir Sheikh, Executive Director/APCO, presented plaques and extended their gratitude and appreciation for Supervisor Elliott, Supervisor Olsen, and Supervisor Crocker and their years of service on the District's Governing Board, and for leading efforts to improve air quality for residents in the San Joaquin Valley.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2021 – Samir Sheikh, Executive Director/APCO, said in accordance with the Governing Board Officer Selection Policy, the Ad Hoc Governing Board Officer Nomination Subcommittee nominated Supervisor Craig Pedersen to serve as Chair and Supervisor Lloyd Pareira to serve as Vice Chair for 2021.

Moved: Mendes

Seconded: Fugazi

Ayes: Bessinger, Couch, Crocker, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes, Olsen, Pacheco-Werner, Pareira, Preciado, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Pedersen

Nays: None

***Motion unanimously carried to elect Supervisor Pedersen as Chair and Supervisor Pareira as Vice Chair of the Governing Board for 2021***

6. END OF YEAR ADDRESS BY CHAIRMAN PEDERSEN – Chairman Pedersen delivered his end of year address, which highlighted the District's ongoing progress in improving air quality and quality of life for San Joaquin Valley residents during this unprecedented year.
7. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR – Item Numbers (22 – 28): *These matters are routine in nature and are usually approved by a single vote. Prior to any action by the board, the public was given the opportunity to comment on any consent item.*
22. APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2020
23. RECEIVE AND FILE LIST OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR 2021
24. RECEIVE AND FILE OPERATIONS STATISTICS SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER 2020
25. RECEIVE AND FILE BUDGET STATUS REPORTS AS NOVEMBER 30, 2020
26. DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERSHIP
27. CONTRACT WITH DISTRICT COUNSEL
28. CONTRACT WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

District Counsel, Annette Ballatore, briefly summarized Consent Item 27, CONTRACT WITH DISTRICT COUNSEL, and Item 28, CONTRACT WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, and said they include recommendations for salary increases for each of these positions, which are consistent with the salary increases received by all employees this past year, at four percent. Otherwise, she said the contracts were unchanged from prior year contracts.

Supervisor Elliott said he would abstain from voting on Item #22 APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2020, because he was not present at that meeting.

Public Comment: None

*Moved:* Mendes  
*Seconded:* Bessinger  
*Ayes:* Bessinger, Couch, Crocker, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes, Olsen, Pacheco-Werner, Pereira, Preciado, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Pedersen  
*Nays:* None

***Motion unanimously carried to approve Consent Calendar Item Numbers 22 – 28***

8. PUBLIC COMMENT – *The following persons commented on this item:*
  - Connie Young, Citizens’ Climate Lobby
  - Shayda Azamian, Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability (LCJA)
  - Matt Holmes, Little Manila Rising and Stockton AB 617 CSC member
9. REPORT ON DISTRICT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES – Chairman Kevin Abernathy reported on highlights from the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting held on December 1, 2020.
10. EXTEND THE DISTRICT’S EMERGENCY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE RELIEF MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC – Morgan Lambert, Deputy APCO, presented this item which asked the Board to extend the District’s emergency economic assistance relief measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These measures were set to expire December 31, 2021, unless reauthorized by the District Governing Board.

Dr. Sherriffs thanked the Board and staff for their proactivity and voiced support for extending these measures. Supervisor Elliott commented that this was a common sense thing to do. He said we need to help our citizens and businesses get through these extraordinary and trying times and voiced complete support for these measures.

Public Comment: *The following persons commented on this item:*

- Janet Dietz-Kamei

*Moved:* Wheeler

*Seconded:* Couch

*Ayes:* Bessinger, Couch, Crocker, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes, Olsen, Pacheco-Werner, Pareira, Preciado, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Pedersen

***Motion unanimously carried to extend the District's emergency economic assistance relief measures in response to the Covid-19 pandemic***

11. ADOPT PROPOSED COMMERCIAL UNDERFIRED CHARBROILING EMISSION REDUCTION STRATEGY – Jon Klassen, Director of Air Quality Science and Planning, presented this item which asked the Board to adopt the proposed emission reduction strategy for commercial underfired charbroiling.

Mayor Bessinger commented that he was very happy that the District has the mindset that they do not want to be the final reason that a restaurant owner throws up their hands and closes their business. He voiced concern that CARB will take a more aggressive approach on this and create a situation for businesses that may survive the pandemic but now will need to make a sizeable financial investment to become compliant with these requirements.

Supervisor Elliott noted the statistics that said there are considerably fewer underfired charbroilers that are actually in use and the amount of meat cooked was about 62% lower than the methodology had indicated. He said while he would not be on the Board that takes final actions on this, he wanted to make sure the District was taking actions that are based on accurate information so the Board's decisions actually have the intended effect.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner thanked staff for their hard work and voiced full support of continuing to understand the science and be a partner in trying to leverage that funding to test those new technologies. She said she would like to see the survey to distinguish exactly what the impact is and where the community and residents most impacted are located. She added she would like to see the District's approach to regulations be a little more tailored to sources of pollution that impact places where residents are living.

Mr. Sheikh responded that part of staffs' recommendations would be to assist those interested cities and counties in adopting siting criteria or ordinances to address community level concerns about the placement of large, new restaurants near sensitive receptors. He added District staff definitely wants to have good

community and stakeholder engagement as they think about all of these issues in the coming year.

Dr. Sherriffs said his understanding of this issue is that it is not that there is no available technology, but actually it is the cost and feasibility issues associated with retrofitting existing restaurants with those technologies. Mr. Sheikh responded affirmatively, and said there are vendors that are now providing potential controls. He added the real challenge is the cost and feasibility of trying to retrofit existing restaurants that may not have the appropriate infrastructure to support control options. There are a variety of tricky issues involved in putting in these controls and there is really no easy low-cost solution that staff have been able to identify.

Supervisor Olsen thanked staff for reaching out to the California Restaurant Association (CRA) and said she appreciated the working group that staff has put together to flesh out the details of this program to see how it can work. Supervisor Olsen also echoed Dr. Pacheco-Werner's comments about making sure we have a broad and comprehensive stakeholder group working on this as well and said she was confident that was also in the plans developed by staff.

Chairman Pedersen said one of his concerns with respect to the site planning process would be potentially moving a restaurant away from a residential community to avoid the impacts from the underfired emissions, which would result in additional vehicle emissions as a result of residents driving their vehicles to the restaurant located at a further distance. He said it was important to consider both sides to the equation.

Public Comment: *The following persons commented on this item:*

- Katie Hansen, California Restaurant Association
- Lorraine Salazar, Sal's Mexican Restaurant and Central Valley Restaurant Association
- Janet Dietz-Kamei
- Matt Holmes, Little Manila Rising and Stockton AB 617 CSC member
- Thomas Helme, Valley Improvement Project (VIP) and Environmental Justice Advisory Group (EJAG) member
- Tom Menz

*Moved:* Mendes

*Seconded:* Bessinger

*Ayes:* Bessinger, Couch, Crocker, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes, Olsen, Pacheco-Werner, Pareira, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Pedersen

*Nays:* None

***Motion unanimously carried to adopt proposed Commercial Underfired Charbroiling Emission Reduction Strategy***

12. ADOPT PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULE 4311 (FLARES) – Jessica Coria, Program Manager, presented this item with the recommendation to adopt Rule 4311 (Flares).

Mayor Bessinger asked about the technology of ultra-NO<sub>x</sub> flares and asked for a ballpark figure of the cost. Ms. Coria responded it would depend on the size of the flare that the operation is installing. She said the annualized cost for a typical flare installation may range from \$100 thousand on an annualized basis over a 10-year period, up to \$200-300 thousand on the high end.

Mayor Bessinger asked about generators for those who use the alternative of utilizing their gas to produce electricity and what a generator would cost. He suggested perhaps making some financial incentives available for those costs. Mr. Sheikh responded that staff have heard from many municipalities that they are looking for projects to utilize their gas in a beneficial manner. He said in some cases they are even looking at cleaning up the gas and making it available as a renewable fuel stream. He added there are installations already out there at some landfills that generate power but noted they are all very expensive.

In regards to Mayor Bessinger's comments, Mr. Sheikh added that staff did interact with wastewater plant operators to get their input into the proposed rule. Supervisor Mendes added what made such projects tough is the quality of the gas that is being flared. He said waste gas has stuff in it that cannot be injected in the pipeline unless it is cleaned up.

Public Comment: *The following persons commented on this item:*

- Chris Hall, Drilling and Production Company
- Sabrina Lockhart, California Independent Petroleum Association
- Gustavo Aguirre, Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN)
- Christine Zimmerman, Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA)
- Janet Dietz-Kamei
- Kevin Hamilton, Central CA Asthma Collaborative (CCAC)

*Moved:* Mendes

*Seconded:* Pareira

*Ayes:* Bessinger, Couch, Crocker, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes, Olsen, Pacheco-Werner, Pareira, Preciado, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Pedersen

*Nays:* None

***Motion unanimously carried to adopt proposed amendments to Rule 4311 (Flares)***

13. ADOPT PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULE 4306 (BOILERS, STEAM GENERATORS, AND PROCESS HEATERS – PHASE 3) AND RULE 4320 (ADVANCED EMISSION REDUCTION OPTIONS FOR BOILERS, STEAM GENERATORS, AND PROCESS HEATERS GREATER THAN 5.0 MMBTU/HR) – Jessica Coria, Program Manager, presented this item with the recommendation to adopt Rule 4306 (Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters – Phase 3) and Rule 4320 (Advanced Emission Reduction Options for Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters Greater Than 5.0 MMBtu/hr).

Supervisor Crocker asked about the Covid-19 adjusted baselines used in the modeling process and asked why they would be used if this situation is not considered to be permanent. Ms. Coria responded staff included multiple scenarios using different recovery plans in case the pandemic continues further. She said there was a slower recovery included in future years and said staff also modeled it based on just a typical economic scenario.

Public Comment – *The following persons commented on this item:*

- John Kinsey, Wanger Jones Helsey PC
- David Meeker
- John Larrea, California League of Food Producers
- Christine Zimmerman, WSPA

*Moved:* Bessinger

*Seconded:* Sherriffs

*Ayes:* Bessinger, Couch, Crocker, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes, Olsen, Pacheco-Werner, Pareira, Preciado, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Pedersen

*Nays:* None

***Motion unanimously carried to adopt proposed amendments to Rule 4306 (Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters – Phase 3) and Rule 4320 (Advanced Emission Reduction Options for Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters greater than 5.0 MMBTU/HR)***

14. APPROVE IMPLEMENTATION FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL LAWN AND GARDEN EQUIPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAMS IN AB 617 COMMUNITIES – Todd DeYoung, Program Manager, presented this item which asked the Board to approve changes to the District’s existing residential and commercial lawn and garden equipment incentive programs consistent with the adopted Community Emission Reduction Programs (CERPs) for Shafter and South Central Fresno AB 617 communities and future AB 617 communities, as applicable.

Supervisor Crocker commented he has borrowed his father’s electric mower and

it worked great. He asked how this would be implemented in AB 617 communities and whether the application process was based on a resident's address. Mr. DeYoung responded that staff will have a place on the District website where residents can check their address to make sure they live in one of the AB 617 communities, and staff will verify the address of residents once the application is submitted.

Dr. Sherriffs said this was a great program and it was wonderful to get traction on this in AB 617 communities. He thanked staff for all of their hard work.

Public Comment – *The following persons commented on this item:*

*Moved:* Wheeler

*Seconded:* Mendes

*Ayes:* Bessinger, Couch, Crocker, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes, Olsen, Pacheco-Werner, Pareira, Preciado, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Pedersen

*Nays:* None

***Motion unanimously carried to approve implementation for residential and commercial lawn and garden equipment incentive programs in AB 617 communities.***

*The Board took a brief recess at 12:03 p.m.*

*The Board reconvened at 12:26 p.m.*

15. APPROVE 2020 STAFF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL BURNING – Mr. Sheikh said this was a very important topic and a priority area for the Board. He said staff would share all of the various efforts that this Board has been making over a multi-year period to look for ways to continue to reduce emissions from agricultural open burning. He said it has been a long journey and this is the latest chapter in that ongoing journey of working with the agricultural community, contractors, scientists, researchers, and others to look at different ways of handling a large woody waste stream that results from the Valley being an agricultural region with a lot of different crops that generate a lot of various materials. He introduced Brian Clements, Program Manager, who presented the *2020 Staff Report and Recommendations on Agricultural Burning* consistent with Rule 4103 and California Health and Safety Code Sections 41855.5 and 41855.6. Staff recommends that the Board direct the Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) to submit the Report and associated supporting information to CARB for their concurrence, and to CARB and U.S. EPA for inclusion in the State Implementation Plan. In addition, staff recommends the Board increase the funding allocation for the Alternatives to Open Burning of Agricultural Materials Incentive Program by an additional \$7,000,000 for the continued implementation of this program for the remainder of the 2020-21 fiscal year, including an initial allocation of \$2,100,000 of this funding for smaller agricultural operations for the continued implementation of this



program for the remainder of the 2020-21 fiscal year.

*Supervisor Olsen left at 1:00 p.m.*

Supervisor Mendes commented on the lack of agricultural burning opportunities for farmers over the past year due to wildfires and atmospheric conditions.

Mayor Bessinger asked how the District could help encourage the resurgence of cogeneration facilities to help address these issues. Mr. Sheikh responded the Board has had an advocacy position on addressing the energy policy issues surrounding bioenergy. He said there has been a comprehensive strategy to deal with that from a legislative and policy perspective with existing plants. The main issue has been that they have really just fallen out of favor when it comes to contract renewals. Also, the pricing that has come in as they try to engage in new contracts has been significantly less than the prices that were provided during a point in time when they were recognized as providing a useful benefit. He added the only reason these plants are able to survive today is because they are getting a little bit of support in handling high hazard materials from some of the tree mortality areas. He said that obviously creates emissions related to hauling those materials down to the Valley floor to be used at these plants. He said that is why the staff report mentioned an expectation in the future that there will probably be some plant closures as those issues only get exacerbated under current state energy policy.

*Supervisor Pareira left briefly at 1:30 p.m.*

*Supervisor Pareira returned at 1:59 p.m.*

Supervisor Crocker commented that the state no longer wants to subsidize biomass. He added historically, the Board has recognized the benefit that outside of paying a little bit more of electric costs statewide, that there is a lot of benefit for agriculture, for forest health issues, as well as having some independent energy production. Regarding staff recommendations, he asked how the District would determine farming operation size.

Mr. Sheikh responded to the extent that there is a prohibition related to how many acres are farmed, staff interfaces with the farmers and they provide that information, which is then cross-referenced and verified with information the District has for burn permits, conservation management practices plans, and other sources.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner commented on the proportion of remaining burning that comes from vineyard removals and asked staff to explain the alternatives to burning vineyards. Mr. Sheikh responded bioenergy might become an option for vineyards at some point. Additionally, soil incorporation may be an option if the wire material can be removed from the vineyard. He also mentioned air curtain burners could theoretically be another alternative, and said there would be a lot of challenges that would need to be addressed and resolved for all of these

alternatives.

Dr. Sherriffs thanked staff for the extensive report on this complicated subject. He said it was important to do this right because we need to present a robust plan to CARB for their approval and because we are looking for some very important funding to support farmers in the expense of doing these alternative practices. He said everyone understands there is a financial hurdle to get over. He said several times in the report, it was mentioned about exceptions would be considered on a case-by-case basis. He asked these processes would be made transparent to the public. He added there has been tremendous progress in the amount that is being burned today compared to 5, 10, 20 years ago in every category except for orchard and vineyard removals.

Public Comment – *The following persons commented on this item:*

- Jesse Roseman, Almond Board of California
- Cynthia Pinto-Cabrera, Central Valley Air Quality Coalition (CVAQ)
- Laura Garcia, Raisin City Resident
- Elaine Trevino, Almond Alliance of California
- Shayda Azamian, LCJA
- Mark Rose, National Parks Conservation Association
- Janet Dietz-Kamei
- Madeline Harris, LCJA
- Kevin Hamilton, CCAC
- Sasan Sadat, Earthjustice
- Matt Holmes, Little Manila Rising and Stockton AB 617 CSC member
- Ted Strauss, United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Thomas Helme, VIP and EJAG member
- Thomas Menz
- Roger Isom, Western Agricultural Processors Association
- Manuel Cunha, Nisei Farmers League
- AZ Banguis, Little Manila Rising
- Jesus Alonzo, Clean Water Action

Mr. Sheikh extended his appreciation to all of the public commenters. He said obviously there are some varying viewpoints on the matter, which is not unusual given the diversity of perspectives in the Valley. He clarified that this item builds on, and continues, the increasing phase out of agricultural burning over the years. He said staff is really focusing on those remaining categories that have been the most difficult in trying to address, such as the small orchard removals and vineyards.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner thanked staff for their tremendous work on this report and also gave a big thank you to the growers who have already participated in the

alternatives to open burning program. She noted we definitely see the huge reductions that have already been done. She said with the super fires experienced there have not been many days that agricultural burning could be conducted this year, and either through air quality regulations or climate, time is most likely running out for agricultural burning. She said there were some excellent components in the report, but others that she would like to see added as a commitment that when it comes to the state in her new role as CARB Board member, she would definitely be an advocate for the District's work on so many of the dimensions of agricultural burning that have already been done. She asked for greater plans for engagement with the alternatives industry, as well as plans of not only how the District will incentivize crop growers, but also how they engage contractors that currently do not see the benefits of providing services to some of the smaller growers. She said she would also like to see a cost analysis of what it would take to get the vineyard removals to be soil incorporation ready. Lastly, she said she would also like to see plans for collaboration with other air districts that are also looking at the reduction of agricultural burning to see how we can create markets across the state for alternatives. She added she would love to support more funding for incentives to pilot such programs for our growers, again with a goal of continuing the great work and thinking about how to move towards no burning.

Supervisor Crocker said he appreciated Mr. Cunha's comments on wildfires. He said what we are really talking about 30,000 acres when over 4 million acres were burned in California in 2020 alone. He said today he heard that we have many people that support more logging. That's what we need. We need more logging. If you want to really reduce the black carbon, then that is what we need to promote. We need to clean up our forests and we need to support industry and jobs and make sure that we have a clean, healthy air, because that's going to make a huge impact as far as reducing four million acres of burning that's happening in this state right now.

Supervisor Pareira complimented staff and the Board for working so hard in the last 14 years to make such reductions a reality. He said there only area where we have gone up is in vineyard removals and a lot of that has to do with the economy of vineyards in the last few years and how the prices have been tough, so people are pulling out their vineyards.

Dr. Sherriffs said this was an important discussion and he really appreciated staff's work on this issue. He noted we have made tremendous strides and voiced agreement with many of the comments, particularly Dr. Pacheco-Werner's. He voiced concern about the transparency of the case-by-case feasibility assessments, and thanked Mr. Sheikh for addressing those concerns in his comments and his willingness to work on addressing that issue.

Mr. Sheikh suggested the Board could provide additional direction to staff in their motion to commit to working in a transparent manner when it comes to the case-by-case assessments, which was always the intent. He also suggested adding

additional direction to conduct the contractor outreach that Dr. Pacheco-Werner suggested specifically to deal with small orchard removal availability issues. He also added staff can commit to working with other air districts on statewide collaboration to identify and advance alternatives to open burning. He noted no other air district in California has the requirements that the Valley does and they have nowhere near the experience that we do in pursuing alternatives.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner clarified that the motion would include her suggestion to look into more pilots around integration of biodegradable and biocompatible materials for vineyard removals. Mr. Sheikh responded that staff would work on this issue as part of the partnership looking for feasible alternatives to open burning and a larger conversation around other vineyard design. He noted there were newer vineyard design practices that can help with the need to open burn removals.

*Moved:* Wheeler  
*Seconded:* Pareira  
*Ayes:* Bessinger, Couch, Crocker, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes,  
Pacheco-Werner, Pareira, Preciado, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler,  
Pedersen  
*Nays:* None

***Motion unanimously carried to approve 2020 Staff Report and Recommendations on Agricultural Burning, and direct staff to engage with agricultural stakeholders, industry, air districts, and other agencies in developing alternative practices in the pre-burning and vineyard construction phases to consider new vineyard design elements such as utilizing compostable/biodegradable trellis systems and stakes. The motion also directed staff to, in addition to providing incentives to growers to offset the significant costs associated with alternatives, ensure strong engagement with service providers of alternative practices, with added focus on overcoming potential barriers associated with accommodating the needs of smaller growers and orchard removals.***

16. AUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR LABORATORY SERVICES TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR DISTRICT'S AIR MONITORING NETWORK – Mr. Klassen presented this item which asked the Board to authorize the Executive Director/APCO to execute agreements, with the Governing Board Chair's signature, on behalf of the District for a total of up to \$30,000 for laboratory services.

*Supervisor Elliott left at 2:30 p.m.*  
*Councilmember Fugazi left at 2:35 p.m.*

Public Comment – None

Moved: Bessinger  
Seconded: Sherriffs  
Ayes: Bessinger, Couch, Crocker, Mendes, Pacheco-Werner,  
Pareira, Preciado, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler,  
Pedersen  
Nays: None

***Motion unanimously carried to authorize funding for laboratory services to provide support for District's air monitoring network***

17. UPDATE ON EPA REVIEW STATUS FOR 2018 PM2.5 PLAN – Sheraz Gill, Deputy APCO, provided an update on the status of EPA's review of the District's 2018 Plan for the 1997, 2006, and 2012 PM2.5 Standards.
18. RECEIVE AND FILE DISTRICT'S 2019-29 ANNUAL OFFSET EQUIVALENCY REPORT TO FEDERAL EPA – Mr. Lambert presented the District's Final Annual Offset Equivalency Report submitted to the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the 12-month period from August 20, 2019 through August 19, 2020.

Public Comment – *The following persons commented on this item:*

- Catherine Garoupa White, CVAQ
- Cynthia Pinto Cabrera, CVAQ
- Mercedes Macias, Sierra Club
- Janet Dietz Kamei
- Caty Wagner, Sierra Club
- Sasan Sadat, Earthjustice
- Matt Holmes, Little Manila Rising and Stockton AB 617 CSC member
- Thomas Helme, VIP and EJAG member
- Gustavo Aguirre, CCEJN
- Brian Nowicki, Center for Biological Diversity
- Christine Zimmerman, WSPA
- Jesus Alonzo, Clean Water Action

*Supervisor Mendes left at 2:50 p.m.*

*Supervisor Wheeler left at 3:00 p.m.*

19. VERBAL REPORT ON CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD ACTIVITIES – Dr. Sherriffs provided highlights of the California Air Resources Board meeting of October 22, 2020.
20. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/APCO COMMENTS – None

21. GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS – Chairman Pedersen thanked Dr. Sherriffs for his service on the CARB Board. He said it was a challenging position and today was an example of that. He also congratulated Dr. Pacheco-Werner for her new appointment to the CARB Board and said he looked forward to her leadership and representation of the District. He said we know how important these relationships are in creating an understanding of what we are about and how we are different, and each region in the state is different.

In addition, Chairman Pedersen thanked Supervisor Elliott, Supervisor Olsen, and Supervisor Crocker for their service on the Board, and said all three of them have been great servants to residents in the Valley and we will miss their participation and friendship.

Finally, Chairman Pedersen thanked staff, those present and those working from home, saying this has been a challenging year in every aspect. He said he continued to look to this Board as an example of professionalism and honesty and thanked each member for their service.

Dr. Sherriffs voiced appreciation and agreement with Chairman Pedersen's comments and reminded everyone that a vaccine is not an immediate cure, and we need to continue to mask, to distance, and to be thoughtful about how we gather to protect ourselves, others, and our loved ones.

*Chairman Pedersen adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.*

## **ADJOURN**

*The next scheduled meeting of the Governing Board is: Thursday, January 21, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting starts at 9:00 a.m., in the Central Region Office,*

*SJVAPCD Governing Board  
ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES  
December 17, 2020*

*Governing Board Room, 1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno. The meeting will be held via video teleconference (VTC) with the Northern Region He*