

**Action Summary Minutes
for the
San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Thursday, March 15, 2001 at 9:00 a.m.
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, CA.**

Meeting held via video teleconferencing (VTC) in the Central Region Office (Fresno) with the Northern Region Office (Modesto) and the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) included via VTC.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Supervisor Judith G. Case, called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

2. **ROLL CALL** was taken and a quorum was present.

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| Supervisor Barbara Patrick (*) (***) | Kern County |
| Councilmember Mike Maggard (*) | City of Bakersfield |
| Supervisor William Sanders | Tulare County |
| Supervisor Tony Barba | Kings County |
| Supervisor Ronn Dominici | Madera County |
| Supervisor Jerry O'Banion | Merced County |
| Supervisor Nick W. Blom | Stanislaus County |
| Councilmember Tom Applegate (absent) | City of Newman |
| Supervisor Jack A. Sieglock | San Joaquin County |
| Mayor Sam Armentrout, (**), Vice Chair | City of Madera |
| Supervisor Judith G. Case, Chair | Fresno County |

(*) Attended meeting in the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield)

() Arrived during Item #6**

(*) Arrived during Item #8A**

3. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR** – Item Numbers **(12-18)**.
(These matters are routine in nature and are usually approved by a single vote. Prior to action by the Board, the public will be given the opportunity to comment on any consent item.)
 12. Approve Action Summary Minutes for the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District Governing Board Meeting of Thursday, February 15, 2001.
 13. Receive and file List of Scheduled Meetings for 2001.
 14. Receive and file Operations Statistics Summary for February 2001.
 15. Receive and file Budget Status Report as of February 28, 2001.

16. Receive and file Amendments to Rule 4662 (Organic Solvent Degreasing Operations). Set April 19, 2001 for the Public Hearing to consider adopting the proposed amendments.
17. Receive and file quarterly update to the Best Available Control Technology (BACT) Clearinghouse.
18. Approve changes to the Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicle Incentive Program to add electric bicycles for law enforcement agencies.

APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED – *A motion was made by Board Member Barba to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Board Member Dominici and carried unanimously with the following Roll Call Vote:*

Ayes: Sanders, Sieglock, Maggard, Blom, Dominici, Barba, O'Banion and Case.

Noes: Patrick, Applegate and Armentrout.

Therefore, the Board approved Consent Calendar items 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 as submitted.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – **Bob Nicksin, Sempra Energy**, referred to correspondence that he mailed to the members of the Governing Board. Mr. Nicksin made the following comments: Southern California Gas Company (SCGC) recognizes that there is increasing demands for natural gas in the San Joaquin Valley. And, in trying to satisfy that need SCGC scheduled a series of meetings around their service territory. One in particular that will be held in Visalia coming up on March 20 at which SCGC will be asking their larger customers to review their energy needs and to share with SCGC what their plans are.

The Chair thanked Mr. Nicksin for his letter and stated that it was really good to get additional information.

5. **REPORT FROM CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE** – Councilmember Tom Stearns, (City of Clovis), City, Primary Member, Fresno County and Chair of the CAC, reported on the CAC meeting held on Tuesday, March 6, 2001.

Councilmember Stearns indicated that Mark Boese, Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer, provided the CAC with a report on the Legislative Analyst Office (LAO) recommendations on improving state oversight and direction of local air districts. Councilmember Stearns noted that the CAC felt that the LAO report was poorly presented and painted the Valley Air District

with a broad brush and would only serve to erode local control. The CAC took an official position in opposition to the development to this report and wanted him to specifically relate that to the Board.

The Chair indicated that the Board recently sent out a letter to the LAO in opposition to their report.

6. **PUBLIC HEARING: ADOPT PROPOSED CALIFORNIA CLEAN AIR ACT TRIENNIAL PROGRESS REPORT AND PLAN REVISION 1997 - 1999** – Staff presentation made by David L. Crow, Executive Director/APCO, Joan Merchen, Senior Air Quality Planner and Scott Nester, Supervising Air Quality Engineer.

APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED – A motion was made by Board Member Blom to adopt as recommended. The motion was seconded by Board Member O’Banion and carried unanimously with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: O’Banion, Sieglock, Maggard, Blom, Dominici, Barba, Sanders, Armentrout and Case.

Noes: None.

Absent: Patrick and Applegate.

Therefore, the Board took the following action:

- (1.) Adopted the Negative Declaration prepared for the Plan.***
- (2.) Adopted the California Clean Air Act Triennial Progress Report and Plan Revision 1997 – 1999 (2000 Triennial Plan Update).***
- (3.) Authorized the Chair to sign the resolution.***
- (4.) Directed staff to forward the adopted 2000 Triennial Plan and resolution to the California Air Resources Board (ARB).***

7. **VERBAL REPORT: VALLEY RAIL JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT (JPA)** – Presentation made by David L. Crow, Executive Director/APCO and George Gaekle, Stanislaus County.

Mr. Gaekle stated that based upon what has occurred in other rail corridors in the state where Amtrak service has been taken over by a local rail commission, it appears that such a move in the Valley would be of benefit to Valley rail service. In order to assume this responsibility some type of JPA consisting of Valley county or city officials or a combination of both needs to be formed.

Mr. Gaekle stated that because the Valley Air District is one of the few regional governmental bodies in the Valley, that perhaps one option would be to have this body, assume that role.

The Board directed staff to write a letter to county boards of supervisors and city councils. Asking them for their ideas and suggestions on how the Valley might assume control of the Amtrak service with a JPA being an option. Concurrent with that review process staff could pursue the notion of what would it take to put the District's Governing Board in that position, should the Board be interested in serving as the JPA to operate the Amtrak service.

8. **VERBAL REPORT: CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD (ARB) BOARD MEETING** – Report regarding ARB Board Meeting. Ravi Ramalingam, ARB representative and ARB Liaison for the Valley Air District. Mr. Ramalingam reported on the Air Resources Board Hearing held on February 22 in Richmond. Mr. Ramalingam stated that the Board met to consider ARB's Community Health Programs and the impacts of California Phase 3 Reformulated gasoline.

- 8A. **REQUEST BY SPRECKELS SUGAR COMPANY TO DISCUSS ISSUES RELATED TO ITS PENDING VARIANCE PETITION** – Mr. John Dean, Factory Manager, Spreckels Sugar, indicated that on the evening of Wednesday, March 14, 2001 Spreckels obtained natural gas for a three month period at a price that is within their working constraints. Mr. Dean noted that however, it is still necessary for Spreckels to pursue a variance for the remaining 90-day period.

The Chair stated that she particularly wanted to thank Mr. Manuel Cunha who attended a meeting on very short notice to assist Supervisor Koligian and herself. The Chair indicated that they met with Spreckels Sugar and District staff to look at issues whereby we might be able to accommodate Spreckels over time.

9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/APCO COMMENTS** – David L. Crow, Executive Director/APCO, reported that himself and Mr. Boese would be meeting at 1:30 p.m. with the Fresno County Ag Commissioners Office. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the District's position with respect to the energy issues that we are all confounded by. Specifically dealing with both the District's policies regarding the standby generators limited use and portable equipment etc. And, also trying to mesh and interpret the Governor's Executive Order as it relates to those topics.

Mr. Crow announced that a Public Meeting will be held on District Rules and Regulations relating to the California Energy Crisis, Wednesday, April 18, 2001, 10:00 a.m., Governing Board Room, Central Region Office (Fresno) with the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) and the Northern Region Office (Modesto) included via VTC.

10. **GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS** – Board Member Sanders noted that last month the District instituted a program on light-duty vehicles to reimburse entities that purchased hybrid vehicles. Unfortunately, Tulare County was in the forefront and purchased eight vehicles and we will be purchasing more. Board Members Sanders asked if we could modify the program. So, that in the event that all of those monies are not used up during the fiscal year we might go back and include entities such as ours that purchased in advance of the program. So, that we might get included in that rebate.

Board Member Armentrout asked that Fresno County be included in that also.

Board Member Sanders noted that all of the counties should be considered.

The Chair asked staff to bring that issue back listing the pros and cons. Such as, if you do it for just governmental agencies and not all applicants then the question of fairness comes up. Maybe there are some categories we should consider and other categories we shouldn't.

Board Member Dominici complimented Philip M. Jay, District Counsel, for his quick response time in handling a recent issue that he was called about.

Board Member Armentrout thanked David L. Crow, Executive Director/APCO, for his quick response to issues that Board Member Armentrout has recently called him about.

The Chair noted that staff did an excellent job in respect to the Spreckels Sugar situation.

OTHER BUSINESS – No Other Business.

11. **NO CLOSED SESSION**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.