

Action Summary Minutes
San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP (EJAG)

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

Tuesday, June 28, 2011
5:30 p.m.

The Environmental Justice Advisory Group 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 the Northern Region Office, VTC Room, 4800 Enterprise Way, Modesto

1. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was present.

County	Member Name/Interest Group	Location
Merced	Melissa Kelly-Ortega, At-large Rep.	North
Kern	Marvin Dean, Business Owner	South
Fresno	*Sarah Sharpe, CAC-Environmental (Alternate)	Central
Fresno	Kevin Hamilton, CAC-Environmental	Central
Stanislaus	Pamela Neronha, At-large Rep.	North
Tulare	Mike Santana, CAC-City (Primary)	Central
San Joaquin	**Jeremy Terhune, At-Large Rep.	North
Kings	Riley Jones, CAC-Industry/Ag (Primary)	Central

*Arrived at 5:42 p.m.

**Arrived at 5:53 p.m. and departed at 7:06 p.m.

Staff present in Central Region Office (Fresno) – Rick McVaigh, Deputy APCO; Errol Villegas, Program Manager, Strategies & Incentives Department; Todd DeYoung, Program Manager, Strategies & Incentives Department; Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer; Maricela Velasquez, Senior Public Information Representative.

Staff present in Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) – Brenda Turner, Public Information Representative.

Staff present in Northern Region Office (Modesto) – Anthony Presto, Public Information Representative.

Members of the public present – Dennis Fox

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF TUESDAY, May 24, 2011 – On page 5, paragraph 3, Ms. Kelly-Ortega said Mr. Williams name was misspelled (“s” omitted).

Moved: Dean
Seconded: Jones
Ayes: Dean, Santana, Hamilton, Jones, Neronha
Nays: None
Abstain: Kelly-Ortega

Motion carried 5-0, with 1 abstention, to approve the Minutes of May 24, 2011.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (FIRST OPPORTUNITY) – None.
5. CHAIR COMMENTS – Ms. Kelly-Ortega said the next Tune-in, Tune-up event will be in Merced on Saturday, July 2, 2011. She also commented that people found the article regarding air pollution that possibly travels from Asia to the west coast, which was published in the Fresno Bee and the Merced Sun Star, interesting.
7. ELECT CHAIR AND/OR VICE CHAIR – (This item taken out of turn) Mr. Hamilton nominated Ms. Kelly-Ortega as the new Chair, which is a two-year term.

Moved: Hamilton
Seconded: Jones
Ayes: Kelly-Ortega, Neronha, Dean, Santana, Hamilton, Jones
Nays: None
Abstain: None

Motion carried unanimously to elect Ms. Kelly-Ortega as Chair of EJAG.

Mr. Hamilton nominated Ms. Celedón-Castro as Vice-Chair, serving a one-year term.

Moved: Hamilton
Seconded: Jones
Ayes: Jones, Hamilton, Santana, Dean, Neronha, Kelly-Ortega
Nays: None
Abstain: None

Motion carried unanimously to elect Ms. Celedón-Castro as Vice-Chair of EJAG.

Ms. Sharpe arrived at 5:42 p.m.

8. REVISIT EJAG MEETING DATES & TIMES – Ms. Velasquez said this item was on the agenda because Ms. Neronha’s fall schedule would conflict with Tuesday EJAG meetings, which could reduce EJAG to only eight members in attendance. Ms. Neronha said if no one else has a problem with Tuesday evenings, she would find a way around the scheduling conflict. Mr. Jones said EJAG established and has maintained a consistent schedule for approximately a year and if Ms. Neronha could adjust her schedule, it would be appreciated. Mr. Jones then motioned for EJAG to continue to meet on Tuesdays, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Ms. Kelly-Ortega thanked Ms. Neronha for adjusting her schedule.

Moved: Jones
Seconded: Dean
Ayes: Dean, Santana, Hamilton, Jones, Kelly-Ortega, Neronha,
Nays: None
Abstain: None

Motion carried unanimously for EJAG to continue to meet on Tuesdays from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

9. GRANT COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS – Mr. Hamilton asked for an explanation regarding the scope of responsibilities of this committee. Mr. DeYoung said it was his understanding that the \$10 million from DMV fees would be the focus of the committee. Mr. Dean said the main focus of the committee was the \$10 million, but the committee could also explore other grants and incentives the District offers.

Ms. Kelly-Ortega asked what EJAG’s timeline was regarding the \$10 million. Mr. McVaigh said DMV will probably start collecting the fees in October, which would result in the District not seeing the funds until the beginning of 2012. He stated it does take several months to develop a new grant program and present it to the Governing Board for approval; but, this committee does have some time to develop recommendations.

Mr. Hamilton volunteered to serve on the Grant Committee.

Ms. Kelly-Ortega said because this was an action item, a motion was needed. Mr. Dean made a motion.

Mr. Terhune arrived at 5:53 p.m.

Moved: Dean
Seconded: Santana
Ayes: Terhune, Neronha, Dean, Santana, Hamilton, Jones, Kelly-Ortega
Nays: None
Abstain: None

Motion carried unanimously to nominate Mr. Hamilton to the Grant Committee.

6. APCO/DEPUTY APCO COMMENTS – (This item taken out of turn) Mr. McVaigh welcomed Ms. Kelly-Ortega as the new Chair and Ms. Celedón-Castro as the new Vice-Chair. Due to the length of EJAG’s agenda, Mr. McVaigh said he would cede his comments until the next EJAG meeting, in August.
10. FEDERAL PILOT PROJECT WITH CITY OF FRESNO – Mr. McVaigh said the Federal Government has not made a determination on this project and it is hoped an update can be provided to EJAG in August.
11. VRRRM UPDATE – Todd DeYoung, Program Manager, Strategies and Incentives Department, provided an update. He said 13 of the 15 events have been scheduled and six events were held in Stockton, Fresno, Bakersfield, Modesto, Arvin, and Lemoore. In addition, 1,747 vehicles have been tested and 1,150 vouchers issued. He said the following dates have been scheduled for future events:
 - July 9, 2011 at the Merced County Fairgrounds
 - July 20, 2011 at the Madera District Fairgrounds
 - August 20, 2011 at the Fresno Fairgrounds

Tentative dates are scheduled for Stockton, Visalia, Bakersfield, and Modesto. Dates of the events are posted on the District website under the Grants and Incentives tab.

Ms. Holt thanked EJAG members for passing on fliers and emails about the events.

Mr. Dean asked the following questions:

- How many people who received vouchers took their cars to Gold Shield stations?
- How many people got their cars repaired?
- If the repairs exceed the cost of the \$500 voucher, is there an option available for vehicles to be scrapped?

Mr. Dean also said he has received negative feedback regarding one shop in the Bakersfield area.

Regarding the Gold Shield station in Bakersfield that Mr. Dean referred to, Mr. DeYoung said he would be interesting in obtaining further information. Mr. DeYoung said he will try and get the figures Mr. Dean requested to EJAG members prior to the next EJAG meeting. Additionally, if repairs exceed \$500, Mr. DeYoung said there is some flexibility in the program where, on a case by case basis, the additional cost of repairs can be approved. Also, there are a number of different avenues available to scrap a vehicle and individuals could contact the District for the information.

13. 2011 SUCCESS STORIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS / REVIEW 2011 GOALS –
(This item taken out of turn) Mr. McVaigh said the goals and objectives were approved by EJAG and that the APCO would meet with Ms. Kelly-Ortega to review them. Regarding EJAG success stories, Mr. McVaigh said that perhaps by the next EJAG meeting, District staff could review past minutes and come up with a one-page document listing EJAG's 2010 accomplishments. The document could be used by EJAG members when making contact with community members. Ms. Kelly-Ortega said this item will be placed on the August agenda.

Regarding goal and objective #4, increasing public participation in the efforts of EJAG, Ms. Neronha provided an update on the Northern region. Ms. Neronha said she and Mr. Terhune have met with Jonathan Homrighausen at the Catholic Charities office in Stockton. They have identified 15 different agencies throughout the Central Valley, as well as agencies that overlap in other areas of the state, which focus on EJ issues related to air quality concerns. The goal prior to the EJAG meeting in August is to start moving forward in corresponding with these groups to identify projects. Additionally, Ms. Neronha said she has spoken to the mayor of Riverbank, Virginia Madueno, and it is hoped they will be able to start networking with her regarding air quality concerns.

Ms. Kelly-Ortega provided the following status updates on EJAG's action plan and accomplishments:

- Grant committee has been formed.
- Goal and objective #1 – This item will be reviewed to see what has been done to work collaboratively with the CAC.
- Goal and objective #2 - EJAG has reviewed and provided feedback on brochures and the one-page informational document.
- Goal and objective #3 – This item will be reviewed to discuss the specific accomplishments regarding EJ maps.
- Goal and objective #4 – There has been a great effort put forth to increase public participation.

- Goal and objective #5 – Mr. Dean and Mr. Williams have spoken to various groups about EJAG. Additionally, EJAG could draft letters of support.
- Goal and objective #6 – EJAG has received presentations and has discussed AB 32 and SB 375. In the future, EJAG could consider this item further and possibly talk to community members.
- EJAG still needs to fill open seats on their committee, as well as get alternate seats filled.

Mr. McVaigh said District staff will review past minutes to see if further accomplishments can be added, such as EJAG providing input concerning the high-speed rail project.

14. HEALTH RISK-BASED APPROACH – Samir Sheikh, Director of Strategies and Incentives Department, provided the update.

Mr. Sheikh said a presentation regarding the District's health risk-based strategy was provided to the CAC during the May 3 CAC meeting, and was also presented to a group of physicians during an event on May 17, which was hosted by the Fresno/Madera Medical Society. Mr. Sheikh asked EJAG to inform the District of any opportunities to present this information to other community groups.

He said the District has had some preliminary discussions with ARB and EPA, both of which have expressed interest in the health risk-based approach, particularly from an implementation point of view concerning the new standards for ozone and PM 2.5. The District will keep EJAG updated on further discussions with the EPA and ARB.

Ms. Kelly-Ortega asked where more information can be obtained. Mr. Sheikh said he could be contacted by phone and also the District could develop materials and provide them to EJAG.

Dr. David Lighthall, District Health Science Advisor, provided a brief powerpoint presentation on a District-funded major, epidemiological study completed by the Central Valley Health Policy Institute at Fresno State, which was a joint project with UCFS Fresno. Dr. Lighthall said the full presentation is available on the District's website, in the June Governing Board section (under Public Meetings, Governing Board, Governing Board Schedule, Agendas and Action Summary Minutes, June 16 – Presentations).

Mr. Terhune departed at 7:06 p.m.

15. CAC / EJAG COLLABORATION ACTION PLAN – Ms. Kelly-Ortega asked if anyone had suggestions regarding who to contact to speak at a future EJAG/CAC meeting. Ms. Sharpe suggested Jonathan London, Director of the Center for Regional Change at UC Davis, and also suggested Dr. Manuel Pastor,

Professor of Geography and American Studies & Ethnicity at the University of Southern California. Ms. Sharpe suggested using the VTC system to accommodate out-of-town speakers. Ms. Kelly-Ortega said this item could possibly be scheduled for October.

Other items on the action plan were briefly discussed and regarding item #1, Ms. Kelly-Ortega said it would not be a problem for her to attend a CAC meeting. Mr. McVaigh suggested putting this item on a future EJAG agenda, so EJAG can discuss what will be presented to the CAC.

16. EJ MAPS (IF ANY UPDATES) – There were no EJ map updates.
12. RULES UNDER DEVELOPMENT – (This item taken out of turn) Mr. Errol Villegas, Program Manager, Strategies & Incentives Department, provided a brief overview of Rule 4566 (Organic Material Composting Operations) and Rule 4702 (Internal Combustion Engines).

Regarding Rule 2301 (Emission Reduction Credit Banking), which was listed on the informational handout, Mr. Jones asked the status of the timeline. Mr. Villegas said he would follow-up with the Permits Department and provide that information.

17. AUGUST EJAG MEETING AGENDA ITEMS – Ms. Kelly-Ortega suggested the following items be placed on the August EJAG agenda:
- Grant Sub-Committee update
 - Federal Pilot Project update
 - EJAG Success stories and achievements
 - Risk-Based approach
 - Collaboration action plan
 - EJ 101 Speaker

Ms. Neronha suggested adding EJ projects EJAG can consider, as well as using the EJ maps to identify EJ communities.

Mr. Dean asked if EJAG could be provided with a list of all the District grants and incentive programs, specifically those that target small businesses in EJ communities.

18. PUBLIC COMMENT (SECOND OPPORTUNITY) – Mr. Dennis Fox read a letter that was sent to the Bureau of Land Management and the Carrizo Plains Advisory Committee.

Mr. McVaigh said the District works very closely with the National Park Service in Sequoia and Kings Canyon to determine when it is appropriate to conduct burns.

Mr. McVaigh said the District also coordinates with the Great Basin and Mariposa County and some other areas. He said the District will ensure that these agencies are contacting the District to check on the air quality and meteorological conditions in the San Joaquin Valley prior to approving burns.

Mr. Dean encouraged Mr. Fox to attend future EJAG meetings and encouraged him to apply for the open EJAG Kern County at-large representative seat. Ms. Turner said Mr. Fox provided his contact information, and stated possibly someone who also is associated with the Asthma Coalition would like to apply for that open seat.

Ms. Kelly-Ortega suggested EJAG could address the concerns Mr. Fox presented in his letter at a later date.

19. EJAG MEMBER COMMENTS – Ms. Neronha asked Ms. Velasquez if it would be possible to provide the names of members of the public who have attended past EJAG meetings, as well as their contact information, at the next EJAG meeting. Ms. Holt said not all members of the public fill out the sign-in sheet; however, for those who did, that information could be provided to EJAG.

Mr. Dean advised the High-Speed Rail Authority Governing Board will hold a meeting in Bakersfield on July 14, 2011, 9 a.m., at the Board of Supervisor's chamber. He encouraged EJAG members to attend.

20. EJAG MEMBER SUGGESTIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PRESENTATION OF THE EJAG REPORT DURING THE CAC MEETING ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2011 – No suggestions were made.
21. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT EJAG REPORT DURING CAC MEETING, TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2011 AT 10:00 A.M. – Ms. Kelly-Ortega volunteered.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – The next EJAG meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. Meeting held via video teleconference (VTC), with the Central Region Office (Fresno), the Northern Region Office (Modesto) and the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) participating.