

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

Thursday, April 26, 2012
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 5:32 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was not yet present.

County	Member Name/Interest Group	Location
Fresno	Sandra Celedón-Castro, At-large Rep.	Central
Stanislaus	Pamela Neronha, At-large Rep.	North
Tulare	Derek Williams, At-large Rep.	Central
Fresno	***Kevin Hamilton, CAC-Environmental (Primary)	Central
Fresno	**Sarah Sharpe, CAC-Environmental (Alternate)	Central
Kern	*Marvin Dean, Business Owner	South

*Marvin Dean arrived at 5:40 p.m.

**Sarah Sharpe arrived at 5:43 p.m.

***Kevin Hamilton arrived at 6:00 p.m.

Staff present in Central Region Office (Fresno) – Rick McVaigh, Deputy APCO; Errol Villegas, Strategies and Incentives Program Manager; Samir Sheikh, Strategies and Incentives Director; Dr. David Lighthall, Health Science Advisor; Jamie Holt, Chief Communications Officer; Ruth Crisp, Outreach and Communications Representative.

Staff present in Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) – Brenda Turner, Outreach and Communications Representative.

Staff present in Northern Region Office (Modesto) – Anthony Presto, Outreach and Communications Representative.

Members of the public present – Dennis Fox, Rebecca Harrington.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012

Moved: Williams
Seconded: Celedón-Castro
Ayes: Celedón-Castro, Nerohna, Williams, Dean, Sharpe
Nays: None

Motion unanimously passed to approve the minutes of Thursday, March 22, 2012.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Dennis Fox wanted the EJAG to know about an Off-Highway Vehicle park proposed near Taft. He is going to submit a letter.

Rebecca Harrington, a resident in the Northern region, complained about two businesses near her home causing significant pollution. She has filed complaints with various organizations, but has not seen any action taken. (District Compliance staff has since met with Ms. Harrington and her neighbors and performed inspections of the two businesses to address the issues presented by Ms. Harrington.)

*Ms. Sharpe and Mr. Dean arrived.

Ms. Holt announced that a quorum was now present. She also reminded EJAG members to please state their names for the record when making comments in order to aid the writing of the meeting minutes.

Mr. Dean asked to move item No. 9 up on the agenda because he needed to leave the meeting early.

5. CHAIR COMMENTS – Ms. Celedón-Castro said Ms. Kelly-Ortega sends her apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. She announced that Ms. Nerohna has resigned. She expressed her concern about open seats on EJAG and asked Mr. Williams and Mr. Hamilton if they will be resubmitting their EJAG applications. Mr. Williams and Mr. Hamilton confirmed.

6. APCO/DEPUTY APCO COMMENTS – Mr. McVaigh said if EJAG approves the Grants Committee's final recommendations, they will go directly to APCO Seyed Sadredin for consideration. The approved recommendations will be included in the District budget proposal presented to the Governing Board in May. Mr. McVaigh said there will be an opportunity to take the recommendations to CAC for their input before the final Governing Board vote on the budget in June.

9. GRANTS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – Derek Williams, Grants Committee Chair, asked if anyone wanted to discuss the recommendations before they voted. Mr. Dean explained why he voted not to approve the recommendations at the last Grants Committee meeting. He felt strongly about

his proposal to allot funding for special projects created with the help of public input. He said he fully supports all the recommendations, but thought the committee was missing an opportunity to create a unique program. He said he has since met with District staff and hopes the District will fund new projects regardless of whether there are specific funds set aside for this purpose. Mr. Dean said he will vote to approve the recommendations. Mr. Dean also mentioned a community meeting regarding incentive programs that will be held on May 16th and invited everyone to attend. Mr. Dean left the meeting after the vote. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the Grants Committee's final recommendations.

Moved: Williams
Seconded: Dean
Ayes: Celedón-Castro, Neronha, Williams, Dean, Sharpe
Nays: None

Motion unanimously passed to approve the Grants Committee's final recommendations.

*Mr. Hamilton arrived.

7. LAWN & GARDEN CONFERENCE SUMMARY – David Lighthall, Health Science Advisor, and Samir Sheikh, Strategies and Incentives Director, spoke about the March 21 Lawn and Garden Conference. At this point, the District is focused most on incentives, outreach and education, but longer term strategies were also discussed at the conference. There is potential for regulations on lawn care equipment in future. They talked about the possibility of phasing out gasoline equipment.

Mr. Sheikh spoke about the District's commercial lawn and garden incentive program. He said the District wants to learn more about the lawn care industry and the benefits for businesses switching to greener technology. The District will be working with manufacturers and businesses to subsidize the cost of the equipment for Valley landscape and lawn care companies. Landscapers can try out the equipment and then give feedback to manufacturers and the District. The District has posted a request for proposals for this program, and will put together a list of available technologies from manufacturers. The District will then provide that equipment to landscapers at essentially no cost, so they can use it for a year and then report back about their experience.

Ms. Neronha asked if there were plans for another seminar and further outreach. Mr. Sheikh said the District wants to work with nurseries and participate in some of their larger meetings to get landscapers involved in trying out the new technology. The District has also talked with Stihl, a manufacturer/dealer of outdoor power tools, about possibly doing training at some District events.

Ms. Neronha suggested looking into cities and towns that have municipal landscapers and that city halls could be used for outreach to get the word out that the District is a resource for this new technology.

Mr. Hamilton suggested contacting hospitals regarding landscaping. He also asked about the District's current landscaping company. Dr. Lighthall said the District is looking into a zero-emission landscaper.

Ms. Celedón-Castro suggested moving on to item No. 11 next.

Public Comment: Dennis Fox said there was a problem with the availability of spare/replacement parts for electric equipment. He said he has to order them and travel to pick them up. He suggested the District work on getting the larger chain stores to carry replacement parts.

11. EJ MAPS: EJ MAP COMPARISON – Mr. Sheikh said the District had put together a simple comparison of the current EJ map and Dr. Jonathan London's map, but they had not yet prepared a presentation of the map overlay. Mr. Williams said he thought next month would be better for the presentation because there will be more members in attendance. This item was tabled until next month.
8. RULE AND 2012 PM2.5 PLAN UPDATES – Errol Villegas, Program Manager of Strategies and Incentives, said there were no updates on Rule 1020 since the last report. Staff is still looking to potentially present the rule to the Governing Board in the second quarter, but they haven't received any further guidance from ARB at this time. Mr. Villegas said there would be a technical workshop April 23 on the 2012 PM2.5 plan, which will be conducted by the District and ARB. This will include a detailed discussion of the modeling associated with the plan. April 30, the District will hold its own workshop to focus more on the plan itself and is hoping for a lot of public participation and input.

Ms. Celedón-Castro asked what kind of outreach had been done regarding the workshops. Mr. Villegas said the workshops were on the District website, and notices were published in local newspapers and sent out to all District mailing lists.

10. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS REPORT – Jamie Holt, Chief Communications Officer, asked for feedback on the following District brochures:
 - a. CHECK BEFORE YOU BURN AND REPORTING AN AIR-POLLUTION COMPLAINT – SPANISH VERSIONS
 - b. GENERAL AIR QUALITY BROCHURE

Ms. Neronha suggested breaking up some of the text by using different fonts, sizes or bold print.

Ms. Holt asked the group to take the brochures home, review them, and bring back any suggestions. She also announced that Mr. Dean and Ms. Sharpe had left the meeting.

12. MAY EJAG MEETING AGENDA ITEMS – The following item will be on the May agenda:

- Map Overlay Comparison

Ms. Holt said the EJ map comparison might be a lengthy discussion, 20 or 30 minutes long, and to make sure enough time is allotted for this item.

Mr. Williams commented that the item on recommendations can now be removed from the agenda.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Second Opportunity) – Ms. Holt thanked everyone who was involved in Earth Day events. She mentioned that Bike to Work Week begins May 14 and there is a slate of events scheduled. She told members to talk to the Outreach representative in their region if they were interested in more information. Ms. Holt also reiterated that if anyone has any ideas for incentive programs, please share them with District staff.
14. EJAG MEMBER COMMENTS – Ms. Nerohna told everyone that her resignation is effective June 1, 2012. She is leaving Stanislaus County and headed to law school. Being a part of EJAG has been a tremendous opportunity. She has enjoyed working with everyone and has learned a lot. Mr. McVaigh thanked Ms. Nerohna for her service to the District and to the people of the San Joaquin Valley. The EJAG members thanked and congratulated Ms. Nerohna as well.
15. EJAG MEMBER SUGGESTIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PRESENTATION OF THE EJAG REPORT DURING CAC MEETING ON TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2012 – There will not be a CAC meeting in May.
16. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING CAC MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2012, AT 10 A.M. – There will not be a CAC meeting in May.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – The next EJAG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 24, 2012, at 5:30 p.m. Meeting held via video teleconference (VTC), with the Central Region

SJVUAPCD Environmental Justice Advisory Group
ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES
April 26, 2012

Office (Fresno), the Northern Region Office (Modesto) and the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) participating.