

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 25, 2013
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 present.

County	Member Name/Interest Group	Location
Merced	Melissa Kelly-Ortega, At-large Rep.	Central
Tulare	Derek Williams, At-large Rep.	Central
Fresno	Praveen Buddiga, Business Owner	Central
Fresno	*Sarah Sharpe, CAC-Environmental (Primary)	Central
Fresno	Sandra Celedón-Castro, At-large Rep.	Central
Madera	Michelle Garcia, At-large Rep.	Central
San Joaquin	Esperanza Vielma, At-large Rep.	North
Stanislaus	Rayna Ruiz, At-large Rep.	North
Kern	Robert Smith, At-large Rep.	South

*Ms. Sharpe arrived at 5:37 p.m.

Staff present in Central Region Office (Fresno) – Rick McVaigh, Deputy APCO; Errol Villegas, Strategies and Incentives Manager; Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer; Janelle Schneider, Air Quality Education Representative.

Staff present in Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) – Emily Gonzalez-Demont, Office Services Manager.

Staff present in Northern Region Office (Modesto) – Anthony Presto, Air Quality Education Representative.

Members of the public present – Tom Knox, Valley Clean Air Now; Dennis Fox, Kern County resident.

3. APPROVE MINUTES FOR MARCH 28, 2013

Ms. Celedón-Castro said the minutes state SB535 requires 20 percent of the revenue to be spent in disadvantaged communities, but it should be 25 percent. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes as amended.

Moved: Williams
Seconded: Buddiga
Ayes: Celedón-Castro, Smith, Garcia, Kelly-Ortega, Vielma, Ruiz, Williams, Buddiga
Nays: None

Motion passed to approve the minutes for March 28, 2013, as amended.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Tom Knox, Valley Clean Air Now (CAN), expressed his appreciation for the District-provided funding for Tune-In/Tune-Up events. He said 16 events have been held in the past nine months and they have been phenomenally successful. Mr. Knox said about 75 percent of the people receiving repair vouchers live in the top 10 percent of communities most impacted by pollution, as according to CalEPA's EnviroScreen. Of the people whose cars pass the smog test, only 12 percent live within those communities. Mr. Knox said this really shows the need for these events in those severely impacted communities.

Ms. Kelly-Ortega thanked Mr. Knox and Valley CAN for the great job they do with these events. Ms. Holt thanked EJAG for their support for the program and for their help with outreach. Mr. McVaigh also thanked EJAG for their support and for their recommendations for funding for these events.

5. CHAIR COMMENTS – Ms. Kelly-Ortega thanked everyone for coming. She announced she had sent out the applications for the alternate seats and a survey regarding the potential dates for the EJAG/CAC collaborative meeting. She said items 8 and 11 would be moved up on the agenda because a few members needed to leave early.

8. GRANTS COMMITTEE REPORT AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS - (This item was taken out of order.)
Mr. Williams went over the recommendations.

Ms. Sharpe asked how much incentive money there is to be allocated to EJ communities. Mr. Williams said last year, AB2522 mandated a specific amount be spent in EJ communities. This year, the District asked for more general recommendations without specific dollar amounts. Mr. DeYoung said the District basically wanted a list of EJAG's funding priorities.

Dr. Buddiga asked if school buses are only being replaced or if there is an option for retrofitting. Mr. DeYoung explained that school buses fall under state

regulations that already require certain emission reductions. There are no options for retrofitting school buses that would give surplus emission reductions, more than the reductions already required by the state. With retrofits, the District would basically be paying for buses to comply with state regulations and incentive funds cannot be used for this purpose. The District is focusing on replacements which result in early, excess reductions.

Ms. Garcia asked what percentage of Valley buses are considered clean. Mr. DeYoung did have that number available. He said there are about 2,800 school buses in the Valley. The District works on replacing the oldest buses first. All pre-1986 buses have now been replaced. Mr. DeYoung said the District hopes to have all pre-1990 buses replaced within the next year or two.

Ms. Vielma asked about the recommendation for new components to the Remove II program. Since this involves new items, she wanted to know what the next step would be and how they could best go about disseminating information. Mr. DeYoung said the best resource for information is the District's website. Anyone can sign up for a list serve for a specific program or programs to receive notification whenever significant changes are made or new information is made available.

Mr. McVaigh said he will provide an update on the budget and spending plan at the next EJAG meeting.

Moved: Garcia
Seconded: Smith
Ayes: Celedón-Castro, Smith, Garcia, Kelly-Ortega, Vielma, Ruiz,
Williams, Buddiga, Sharpe
Nays: None

Motion passed to approve the EJAG Grants Committee funding recommendations.

11. ELECT VICE CHAIR – (This item was taken out of order.)
Mr. Williams nominated Bob Smith.

Moved: Williams
Seconded: Celedón-Castro
Ayes: Celedón-Castro, Smith, Garcia, Kelly-Ortega, Vielma, Ruiz,
Williams, Buddiga, Sharpe
Nays: None

Motion passed to elect Bob Smith as vice chair.

*Mr. Williams left the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

6. APCO/DEPUTY APCO COMMENTS – Mr. McVaigh said there will be two Governing Board meetings in May. The study session will be held on May 2 - 3 at Bass Lake. This meeting will focus more on internal business, such as policy and organizational issues. Some of the key topics will be the District's vision, core values, organizational structure and risk-based strategy. There will also be discussions on a proposed public outreach survey regarding wood-burning and lawn-care issues, potential implications of hydraulic fracturing, the attainment planning process, and land use. Tony Perez, a consultant to the City of Fresno, will be in attendance to talk about form-based coding. Mr. McVaigh concluded that the regular Governing Board meeting will be held May 16 and the main focus will be the 2013/14 District budget.

Mr. Smith asked if the District was looking to fund studies on land use planning and form-based codes. Mr. McVaigh said the District is considering funding pilot projects for the implementation of form-based coding. Mr. Smith suggested the high-speed rail and station planning should be part of the discussion at the study session.

Ms. Vielma asked for a follow-up report with more details on land use and on the meeting itself. Mr. McVaigh said he will provide a summary in his next report.

7. RULE AND 2012 PM2.5 PLAN UPDATES – Errol Villegas, Strategies and Incentives Manager, presented the updates.

Mr. Smith asked about the Creditability of Incentives rule and the benefits of receiving this credit. He asked if documenting these reductions would result in reduced fines. Mr. McVaigh said it would not reduce fines, but by documenting the reductions resulting from incentive programs, the District hopes to receive more incentive funding.

Ms. Celedón-Castro asked if the emission reductions from incentive programs have been tracked. Mr. McVaigh confirmed that reductions are tracked. The District is working with EPA on how best to report reductions on an annual basis so those reductions can be documented and credited towards the District's state implementation plan.

Ms. Ruiz asked for information about the public workshop on the ozone plan. Mr. Villegas said the public comment period is still open. After the comment period has closed, he will have more information and will report back.

*Ms. Garcia left the meeting at 6:12 p.m. and Ms. Celedón-Castro left at 6:24 p.m.

9. EJ DISTRICT MAP OVERLAY – This item was tabled until next month.
10. MONITORING PLAN UPDATE – Mr. Villegas gave an overview of the District's annual air-monitoring network plan. The network plan describes the state of all

monitoring stations, equipment and locations, and includes a description of all planned changes and completed changes.

Dr. Buddiga asked about the cost for the common pollutant monitor. Mr. McVaigh said it varies depending on the type of monitor. He gave general costs for instruments, land rental, station installation and maintenance.

Mr. Fox asked if the District had considered placing monitors at highway rest stops, which are state-owned and would be rent-free. Mr. Villegas said rest stops generally don't meet the site requirement of having an unobstructed air flow. Mr. Fox asked where the monitoring station in Bakersfield had been moved. Mr. Villegas said the District is in discussions with Kern County regarding moving the station back to the old Bakersfield Golden State site.

Mr. Fox asked for a copy of the permit for the motorcycle park in Kern County. Mr. McVaigh said the District did not issue a permit for the park and Mr. Fox would need to obtain the permit from Kern County.

12. MAY EJAG MEETING AGENDA ITEMS – The following items will be on the May agenda:
 - Grants Update
 - GB Study Session Report
 - EJ Map Overlay
 - Elect New Chair

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Second Opportunity) – Mr. Fox announced that Pep Boys has a lawnmower trade-in program. They are giving away push mowers in exchange for gas-powered mowers. They also offer two models of electric mowers at discounted prices, with a trade-in. Mr. McVaigh thanked Mr. Fox for the information.

14. EJAG MEMBER COMMENTS – Regarding the recommended new components to the Remove II program, Mr. Smith said because this is an existing program, he sees no reason to postpone beginning the application process.

Ms. Sharpe asked if meetings could be held via Skype or GoToMeeting. Mr. McVaigh said the Brown Act does allow for telecommunications technology, but the locations would have to be public and they would have to be included in the public notice. He said another option to consider is webcasting. By viewing a webcast, members would not be able to participate, but could stay informed on the issues and presentations.

15. EJAG MEMBER SUGGESTIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PRESENTATION OF THE EJAG REPORT DURING CAC MEETING ON TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2013, AT 10 a.m. – None.

16. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING CAC MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2013, AT 10 a.m. – Ms. Sharpe volunteered.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – The next EJAG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 23, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held via video teleconference (VTC), with the Central Region Office (Fresno), the Northern Region Office (Modesto) and the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) participating.