

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 23, 2015
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 teleconference in the Northern
Region Office, VTC Room, 4800 Enterprise Way, Modesto*

1. Call to Order – The Chair, Derek Williams, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Roll Call – was taken and a quorum was present

<u>County</u>	<u>Member Name/Interest Group</u>	<u>Location</u>
Fresno	Cesar Campos, At-large Rep	Central
Kern	Marvin Dean, Ethnic-Small Business Owner	South
Kings	Maricela Mares-Alatorre, At-Large Rep	Central
Madera	Michelle Garcia, At-Large Rep	Central
Merced	Jack Lemen, CAC-City (Primary)	Central
Merced	Melissa Kelly-Ortega, At-Large Rep	Central
San Joaquin	Esperanza Vielma, At-Large Rep	North
Tulare	Derek Williams, At-large Rep	Central

Staff Present in Central Region Office (Fresno) – Samir Sheikh, Deputy APCO; Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer; Tom Jordan, Senior Policy Advisor; Sheraz Gill, Strategies and Incentives Director; Todd DeYoung, Strategies and Incentives Program Manager; Janelle Schneider, Air Quality Education Rep II

Staff Present in the Northern Region Office (Modesto) – Anthony Presto, Air Quality Education Rep II

Staff Present in the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) – Emily Gonzalez-Demont, Office Services Manager II

Members of the public present – Thomas Helme, Emprezz Nontsikelelo, Rey Vargas and Dolores Weller

This item was taken out of order at the Chair's prerogative

5. Chair Comments - Mr. Williams reported there may be a vacancy for the CAC-Industry/Ag representative position and will keep members apprised.

This item was taken out of order at the Chair's prerogative

4. Public Comments – Emprezz Nontsikelelo, A. Phillip Randolph Community Development Corporation, reported her organization's activities including distributing Healthy Air Living information. She also thanked the District for sponsoring a booth at the Health Expo. Mr. Dean stated he attended a portion of the Expo and commended Ms. Nontsikelelo and her organization for their efforts.

Dolores Weller, Central Valley Air Quality Coalition (CVAQ), commented the EJAG reporting structure was discussed at the recent CAC meeting. She explained CVAQ recommended EJAG should have the same reporting structure as the CAC because of the representation of communities that are most impacted by air quality. Ms. Weller encouraged EJAG members to attend the Study Session on May 6 and May 7 where this topic will be discussed with the Governing Board.

Mr. Dean requested more information on the recommendation to change reporting structures. Mr. Campos explained CVAQ recommended EJAG should report directly to the Governing Board because EJAG will have an impact on the amount of Cap and Trade funding received for disadvantaged communities in the Valley.

Mr. Williams commented the current reporting structure works well and there is a good relationship between CAC and EJAG. He stated he suggested EJAG present a report to the Governing Board when necessary.

This item was taken out of order at the Chair's prerogative

6. APCO/Deputy APCO Comments – Samir Sheikh, Deputy APCO, reported the APCO presented the concept of changing the EJAG reporting structure at the CAC meeting on April 21. The proposal is to have EJAG report directly to the Governing Board. Currently, EJAG provides reports to the CAC and then CAC provides reports to the Governing Board. This item will be heard at the Study Session on May 6 and 7 in Bass Lake including taking into consideration CAC member comments.

Mr. Sheikh explained the Study Session is a great avenue for the Governing Board Members to discuss different strategic issues in a less formal environment and have public involvement. He commented there are a

number of issues that would interest this group. Mr. Sheikh encouraged EJAG members to attend the Study Session.

Seyed Sadredin, Executive Director/APCO stated the reporting structure proposed would allow EJAG to report their activities and recommendations to the Board directly. This proposal is based on EJAG's maturity over the past eight years and demonstrated ability to work effectively and cooperatively with the CAC and the District. District staff believe that EJAG is now uniquely able to assist the District and other stakeholders to advocate for the Valley's fair share of Cap and Trade funding. The change will be for a trial period. Mr. Sadredin commented EJAG members serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Several members of the EJAG and the public asked questions regarding the proposed change in the EJAG's reporting structure, and EJAG members were encouraged to attend the Governing Board Study Session.

Mr. Sheikh stated the Study Session agenda items were discussed as a March Governing Board agenda item. Additionally, the Board accepted \$2.4 million towards the Tune In Tune Up replacement vehicle program. He thanked EJAG members for assisting with obtaining that funding. Mr. Sheikh reported the District is applying for a \$10 million federal air shed grant and asked that EJAG consider supporting the proposal as consistent with the grant recommendations made by EJAG. Mr. Williams asked if there were any objections from EJAG members for providing a support letter. Hearing none the Chair declared a consensus for a letter of support from EJAG based on past recommendations for similar support.

3. Approve Minutes of February 26, 2015 –

Moved: Dean
Seconded: Campos
Ayes: Campos, Mares-Alatorre, Garcia
Kelly-Ortega, Vielma, Williams, Dean, Lemen
Nays: None

Motion passed to approve the Minutes for February 26, 2015

7. Updates on Attainment Plans and Rules – Sheraz Gill, Director of Strategy & Incentives, presented the updates.

Mr. Dean asked the attainment status of the Valley. Mr. Sheikh responded that the EPA approved Rule 9610 (State Implementation Plan Credit for Emission Reductions Generated Through Incentive Programs) to allow credit for incentive based emissions reductions. He added there is a lot of work to

do in creating plans for both ozone and PM2.5 to comply with federal air quality standards. He commented that the extreme drought caused issues in terms of setting the Valley back, but that the Valley has also made significant progress in reducing emissions and improving air quality.

Mr. Williams asked for clarification regarding a graph that was shown at the CAC meeting on April 21, 2015 illustrating the challenge of reaching attainment. Mr. Sheikh explained the graph showed the history of emissions, where the Valley is today and what levels are needed to attain ozone standards. Mr. Williams expressed concerns regarding federal standards that are not possible to be attained and EJAG communities facing possible fines due to non-attainment.

Mr. Campos requested a brief summary of the discussion the Governing Board members had at the meeting on April 16, 2015 regarding the options to consider if the Valley is not able to come into attainment. Mr. Sheikh reported the Governing Board adopted the 2015 PM2.5 Plan to address the 1997 standard. The challenge is if the plan, that also allows for an extension, is not approved by EPA there are very serious penalties that could occur.

8. Update on AB 32 Cap and Trade Funding – Mr. Jordan presented the update and provided information on transportation funding and registration fees for electric vehicles. He reported that an item will be presented to the Governing Board at the May Study Session regarding how to ensure that the Valley receives its fair share of Cap and Trade funding.

Ms. Vielma asked how EJAG members can assist with passing legislation that will assist EJAG communities. She will forward ideas on how to disseminate information to EJAG community residents. Mr. Jordan encouraged groups that are supportive of the legislation to send letters to Assemblymember Perea's office.

Mr. Campos asked if the District has identified programs that are receiving funding from Cap and Trade. Mr. Jordan responded affirmatively and listed several programs.

Mr. Campos reported that ARB sent out a grant solicitation for a pilot program, Light Duty Financing Assistance in disadvantaged communities under the Low-Carbon and Transportation Investment. He proposed tying this program into the Tune In Tune Up program or assisting farm workers who share a ride to work. Mr. Jordan said the District has been meeting with Valley Clean Air Now, lenders and state Cal Cap program representatives. There will be an application tied in with Tune In Tune Up to offer loan guarantee type programs to bring interest rates down. Mr. Jordan also said the District supported a number of applications for a zero emission car share

type program in disadvantage communities. He encouraged to everyone to work together and network to make the advocacy stronger.

Mr. Williams stated the focus should not only be on electric vehicles due to longer distances or lack of infrastructure and suggested Compressed Natural Gas (CNG). Mr. Jordan said there is an item that will be presented and discussed at the Study Session regarding promoting the use of natural gas technology for goods movement in the Valley.

Mr. Dean asked the status of a program towards retiring vehicles. Mr. Sheikh said he would follow up with Mr. DeYoung on the specific item recommended by the Grants Committee. He added the state has an active program and the intent is to provide a suite of options for members of the public. Mr. Sheikh explained the recommendations provided by the Grants Committee and approved by EJAG are important and very much appreciated and incorporated into the District's incentive spending plan as feasible through the District's annual budget process.

Public Comment: None

9. Update on District's Rule 9410 Employee Based Trip Reduction – This item was tabled at the Chair's prerogative.
10. Overview of District Grants Providing Bicycle Infrastructure – Remove II – This item was tabled at the Chair's prerogative
11. Submitting Outreach Grants to the District – Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, reviewed the guidelines of how to request District Support. All partnerships and sponsorships need to have a direct and clearly communicated tie-in with air quality education and emission reductions.

Mr. Dean thanked Ms. Holt for the information and encouraged EJAG members to circulate the information presented.

Public Comment: None

12. Transboundary Ozone Pollution Conference Overview and Lesson Learned from Attending EJAG Members – Mr. Dean commented it was a good conference with great speakers. Mr. Campos commented there was good discussion on the contradicting information of the amount of pollution coming from Asia.

The item was tabled at the Chair's prerogative.

13. Upcoming EJAG Meeting Agenda Items

- Update on District's Rule 9410 Employee Based Trip Reduction
 - Overview of District Grants Providing Bicycle Infrastructure – Remove II
 - Update on Truck and Bus Regulation and Incentive Programs
 - Valley efforts to secure Cap and Trade funding
 - Update on high polluting vehicle replacement and repair programs
14. Public Comments (Second Opportunity) – Rey Vargas, Café Coop WerQshop, reported an event on May 1 in Stockton to bring awareness to programs that are being developed for the local art community and offered his printing services as a lower cost option. Ms. Holt asked Mr. Vargas to leave his contact information for possible future Requests For Proposals (RFP's).

Thomas Helme, prospective EJAG Member from Stanislaus County, thanked everyone for their time and dedication. He commented public participation may increase with meetings being held after normal working hours.

Emprezz Nontsikelelo reported three upcoming events and requested materials to distribute information to members of the public.

15. EJAG Member Comments; EJAG Member Suggestions to be Included in the Presentation of the EJAG Report During CAC Meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 – None.
16. Volunteer to Present Report During CAC Meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2015 at 10 a.m. – Mr. Williams reported the May 6 CAC meeting was canceled and volunteered to present the report at the June 2 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Meeting –The next EJAG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 25, 2015, 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.