

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, August 27, 2020
5:30 p.m.

Meeting held via video teleconferencing with the Central Region Office (Fresno). This meeting was also webcast. Given the international COVID-19 pandemic, and consistent with the California Department of Public Health's recommendations and Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, no physical location was provided for public attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Keith Freitas, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was present

<u>County</u>	<u>Member Name/Interest Group</u>	<u>Location</u>
Tulare	Derek Williams, At Large Rep	VTC
Kings	Keith Freitas, At Large Rep	VTC
Stanislaus	Thomas Helme, At Large Rep	VTC
San Joaquin	Esperanza Vielma, At Large Rep	VTC
Fresno	Dary Rezvani, Ethnic, Small Business Owner	VTC
Fresno	Tim Parcel, CAC Industry/Ag Primary	VTC
Merced	Dennis Brazil, At Large Rep	VTC
Fresno	Kevin Hamilton, CAC Environmental Primary*	VTC

**Arrived at 6:21 p.m.*

3. APPROVE MINUTES FOR JUNE 25, 2020 – Mr. Freitas asked if there were any comments regarding the Minutes for June 25, 2020. Mr. Freitas requested a correction to the minutes to state he did not leave the meeting but was briefly disconnected due to technical issues. Minutes approved with corrections stated.

Public Comment: None

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None
5. CHAIR COMMENTS – None

6. APCO/DEPUTY APCO COMMENTS – Morgan Lambert, Deputy APCO, provided updates on the following:
- At their meeting held on, August 20, 2020, the Governing Board authorized agreements with Valley Clean Air Now to continue implementation of the Drive Clean in the San Joaquin Vehicle Replacement Program.
 - The District has been awarded approximately \$20 million to replace diesel agricultural tractors and \$10 million to fund Low Dust Nut Harvesters by the EPA under the Targeted Airshed Grant Program.

7. UPDATES ON ATTAINMENT PLANS AND RULES – Jessica Coria, Program Manager, provided an update on the District's attainment plan and rule making efforts.

Mr. Freitas asked if there were any adjustments made to the PM2.5 attainment plans to take into account the recent wildfires in order to allow the District to meet the attainment plan conditions. Mr. Lambert responded that under federal rules and regulations, wildfires qualify as exceptional events. He said the emissions from exceptional events such as wildfires are excluded and are not counted against efforts made to reach attainment.

Mr. Helme commented on the continued health effects to Valley residents caused by wildfire smoke. He asked that the District advocate to state and federal agencies regarding the disproportionate affect that wildfires have on the Valley. Mr. Lambert responded that through a multifaceted strategy the District is looking at how to prevent and alleviate the impacts that come from catastrophic wildfire events by working with land management agencies on prescribed burning programs, as well as advocating both at the state and federal level for increased funding for fuel management efforts.

8. AB 617 UPDATE– Ryan Hayashi, Deputy APCO, provided an update on the District's ongoing activities related to AB 617 implementation. He said since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the District has been working with the Community Steering Committees to re-envision the process and community engagement in light of stay-at-home orders and social distancing recommendations. The Community Steering Committees are continuing to have meetings utilizing online meeting tools. The South Central Fresno and Shafter communities are continuing to work on implementing the Community Emission Reduction Programs (CERPs) approved earlier this year. The Stockton community is working to develop a Community Air Monitoring Plan and CERP for consideration by the District and CARB later this year. At the August meeting, the District Governing Board approved meeting stipends for resident members of the Community Steering Committees.

Mr. Hayashi also provided an update of the District's efforts to propose communities for CARB's consideration under Year 3 of the AB 617 program. He reported the District held a public workshop on August 3, 2010, to solicit input on communities and the proposed community selection methodology for Year 3 of the program. The Governing Board will consider staff's Year 3 community proposal at the September 17, 2020, meeting. CARB will consider community nominations for final selection in the 4th Quarter of 2020.

Public Comment – None

9. WILDFIRE AIR QUALITY AND RESPONSE – Jessica Olsen, Program Manager, and Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, provided an update on the August 2020 lightning siege that resulted in hundreds of wildfires across the state. They said emissions from these fires resulted in significant particulate matter and ozone air quality impacts across the Valley. In response, the District has issued bilingual Health Cautionary Statements and Air Quality Alerts and utilized multiple outreach platforms to inform the public of the need to protect themselves and reduce their exposure by moving indoors to a filtered, air-conditioned environment if possible.

Mr. Helme commented on the importance of continued outreach to inform the public about the harmful effects of wildfire smoke.

Ms. Vielma suggested the use of animated videos in future outreach materials to assist in explaining the effects of wildfire smoke on the health of residents.

Public Comment – None

*Mr. Hamilton left the meeting at 6:08pm and returned at 6:16pm.
Mr. Williams joined the meeting at 6:21pm.*

10. DRIVE CLEAN IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VEHICLE REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT PROGRAM – Brian Dodds, Program Manager, provided an update on the District's Drive Clean in the San Joaquin Vehicle Repair and Replacement programs.

Mr. Hamilton asked about the pilot program to expand the vehicle model year requirements from 1999 to 2006 that was approved by the Board earlier this year. Mr. Dodds responded that the pilot program began to be implemented during weekend events, however, shortly thereafter, all events were cancelled due to the pandemic. He said the District is still actively looking at expanding the vehicle model year requirement to allow more residents to participate.

Ms. Vielma asked about the scope of the UCLA study. Mr. Dodds responded that the study focused primarily on the District's repair program. Ms. Vielma asked if the participating dealerships give the District monies for allowing them to

participate in the Replacement program. Mr. Dodds responded that the District does not receive anything from the dealerships other than a commitment to provide vehicles to participants at a slightly better price point and below Kelley Blue Book.

11. POTENTIAL FUTURE EJAG MEETING AGENDA ITEMS –

- Updates on AB 617
- Grant Funding update
- Wildfire Report
- Be Idle Free update
- Truck Program update

Mr. Hamilton left the meeting at 7:11pm.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS (2ND Opportunity) – None

13. EJAG MEMBER COMMENTS – Mr. Brazil asked if the Truck Program was still active and if funding was available. Mr. Dodds responded that the Truck Program was currently oversubscribed for diesel projects. He added the District continues to solicit funding from EPA for diesel reduction projects. Mr. Brazil commented on the Be Idle Free program and suggested the District continue to enhance outreach to schools.

Mr. Parcel left the meeting at 7:28pm.

Mr. Williams left the meeting at 7:29pm.

14. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING CAC MEETING ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 (TENTATIVE AT 10 A.M.) – Mr. Williams volunteered to present the report if needed.

15. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2020 (TENTATIVE) AT 9 A.M. – Mr. Freitas volunteered to present the report if needed.

Next Meeting – The next EJAG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 22, 2020 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.