

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 25, 2022

Given the international COVID-19 pandemic, and consistent with public health recommendations and Assembly Bill 361, this meeting was held via Zoom Webinar and video teleconferencing with the Central Region Office (Fresno). This meeting was also webcast. No physical location was provided for public attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Nayamin Martinez, called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL – Roll was taken and a quorum was confirmed by 5:44 p.m.

Present:

Nayamin Martinez, Chair	Fresno County At Large Representative
Keith Freitas	Kings County At Large Representative
Laura Gutile	Madera County At Large Representative
Esperanza Vielma	San Joaquin County At Large Representative
Thomas Helme, Vice Chair	Stanislaus County At Large Representative
Derek Williams	Tulare County At Large Representative
Rechima Dean*	Ethnic Small Business Owner
Orchel Krier	CAC City Interest Group (Alternate)
Jasmeet Bains, M.D.	Kern County At Large Representative
Dennis Brazil	At-large Representative
Ned Leiba	CAC Environmental Group (Primary)
Richard O'Brien	CAC City Interest Group (Primary)

Absent:

Kacey Auston-Tibbetts	CAC Environmental Group (Alternate)
Manuel Cunha	CAC Industry / Agricultural Interest Group (Primary)
Chris McGlothlin	CAC Industry / Agricultural Interest Group (Alternate)

**Esperanza Vielma arrived at 6:25 p.m.*

**Dennis Brazil arrived at 6:33 p.m.*

**Rechima Dean arrived at 6:43 p.m.*

3. APPROVE MINUTES FOR JUNE 23, 2022 – Ms. Martinez asked if there were any comments regarding the Minutes for June 23, 2022. Mr. O'Brien stated that he was present at June meeting and the attendance sheet did not reflect his attendance.

Moved: Martinez

Seconded: O'Brien

Ayes: Martinez, Freitas, Gutile, Vielma, Lewis, Helme, Williams, Leiba, O'Brien,
Krier, Bains

Nays: None

Motion unanimously carried to approve June 23, 2022, minutes with the correction to the attendance of Mr. O'Brien.

Public Comment: None

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

5. CHAIR COMMENTS – Ms. Martinez welcomed everyone and reminded the members to review recent changes to the EJAG Goals and Objectives for 2022.

6. APCO/DEPUTY APCO COMMENTS – Morgan Lambert, Deputy APCO, announced that the District is accepting applications for the Ethnic, Small Business Owner seat in the Environmental Justice Advisory Group and deadline has been extended to September 30, 2022.

Ms. Martinez requested that the District provide the EJAG members with a copy of the application for the Ethnic, Small Business Owner seat.

7. UPDATE ON ATTAINMENT PLANS AND RULES – Jessi Fierro, Director of Air Quality Planning, provided an update on the District's attainment plan and rule making efforts.

Ms. Martinez asked for clarification about the District's methane rule in relation to CARB's methane rule. Mr. Lambert clarified that the District's jurisdiction covers criteria pollutants so the District's regulations establish requirements for reducing Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) emissions. Methane, however, is a greenhouse gas, which falls under the jurisdiction of state and federal climate regulations. In regards to the state's Oil and Gas Methane Regulation, the District entered into an agreement with CARB at their request to enforce the state regulation at facilities within the Valley.

Public Comment: None

8. REVIEW AND CONSIDER GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022 – At the request of the 2022 Goals and Objectives ad hoc subcommittee, the EJAG members reviewed and considered the potential addition of a new public health focused goal and objective which would be added to the draft 2022 Goals and Objectives adopted by the committee at the prior meeting.

Mr. Leiba suggested making the health objective number one on the list to emphasize the importance of public health.

Mr. Freitas requested additional time to discuss and consider amendments to the proposed public health focused goal and objective.

Public Comment: None

Motion: O'Brien

Second: Leiba

Ayes: Martinez, Freitas, Gutile, Helme, Williams, Krier, Leiba,
Dean, Brazil, O'Brien

Nays: Freitas, Bains

Motion carried by a vote of 10-2 to approve the addition of the new public health focused goal, and to submit the draft calendar year 2022 Goals and Objectives to the District for consideration.

9. NEW INCENTIVE PROGRAMS IN SHAFTER AND STOCKTON AB 617 COMMUNITIES – Brian Dodds, Program Manager, provided updates on the recently approved Stockton Car Share Program as well as Shafter Road, Sidewalk, and Bike Lane Improvements, and Shafter Transit Vehicle Replacement Program.

Public Comment - None

10. UPDATE ON 2022 WILDFIRE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE EFFORTS – Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, and Madison Perkins, Senior Air Quality Specialist, provided an update on the District's planning and outreach efforts for this wildfire season. The SJVAPCD website has resources available to the public for monitoring air quality and wildfire smoke. New incentive programs available include the Clean Air Centers Pilot Program, which provides large-scale clean air spaces for local residents in accessible public buildings, and the Clean Air Room Pilot Program, which offers a free air purifier to those living in disadvantaged communities.

Mr. Helme noted that he has been spreading the word about these new incentive programs to increase public participation in Stanislaus County.

Dr. Bains congratulated the District on the new clean air incentive programs and recognized the District for the new do-it-yourself home-made air purifier resources that have been made available to the public this wildfire season.

Public Comment - None

11. AB 617 UPDATE – Ryan Hayashi, Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer, provided an update on recent activities in the District’s AB 617 communities.

Public Comment - None

12. POTENTIAL FUTURE EJAG MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

- Mr. Williams suggested a presentation on the EJAG bylaws & Brown Act

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS (2ND Opportunity) – None

14. EJAG MEMBER COMMENTS – None

15. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING CAC MEETING ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022 (TENTATIVE AT 10 A.M.) – Mr. Helme or Mr. Williams will present the report if needed.

16. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 (TENTATIVE) AT 9 A.M. – No report will be necessary

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Next Meeting – The next EJAG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2022 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.