

Action Summary Minutes
San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Central Region Office, Governing Board Room
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, CA

February 4, 2014
10:00 a.m.

The Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting was held via video teleconference (VTC): Central Region Office, Governing Board Room, 1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, the Southern Region Office, VTC Room, 2700 M Street, Bakersfield and teleconference in the Northern Region Office, Kaweah Room, 4800 Enterprise Way, Modesto. The CAC Meeting was webcast.

1. Call to Order – The Chair, Lee Smith, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
2. Roll Call – was taken and a quorum was present

<u>County</u>	<u>Member Name/Interest Group</u>	<u>Location</u>
Fresno	Sarah Sharpe/EIG (P)	Central
	Amarpreet Dhaliwal/CIG (P)	Central
Kern	Brent Green/CIG (P)	South
Kings	Diane Friend/IAIG (A)	Central
	Dennis Tristao/CIG (P)***	Central
Madera	Lee Smith/EIG (P)	Central
	Donald Horal/IAIG (P)	Central
Merced	Jack Lemen/CIG (P)	Central
San Joaquin	Roger Hoffdahl/IAIG (P)	North
	Wade Broughton/CIG (P)	North
Stanislaus	Chris Savage/IAIG (P)**	North
	Chris Vierra/CIG (P)*	North
Tulare	Michael Brown/EIG (P)	Central
	Derek Williams/IAIG (P)	Central

*Mr. Vierra arrived at 10:08 a.m.

**Mr. Savage arrived at 10:16 a.m.

***Mr. Tristao arrived at 10:20 a.m.

(P)=Primary, (A)=Alternate, IAIG=Industry/Ag Interest Group, EIG=Environmental Interest Group, CIG-City Interest Group

Staff Present in Central Region Office (Fresno) – Rick McVaigh, Deputy APCO; Samir Sheikh, Director of Strategies and Incentives; Tom Jordan, Senior Policy Advisor; Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer; Anna Myers, Senior Air Quality Specialist; Cathy Blevins, Network Systems Analyst; Michelle Franco; Deputy Clerk of the Boards

Staff Present in the Northern Region Office (Modesto) – Ann Marie Collins, Office Services Manager

Staff Present in the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) – Nannette Diaz, Senior Office Assistant

3. Recognition of Outgoing Chair, Mayor Dhaliwal – Mr. Smith recognized the outgoing chair, Mr. Dhaliwal for his continuing service and leadership of the CAC and presented him with a plaque of appreciation from the Governing Board.
4. Approve Minutes of January 7, 2014 –The Chair asked if there were any comments regarding the Minutes for January 7, 2014. Hearing no comments, the Chair declared the Minutes approved as submitted.
5. Public Comments – None
6. Chair Comments – Mr. Smith expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve as chair for the next two years.
7. Executive Director/APCO Comments – Rick McVaigh, Deputy APCO, reported at the January Governing Board meeting there was a presentation on the air quality impacts of the extreme weather conditions which will also be presented later at today's meeting. He added the District's Financial auditor presented results of the most recent audit and the District continued to receive high marks for accountability. Mr. McVaigh noted the Board discussed concerns about truck owner/operators achieving compliance with the state truck rule. He stated the Board will continue to discuss the ARB Truck Rule at the February 20, 2014 meeting. Mr. McVaigh also reported a Resolution thanking members of the Valley congressional delegation for their efforts on the Farm Bill will be presented at the next Governing Board meeting.

Ms. Friend requested more information on the Truck Rule. Mr. McVaigh stated the purpose of the Governing Board's discussion in February 2014 will be for staff to provide an update on Truck Rule compliance and obtain recommendations for the District comments to ARB.

8. Rule Updates – Anna Myers, Senior Air Quality Specialist, updated the CAC on upcoming rule actions. She stated EPA is in the process of developing guidance for adopting PM2.5 attainment plans under subpart 4 of the Clean Air Act. She explained the District is in the preliminary stages of preparing for the 2008 8-hour Ozone Plan which includes working with ARB and holding public workshops. Ms. Myers reviewed the status on the development of the District rules.

Ms. Friend asked if there is a District rule that specifically states a diesel engine for temporary pumping at a well that is not yet able to get electricity is exempt from requiring a permit. Mr. McVaigh explained there is no specific exemptions for temporary pump engines used until electricity is available at farms that require permitting under state law. Ms. Friend asked if a recommendation can be made to define the policy in finer detail. She expressed concern for the need of the agricultural community for wells and suggested assistance. Mr. Smith requested volunteers for a subcommittee to work on this issue. Mr. Tristao, Ms. Friend, Mr. Dhaliwal and Mr. Williams volunteered. Mr. McVaigh stated Dave Warner, Director of Permits Services, would be the District liaison for this issue.

Public Comment: None

9. Verbal Report from California Air Resources Board (ARB)
 - a. ARB Board Meeting Summary – Patricia Velasco, ARB representative, reported the Air Resources Board approved revisions to the California Infrastructure SIP. She added the Executive Officer provided the Board with a preview of anticipated Board activities in 2014. Ms. Velasco stated staff updated the Board on the status of air quality progress throughout the state with a focus on ozone and PM2.5 in the South Coast and San Joaquin Valley. She said staff briefed the Board on the status of the implementation of SB 375, the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008. She also stated staff described activities underway to develop a sustainable freight strategy for Board consideration. Ms. Velasco reviewed the upcoming training and workshop.

Public Comment: None

Mr. Dhaliwal left at 10:37 a.m.

10. Valley Electric Vehicle Plan – Todd DeYoung, Program Manager, provided a report on District efforts to promote electric vehicle use. He explained 80% of NO_x in the Valley is attributed to mobile sources. Mr. DeYoung reviewed the District's multi-faceted approach including several different incentive

programs and the Electric Vehicle (EV) readiness planning effort. Mr. DeYoung explained there are major challenges in promoting the use of electrical vehicles including the Valley's rural geography, high rate of poverty, limited infrastructure to support EV use, and the lack of public awareness of EV benefits; as a result, the pace of adoption of electric vehicles has been much slower in the Valley than other areas of California. Mr. DeYoung reported the District has applied for and received state and federal grants and is in the process of developing a Valley EV readiness plan. He added the District has been meeting with a broad range of stakeholders to obtain input on EV readiness issues, and public workshops were held in December to discuss the development of the plan. He explained the plan components may include new grant programs and outreach campaigns, strategies to overcome barriers to EV use, and maps of potential locations for public charging stations. He stated staff expects to have a proposal for Board consideration by May of this year.

Mr. Tristao asked if the EV readiness plan has been identified in any of the regional plans with sustainable communities or development of climate action plans. Nhia Vu, Supervising Air Quality Specialist, responded the option was discussed with different cities at Plug-in Electric Vehicle Coordinating Council meetings. Mr. Tristao asked if an incentive program will be available for heavy duty diesel trucks. Mr. DeYoung explained there are currently programs available including the State Hybrid Voucher Incentive Program (HVIP) and the District has additional funding available with the HVIP Plus-up Program.

Ms. Friend asked what process will be in place to identify barriers. Samir Sheikh, Director of Strategies and Incentives, explained the presentation to the Board will include tactical recommendations that will recognize obstacles for communities and also recognize when electrical vehicles may not always be the solution. He encouraged participation in future discussions from CAC members.

Mr. Williams asked about the cost of an EV charging station. Mr. Sheikh explained the cost for residential units adding an installed EV station may cost approximately \$1,000. He added a unit for public usage may cost up to \$5,000. He noted some units are equipped with credit card capabilities to cover the cost of the electricity but there are still questions on peak pricing and rate plans. Mr. Williams asked if the District will have incentives for EV stations. Mr. Sheikh responded the District currently has incentives as well as the state. He added staff has assisted private business and public agencies with grant writing.

Public Comment: None

11. Abnormal Weather and Impact on Air Quality – Mr. Sheikh began his presentation by explaining the Valley has set a record for the driest year. He added this winter's extreme weather conditions with prolonged stagnations have led to high pollutant concentrations throughout California. He noted these historic abnormal conditions are not considered "exceptional events" by EPA. He added the conditions have overwhelmed very stringent controls, including the District's highly-effective Wood Burning Rule, and have resulted in unusually high PM2.5 levels. Mr. Sheikh stated absent these extreme weather conditions, with emissions at their lowest levels, the Valley was set to have its cleanest winter on record. He presented charts to illustrate the number of no burn days and days over the PM2.5 standard at other air districts and another table illustrating the high number of unhealthy air days noting the extreme weather conditions are affecting all of California.

Mr. Sheikh introduced Jon Klassen, Supervising Air Quality Specialist. Mr. Klassen explained a persistent strong high pressure pattern over the eastern Pacific has effectively blocked weather disturbances which would otherwise bring precipitation to the state. He stated the abnormally dry conditions across the Valley are breaking records for lowest inches of precipitation. Mr. Klassen noted despite poor meteorology, Rule 4901 (Wood Burning Fireplaces and Wood Burning Heaters) is still effective at reducing emissions. He explained the District has made big strides towards improving air quality in the Valley adding there are 12 attainment plans and over 500 of the most stringent rules adopted, implemented and enforced.

Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, explained that while extreme weather conditions have prevailed, the District has been doing additional outreach to encourage residents to protect their health and reduce emissions. She reviewed the various types of media used for the outreach campaign including working with schools to bring students indoors when levels reach an unhealthy category.

Mr. Sheikh reported pursuant to Board direction in January, the District will also be supporting federal legislation introduced by Senator Flake of Arizona to define drought as an "exceptional event", and working with federal land managers to explore means to reduce wildfire risk.

Ms. Sharpe expressed concern about citing this year's extreme weather conditions as an exceptional event because of climate change. Mr. Sheikh explained the District has a Climate Change Action Plan which details several areas including outreach and state mandates. He added the District has been involved in discussions regarding climate change readiness plans. He noted there is a clear precedence in the Clean Air Act to accommodate conditions that are outside the control of residents.

Mr. Tristao asked if there is a plan to speciate the particles found in the filter samples. Mr. Sheikh responded affirmatively.

Mr. Williams requested an item be added to the agenda of the next CAC meeting to review EPA's natural event policy.

Public Comment: None

Mr. Dhaliwal left at 10:37 a.m.

12. Presentation on Cap and Trade – Mr. Jordan provided an update on the potential for state funding from the sale of Cap and Trade allowances. He explained the Governor's proposed budget includes a total of \$850 million in proposed appropriations for Cap and Trade proceeds, including \$300 million for low carbon transportation and sustainable community strategies, \$140 million for energy efficiency and clean energy projects, \$110 million for natural resources and waste diversion, and \$300 million for rail modernization. Mr. Jordan explained the rail modernization money includes \$250 million to begin construction of high speed rail, and \$50 million for other related projects.

Mr. Jordan reported the District's 2014 Legislative Platform states that projects funded with Cap and Trade revenues should reduce greenhouse gas emissions, with a priority given to projects also reduce criteria pollutants. He noted the platform also states that a portion of Cap and Trade revenues should be directed to projects in areas already disproportionately impacted by air pollution, and that the levels of expenditures in and for the benefit of disadvantaged communities should meet or exceed minimums established in State law. He added Valley Transportation Planning Agencies and the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley have also adopted these District positions.

Mr. Tristao requested a copy of the District's Legislative Platform. Mr. Jordan responded a copy will be forwarded.

Mr. Smith asked for the District's position on the monies from the Cap and Trade be returned to the companies that invested in it. Mr. Jordan stated the District's position is to ensure there is an air quality benefit of the funds rather than the final recipients.

Public Comment: None

13. Outreach and Communications Report – Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, reported the Check Before You Burn program is continuing. She stated the website is currently being redesigned. Ms. Holt stated staff will be

attending the World Ag Expo in Tulare providing information. She reported the final draft of the Annual Report will be completed soon. Mr. McVaigh added the Annual Report will be distributed to the CAC when completed.
Public Comment: None.

14. CAC Member Comments; CAC Member Suggestions To Be Included In The Presentation Of The CAC Report During The Governing Board Meeting on February 20, 2014 – Mr. Williams requested the Board be informed of the urgency of encouraging EPA to designate the Valley's drought as an extreme condition. Ms. Friend requested the Board be apprised of the many citizens, which are from the agricultural industry, are opposed to the use of Cap and Trade funds for the high speed rail.
15. Volunteer to Present Report During Governing Board Meeting – Mr. Smith volunteered to present the report during the Governing Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Next Meeting –The next meeting is scheduled on March 4, 2014. 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.