

Action Summary Minutes
San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

GOVERNING BOARD

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

SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING:
REVIEW OF 2013-14 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Thursday, May 16, 2013
9:00 a.m.

Or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard

*Meeting held via teleconferencing with the Central Region Office (Fresno), the Northern Region Office (Modesto) and the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield).
This meeting was webcast.*

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
The Chair, William O'Brien, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL was taken and a quorum was present.

Present:

Oliver L. Baines III, Councilmember	City of Fresno
Tony Barba, Supervisor	Kings County
Skip Barwick, Councilmember, Chair	City of Tulare
Sally Bomprezzi, Councilmember	City of Madera
Dennis Brazil, Mayor*	City of Gustine
Judy Case, Supervisor	Fresno County
Harold Hanson, Councilmember**	City of Bakersfield
William O'Brien, Supervisor*	Stanislaus County
Dr. Alexander Sherriffs	Appointed by Governor
Hub Walsh, Supervisor, Vice Chair*	Merced County
Tom Wheeler, Supervisor	Madera County
J. Steven Worthley, Supervisor	Tulare County

* Attended meeting in Northern Region Office

**Attended meeting in Southern Region Office

Absent:

David Couch, Supervisor	Kern County
Bob Elliott, Supervisor	San Joaquin County

3. PUBLIC HEARING FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE DISTRICT'S 2013-14 RECOMMENDED BUDGET – Seyed Sadredin, Executive Director/APCO explained this was the first of two Public Hearings required by law to adopt the District's 2013-14 Recommended Budget. He explained the Board is prohibited from taking action on this item today. However, he noted the purpose of today's hearing was to allow the public to comment on the District's 2013-14 Recommended Budget. Mr. Sadredin introduced Rick McVaigh, Deputy APCO; Samir Sheikh, Strategies and Incentives Director; Cindi Hamm, Administrative Services Director; and Mehri Barati, Finance Manager. Mr. Sadredin announced that Ms. Barati has recently been promoted to the Administrative Services Director position, effective July 15, 2013, as Ms. Hamm will be leaving the District to return to Washington.

Mr. Sadredin reviewed highlights of the District's 2013-14 Recommended Budget and shared that, as in previous years, this year's budget was developed using the zero-based budgeting approach. He explained the Recommended Budget is balanced with adequate reserves and contingencies. He explained the resources contained in the Budget will enable the District to continue to provide excellent customer service, expedited processing of permit applications, and fulfill all state and federal mandates in a timely fashion.

Budget Highlights:

- No fee rate increase
- No increase in total number of positions - additional workload absorbed through efficiency & streamlining
- 7% salary savings
- Maintains lowest permit fees and administrative overhead
- Automation and remote control for the air monitoring network
- Strong public education and outreach
- Assistance to local municipalities in meeting clean-air and climate change mandates
- Valley-specific health and scientific studies
- Over \$10 million in Community Incentives for Valley residents
- Expeditious administration and use of emission reduction incentive funds in a wide range of applications
- \$8 million in funding for air pollution control technology advancement
- Balanced budget with adequate reserves and contingencies

Mr. Sadredin shared information on the District's previous year's accomplishments, the guiding principles that staff used to create the 2013-14 Recommended Budget, and information on the District's outlook for next year, including summary highlights of information included in the Budget. He introduced Rick McVaigh, Deputy APCO, who presented information on the District's workload for the next fiscal year, and streamlining measures being implemented to absorb the workload without additional staff. Cindi Hamm, Director of Administrative Services, and Mehri Barati, Finance Manager, provided information on the District's Budget documents.

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Supervisor Worthley asked about benefit costs for District employees. Mr. Sadredin responded it varies depending on type of employee, but ranges from 50 to 80 percent. Dr. Sherriffs asked about the Valleywide Project for Efficiency and Clean Air. Mr. Sadredin responded the District is deploying various Chambers of Commerce and other organizations to connect with other businesses to see what they can do to help improve energy efficiency at workplaces and various facilities. Mr. Sadredin noted at the recent Study Session, the Board agreed to form an Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review District Operations, and noted this Subcommittee could develop alternate recommendations for District positions.

Lastly, Samir Sheikh, Strategies and Incentives Director, reported on how the District plans to utilize incentive funding to help improve air quality in the Valley during the upcoming fiscal year. Supervisor Worthley commented on the transformation of the District's incentive programs in recent years, calling it a great success story. He complimented staff and the District for doing such a great job at making incentive funds available to Valley residents very quickly. Councilmember Baines asked how the District defines environmental justice communities. Mr. Sheikh responded the District has developed a GIS-type map which takes into account pre-specified thresholds relating to ethnic composition, poverty and air quality, which define an environmental justice community. Supervisor O'Brien asked about the effectiveness of funds spent on reducing school bus emissions. Mr. Sadredin responded those efforts are part of the District's Health Risk-Reduction based strategy. He noted studies show that children who ride in buses are exposed to levels of toxics that are three times higher than an average person walking down the street due to leakage of emissions into the older buses. Supervisor Walsh announced he would have to leave the meeting. He also volunteered to serve on the Governing Board Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Oversee District Operations.

Supervisor Walsh left at 11:21 a.m.

Public Comment – *The following persons provided testimony on this item:*

- Dennis Tristao, Kings County

Supervisor Case commented this was a very complex budget. She complimented staff, noting many of the District's advantages come from the deployment of new technologies in efforts to clean the Valley's air. Supervisor Wheeler made a motion to set June 20, 2013 for the Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of the District's 2013-14 Recommended Budget.

Moved: Wheeler
Seconded: Barba
Ayes: Baines, Barba, Bomprezzi, Brazil, Case, Hanson,
O'Brien, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Worthley, Barwick
Nays: None

Motion unanimously carried to set June 20, 2013 for the Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of the District's 2013-14 Recommended Budget.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.