

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

Thursday, April 20, 2017
9:00 a.m.

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 – Chairman Baines, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was present.

Present:

David Ayers, Mayor	City of Hanford
Oliver L. Baines III, Councilmember, Chair	City of Fresno
John Capitman, Ph.D.	Appointed by Governor
David Couch, Supervisor***	Kern County
Bob Elliott, Supervisor*	San Joaquin County
Christina Fugazi, Councilmember*	City of Stockton
Buddy Mendes, Supervisor, Vice Chair	Fresno County
Kristin Olsen, Supervisor*	Stanislaus County
Craig Pedersen, Supervisor***	Kings County
Monte Reyes, Councilmember	City of Porterville
Dr. Alexander Sherriffs	Appointed by Governor
Tom Wheeler, Supervisor	Madera County
J. Steven Worthley, Supervisor	Tulare County

* Attended meeting in Northern Region Office

**Attended meeting in the Southern Region Office and arrived at 9:08am

***Arrived at 9:50am

Absent:

Lloyd Pareira, Supervisor	Merced County
Chris Vierra, Mayor	City of Ceres

3. INTRODUCTION OF NEW GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS: COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTINA FUGAZI, CITY OF STOCKTON AND COUNCILMEMBER MONTE REYES, CITY OF PORTERVILLE – Chairman Baines, introduced the two newest Governing Board members, Councilmember Christina Fugazi representing the City of Stockton and Councilmember Monte Reyes representing the City of Porterville.

Councilmember Fugazi said she is in her first term as Councilmember, having served 8 years on the city's Planning Commission. She said her family has a long history in Stockton, having resided in a home there since 1880. She said her appointment to the Board is a natural fit with her personal life, given her family's rich history in the area, and professional career as a high school science teacher.

Councilmember Reyes said he was recently re-elected to a 4-year term on the Porterville City Council, after a 2-year interim appointment. Prior to that, he served as Chair of the Arts Commission and on the Public Safety Oversight Commission. He said he worked closely with the Chamber of Commerce and was a graduate of Leadership Porterville and he and his wife founded a non-profit art center. He said he would apply himself to the Board by maintaining a logical and rational viewpoint on regulations so residents' quality of life is not compromised. He said he was very excited to serve on the Board.

Chairman Baines welcomed Councilmember Fugazi and Councilmember Reyes saying they would both be value-added members of the Board.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR – (Item Numbers 17 – 24): *These matters are routine in nature and are usually approved by a single vote. Prior to action by the Board, the public was given the opportunity to comment on any consent item.*

17. APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017

18. RECEIVE AND FILE LIST OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR 2017

19. RECEIVE AND FILE OPERATION STATISTICS SUMMARIES FOR MARCH 2017

20. RECEIVE AND FILE BUDGET STATUS REPORTS AS OF MARCH 31, 2017

21. RECEIVE AND FILE KERN COUNTY EMPLOYEE'S RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ACTUARIAL VALUATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

22. APPROVE REAPPOINTMENTS OF HEARING BOARD MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS GROUP
23. APPROVE CONTRACT WITH ATMOSPHERIC ANALYSIS & CONSULTING, INC. TO PROVIDE LABORATORY ANALYSIS OF NON-METHANE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$92,230
24. APPROVE CONTRACT WITH ATMOSPHERIC ANALYSIS & CONSULTING, INC. TO PROVIDE LABORATORY ANALYSIS OF CARBONYL COMPOUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$28,360

Public Comment: None

Supervisor Worthley commented that he reviewed the Kern County Employee's Retirement Association report and noted the negative rate of return for the prior year. He expressed concern with the large unfunded liability and stated that it was important to keep an eye on the potential for future liabilities with the retirement system if the expected rate of return is not received. In response, Mr. Sadredin said that the District may consider creating a new reserve fund to help address the significant shortfall as reported in the system's unfunded liability, similar to what many cities and counties have done.

Councilmember Fugazi said she would abstain from voting on Item 17, APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017, as she was not present for that meeting. Councilmember Reyes said he would do the same.

Dr. Sherriffs clarified his statement in item number 17, APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017, should read that there were 1,000 premature deaths in the Valley due to air pollution, and not 100,000 over the past year as stated in the Minutes. Seyed Sadredin, Executive Director/APCO, responded that the Minutes would be corrected.

Moved: Wheeler
Seconded: Worthley
Ayes: Ayers, Capitman, Couch, Elliott, Mendes, Olsen,
Sherriffs, Wheeler, Worthley, Baines
Nays: None
Abstain: Fugazi, Reyes

Motion carried 12-0 with 2 abstentions to approve Consent Calendar Items 17 – 24, with Item 17, APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017, corrected as per Dr. Sherriffs' comments.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT – *The following persons provided public comment during this item:*

- Thomas Manz, Fresno Resident

6. S.T.A.R. RECOGNITION (Service, Teamwork, Attitude, Respect) – Chenecua Dixon, Personnel Director, formally recognized the employees who have reached a service milestone during the first quarter of 2017:

Five Years of Service

Ana Stone, Air Quality Education Representative
Annette Ballatore-Williamson, District Counsel

Ten Years of Service

Cat Thao, Senior Air Quality Specialist
Eric Esposito, Air Quality Inspector
Anna Myers, Senior Air Quality Specialist

Fifteen Years of Service

Jonah Aiyabei, Air Quality Engineer
Charlene Cano, Air Quality Specialist
Karen Hatfield, Air Quality Specialist

Chairman Baines thanked the staff for their service to the District.

7. REPORT ON DISTRICT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Manuel Cunha, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), reported on their meeting held on April 4, 2017, including the following key items:

- CAC members received a detailed presentation from Samir Sheikh, Deputy APCO, on several including: the District's annual air toxics report for 2016 and Board direction to begin rulemaking process to reduce District toxics program fees for affected facilities; Real-Time Electronic Air-Quality Display (READ); Governing Board's reaffirmation that draconian measures imposing no driving days and severe restrictions on commerce are not feasible; and District support of provisions of state Senate Bill 49 relating to air quality that, consistent with the District's existing policy position, ensure no rollback of the District's existing health protective rules and regulations.
- Sheraz Gill, Director of Strategies and Incentives, reviewed the District's preliminary cost and incentive funding estimates for measures aimed at reducing emissions for the District's PM2.5 attainment strategy.

- With a number of new CAC members and the growing maturity and complexity of the District's air quality management programs, Morgan Lambert, Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer, led a discussion with CAC members on the role of the Committee and expectations of its members.

Mr. Cunha welcomed Councilmember Fugazi and Councilmember Reyes to the Board.

Public Comments: None

8. PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVES OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CONCERNING THE SEVERE CHALLENGES FACING MANY SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN ACCELERATING THE TURNOVER OF OLDER DIESEL SCHOOL BUSES – Mr. Sadredin said representatives of various school districts were at the meeting to present their case to the Board. He said previously these representatives met with Chairman Baines and himself, to discuss the dire situation they are facing with respect to funding and what they need to be able to replace all of their buses in the coming months in order to comply with the upcoming deadline for new state and local regulations. Chairman Baines welcomed the school district representatives to the meeting. Bob Morse, Central Unified School District, commented that one of the challenges of meeting the new mandates will be parking 19 school buses that do not meet the new requirements. He said this would negatively impact students and parents. With existing funding for school districts, they are competing with classrooms for resources and any help that the District can give would greatly help.

Reginald Ruben, Fresno Unified School District, said they have more than 26 buses to replace by the January 1, 2018 deadline at a cost of \$5 million to their district. He said they are also competing with taking the funds out of the classroom. With more than 88% of their children at or below poverty levels in his district, he said they count on the buses for transportation to school and other events outside of the district. He said parents count on these buses as well and if they run these buses more than 1,000 miles after the deadline, they face a penalty of \$10 thousand per bus, per day that it is on the road. He said any type of funding assistance would greatly help all of the school districts in the surrounding areas.

Nicholas Chavez, California Association of School Transportation Officials and School Transportation Coalition, thanked the Board for the investments that the District has made locally and for administering the statewide school bus replacement incentive program. During a recent report to the Air Resources Board (ARB), he said 590 uncontrolled buses were identified. He said last month was the deadline for the rural state bus program and said there were going to be a lot of unfunded applications with that program as well. He expressed concern that even given all funding sources, there is not enough money to address the

needs of all school districts. He said it is important to improve air quality inside and outside the bus and make sure these children have a way to get to school.

John Clement, retired Director of Transportation for Kings Canyon Unified and member of the Fresno County Transportation Authority Board, addressed the Board and said the school districts here are the larger ones who have been proactive and done what they can to replace their older, aging school buses through various funding sources. He voiced appreciation for the great support they have received from District staff. He said small schools were not represented today but had the same concerns as those mentioned today. He said education and feeding these children 3 times a day is a priority, but in rural areas, they are also the dominant transportation provider and there is a definite need for additional funding.

Mary Gonzalez, Fresno Unified School District, thanked the Board for allowing her and the other representatives to address them. She voiced appreciation for their service and leadership, as well as District staff, saying they operate some of the best programs in the state and serve as a model to various communities. She said the Valley has the highest concentrations of socio-economically disadvantaged communities, which the Board knows very well, and there is relevance in the communities which have a direct impact on the sustainability of the Valley's economy. She said school districts play an important role in developing skills so students can be successful, but attendance is a big factor in the students' ability to be successful. Given the challenges in many of these communities with high crime, poverty, homelessness and foster youth, there is a tremendous impact that school bus transportation provides in reliable, safe transportation for students. She said it would be a crisis, if these school buses are parked, leaving hundreds of students without transportation to school and with less chance to achieve college and career-readiness.

Mr. Sadredin said he appreciates the recognition of the District's previous efforts to help with school districts, which included awarding \$85 million for school bus replacements and retrofits for about 2,200 school buses. He said normally, the District's grant programs require a 50% match from recipients. This has not been the case for these school bus programs which the District has funded at 100%. He said there are currently 300 buses on the waiting list, and at a cost of \$180 thousand per bus this represents over \$50 million in funds that are needed in the Valley alone. He said ARB has come forth with a new funding source, called the Moyer State Reserve Project, which only has \$6.5 million available for the entire state. He said the District has already applied for \$7.8 million to replace 53 buses in the Valley. He suggested school district representatives contact their legislators and state government administrators to make sure the Valley and its disadvantaged communities receives a preference for available statewide funds. He said District staff would be more than happy to work with them to secure additional funding to meet their needs. He said many of the District's funding comes with strict requirements and cannot be spent on school bus projects. He recommended the Board proceed with available funding now and look for

additional funding through Cap and Trade and other sources that might be available.

Speaking on behalf of the Board, Chairman Baines thanked the school district representatives for addressing this issue. He said the Board is extremely sympathetic to their many challenges and pledges to work with them to hopefully get a larger amount of funding for this region.

Supervisor Worthley also thanked them for coming and said the District has an excellent track record at achieving increased funding levels for incentive programs. He said there is a lot of money for transit in a recently-passed state transportation bill and suggested they explore all possible funding measures. He suggested school districts make a meaningful contribution towards the costs themselves, as leveraging funding helps limited resources go further and often helps bring in additional resources.

Supervisor Mendes voiced agreement for Supervisor Worthley's comments. He said he spent over 20 years on a school board and many years as a representative of Southwest Transportation District. He said the school districts are going to be held accountable as well for getting their students to school. He said one of the biggest challenges to get educators to realize how important it is to get kids to school on the bus, as evidenced by the number of children who miss school at Riverdale Unified when the buses are cancelled for foggy day schedules.

Dr. Sherriffs thanked the representatives for all they do to improve emissions and help kids get to school. He expressed frustration seeing buses in his rural area that are not even halfway full. He suggested looking into funding for swapping buses out for low-emission electric vans to provide a safer ride for kids.

Supervisor Wheeler commented on the difficulty in his mountain community for hybrid buses which travel at a slower speed and create traffic congestion.

Mr. Sadredin suggested school districts form a small advocacy coalition to work with the District to secure new funding. Chairman Baines voiced agreement with Mr. Sadredin's suggestion.

Public Comment: None

9. END-OF-SEASON REPORT ON THE 2016-17 WOOD BURNING SEASON – Jon Klassen, Program Manager, Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, and Samir Sheikh, Deputy APCO, presented the District's End-of Season Report on the 2016-17 Wood Burning Season, which detailed the record clean PM2.5 season, the public health benefits from implementation of Rule 4901, "Check Before You Burn" outreach efforts, an overview of the Burn Cleaner Wood Stove Change-out Program, and a summary of enforcement and compliance assistance activities.

Dr. Sherriffs asked if the ban on fireplaces in new developments applies to the entire district. Mr. Sadredin said yes, with limited exception of rural areas with the housing density of less than 2 houses per acre. Chairman Baines suggested providing outreach materials in the Hmong and Punjabi languages.

Supervisor Worthley commented that the need to promote natural gas over wood burning devices is unnecessary as it is clear that natural gas is the better option. He suggested potentially increasing the incentive amount for the Burn Cleaner program in the summer months to encourage people to buy when there is less demand. Chairman Baines said that was a great suggestion and Supervisor Wheeler concurred. He said he received many positive comments about his District billboards and suggested adding Burn Cleaner program information to them.

Supervisor Elliott voiced support for the staff recommendation to conduct extra research to look into what caused the number of program participants to drop and what it might take to increase participants. Dr. Sherriffs voiced agreement for that suggestion as well. He said the District needs to look at the impact on direct PM2.5 emissions if there were no exemption for new fireplaces for rural areas with less than 2 homes per acre. Mr. Sadredin responded those questions will be addressed during the District's current PM2.5 planning process.

Councilmember Reyes asked if there were any studies that looked into the availability of diseased trees to be used as firewood. Mr. Sadredin responded the District has done all it can to make it difficult to burn wood in fireplaces. He said it is a lot more cost effective for developers to build homes with natural gas fireplaces.

Dr. Capitman said he liked the idea of doing the market survey to determine if the market has been saturated. He said it is important to oversample in the urban core and environmental justice communities to fully understand what their needs are. He also said it is important to do qualitative surveying of the languages used in outreach materials to support the addition of new ones.

Public Comment: *The following persons commented on this item:*

- Bob Hahn, Buck Stove
- Colby Morrow, So Cal Gas
- Genevieve Gale, CVAQ
- Thomas Manz, Fresno Resident
- Janet Diets Camay, Fresno Resident
- Steve Goldstein, The Spa Doctor and Stove Center

Dr. Sherriffs thanked everyone for their comments, in particularly the hearth professionals for their insight and the important role they play in terms of steering residents towards gas devices. Supervisor Worthley suggested looking at

outreach in disadvantaged communities which are usually remote areas that do not have access to natural gas. He said it would be good to focus the low-income program outreach in those areas. Supervisor Wheeler made a motion to direct staff to look into focusing more education efforts on rural areas in the Valley and perhaps increase the incentive amounts during summer months. Dr. Sherriffs asked staff to look into the implications of extending the Check Before You Burn season for at least another month. Mr. Sadredin responded affirmatively and said staff would report back to the Board at a future meeting.

Moved: Wheeler
Seconded: Mendes
Ayes: Ayers, Capitman, Couch, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes
Pedersen, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Worthley, Baines
Nays: None

Motion unanimously carried to receive and file the End-of-Season Report on the 2016-17 Wood-Burning Season.

10. APPROVE CONTRACT WITH ARCHER AND HOUND FOR OUTREACH AND MARKETING AGENCY REPRESENTATION TO IMPLEMENT COMPREHENSIVE – Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, gave the presentation on this item which asked the Board to approve and authorize the Chair to execute the contract between the District and Archer and Hound to implement comprehensive public education and outreach campaigns for key District programs including, but not limited to, the Healthy Air Living Program, Real-time Air Advisory Network (RAAN) outreach, the Wood-burning Curtailment Program and potential outreach related to the promotion of various grants and incentives.

Dr. Capitman said it would be a great goal of the outreach program to provide folks with a better of understanding of the progress made and challenges moving forward. Looking at the District's outreach efforts, he said it has generally been kept as a broad statement and suggested utilizing detailed information on various pollutants in future outreach. Mr. Sadredin responded that this is an important issue and an area that the District will have increased focus on outreach efforts in the HAL Schools program. He said staff is in discussion with outside groups who have worked on this program in the past, and it is likely that staff will recommend to the Board at their June meeting to bring these efforts in house to get more effective information as to the sophisticated air quality challenges faced by the District out to Valley schools.

Councilmember Fugazi suggested gearing air quality education efforts toward grades higher than the current target of K-6. She suggested focusing on high school students who can serve as air quality advocates to their parents. Mr. Sadredin responded affirmatively and said current staff research supports her suggestion.

Public Comment: *The following persons commented on this item:*

- Janet Diets Camay, Fresno Resident
- Genevieve Gale, CVAQ
- Thomas Manz, Fresno Resident
- Jessica Blanchfield, Archer and Hound

Moved: Worthley

Seconded: Wheeler

Ayes: Ayers, Capitman, Couch, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes,
Pedersen, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Worthley, Baines

Nays: None

Motion unanimously carried to approve contract with Archer and Hound for outreach and marketing agency representation.

This item was taken out of turn

12. LEGISLATIVE REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR CLEAN TRUCKS

Mr. Sadredin said recently the California Legislature passed SB 1 and as an effort to get the votes needed for this legislation they put in a measure at the request of the trucking industry to basically ban any regulatory requirement that would require truck replacements for up to 18 years. As trucks are the largest source of air pollution in the Valley, to be able to mitigate the impact of this preemption, he asked the Board to authorize staff to request \$100 million per year in revenues generated under SB1 to be used to fund clean trucks through a competitive funding program with preference given to areas classified as Extreme non-attainment for federal ozone and Serious non-attainment for federal PM2.5 standards.

Public Comment: None

Moved: Mendes

Seconded: Wheeler

Ayes: Ayers, Capitman, Couch, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes,
Pedersen, Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Worthley, Baines

Nays: None

Motion carried to approve legislative request for additional funding for clean trucks

This item was taken out of turn

13. SUSPENSION OF SECTION 185 NONATTAINMENT PENALTIES AND USE OF EXISTING DMV REVENUES TO FULFILL FEDERAL CLEAN AIR ACT MANDATES

– Mr. Sadredin commented that staff has been looking forward to bringing this item to the Board for some time. He said the District attained the standard for the 1-Hour Ozone several years ago and asked EPA to designate the Valley in attainment; however, the designation was delayed due to the issues

surrounding ARB's decision to move the ozone monitor in Arvin. He said late last year EPA finally designated the Valley in attainment. Mr. Sadredin said that to remove the non-attainment penalty, the District must submit documentation to demonstrate the Valley will continue to meet that standard for another 10 years. He presented comprehensive information on the huge progress made in reducing air pollution with the efforts to attain this standard. He said staff recommendations include authorizing staff to begin the public process necessary to put the demonstration together to ask EPA to grant the re-designation substitute and allow staff to decouple penalties from the existing DMV fees. He clarified the proposed resolution removes the linkage of DMV fees to non-attainment penalties, allowing the Board to retain its local control and authority to decide whether to keep those dollars when they consider the District's upcoming PM2.5 Plan. He expressed the District's gratitude to the business community for the \$40 plus billion that they have spent to reduce air pollution and to current and previous Governing Board members for this monumental accomplishment.

Dr. Sherriffs said it was a cause for celebration and said congratulations all around. He asked when this item would come back before the Board with the question on whether to continue the DMV fees. Mr. Sadredin responded staff had to wait for EPA to approve the re-designation substitute and allow the non-attainment penalties to be discontinued, which could take some time. He said it will be more relevant when the Board considers the District's upcoming PM2.5 strategy. Dr. Sherriffs commented that clearly these are necessary funds and any opportunity to increase available funding to the District to do their good work should be explored. Mr. Sadredin clarified that today's action does not constitute endorsement of keeping or wanting to get rid of the DMV fees.

Public Comment: *The following persons provided comments on this item*

- Dennis Tristao, Kings County Farm Bureau
- Janet Diets Camay, Fresno Resident
- Manuel Cunha, Nisei Farmers League
- Chris McGlothlin, Western Ag Producers Association and California Cotton Ginners Association

Supervisor Elliott said it appeared this action would be to assert local control over existing funds and actions taken, which is very important. He commented that the whole nature of this process seemed to be divorced from logic. He said authorizing staff to prepare a document that says the District will continue to comply for 10 years with a standard that was revoked, in order to convince EPA to stop penalizing the Valley for not meeting a standard that they revoked does not make sense to him.

Moved: Mendes
Seconded: Wheeler
Ayes: Capitman, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes, Pedersen,
Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Worthley
Nays: None

Motion carried to begin the process to suspend Section 185 non-attainment penalties and return local control in the use of existing DMV revenues to fulfill federal Clean Air Act mandates.

Mayor Ayers and Chairman Baines left at 12:05 p.m.
Supervisor Couch left at 12:06 p.m.

11. CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE TUNE IN TUNE UP VEHICLE REPAIR PROGRAM – Mr. Sadredin recommended the Board allocate \$500,000 for the continuation of the Tune In Tune Up Vehicle Repair Program for Valley residents for the remainder of the 2016-17 fiscal year, and authorize the Executive Director/APCO, with Board Chair signature, to enter into agreements necessary with Valley Clean Air Now for the continued operation of the program for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2016-17 and Fiscal Year 2017-18 pending Governing Board approval of the 2017-18 Recommended Budget.

Councilmember Fugazi commented that this program is very important to the Stockton community and their coordinator has done an excellent job.

Public Comment: None

Moved: Worthley
Seconded: Capitman
Ayes: Capitman, Elliott, Fugazi, Mendes, Pedersen,
Reyes, Sherriffs, Wheeler, Worthley
Nays: None

Motion carried to approve continued operation of the Tune In Tune Up Vehicle Repair Program and to change operation of the program to a calendar year basis rather than a fiscal year basis

Supervisor Worthley left at 12:09 p.m.

14. VERBAL REPORT ON AIR RESOURCES BOARD ACTIVITIES – Dr. Sherriffs gave highlights of the ARB Board meeting on March 23 and 24, 2017, including:
- The Board adopted a new regulatory effort to reduce GHG emissions from the oil and gas production and processing industries by establishing a series of operating practices, equipment design standards, and control strategies. The Board also certified the Final Environmental Analysis and approved the written responses to comments received on the Draft Environmental Analysis.
 - The Board approved the 2016 State Strategy for the State Implementation Plan (State SIP Strategy) in conjunction with their approval of a South Coast AQMD attainment plan.

15. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/APCO COMMENTS – Mr. Sadredin reported ARB has scheduled their May meeting on the same date as the District’s Budget Hearing to provide an update on the District’s PM2.5 Plan. He said he has a meeting scheduled with ARB staff to hopefully reach agreement on the facts so the information presented to their Board will convey the District’s point of view on some of those issues. Mr. Sadredin also said the District’s legislative trip to Washington, DC last month went very well and there were very positive meetings with legislators on both sides of the aisle and the new EPA Administrator. He said he feels the District will have a much better relationship with EPA moving forward.

16. GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS – Supervisor Elliott agreed with Mr. Sadredin’s comments regarding the Washington, D.C. trip. He said they received a positive response from virtually everyone they encountered on this trip and Mr. Sadredin did a great job on his testimony before the Energy and Commerce Committee. He said all of the Board members who attended the trip did a great job as well as member of the staff who participated. He said in addition to Mr. Sadredin’s testimony, the most significant highlight of the visit was their meeting with newly appointed EPA Administrator, Scott Pruitt, which was a breath of fresh air. He noted in the past, he had been used to just getting a bureaucratic brush off from EPA, but this time it seemed that Mr. Pruitt wanted to hear what the District had to say and even brought his Chief of Staff in the meeting to resolve some immediate issues. He said there is hope for a much better relationship with EPA in the future. Supervisor Mendes voiced agreement with Supervisor Elliott’s comments.

Supervisor Pedersen said first and foremost he would like to thank Mr. Sadredin for the testimony he gave. He said there are always two sides to every story and there were a few folks present who wanted to pick a fight with him but Mr. Sadredin used the facts and there was no fight but agreement at the end of the day. He agreed the meeting with Administrator Pruitt and his senior staff was a highlight of the trip, saying they heard the District’s issues and hoped it would ring throughout EPA. He said the legislative meetings went really well and there is a lot of support in Washington for what the District is trying to do and the difficulties that stand in the way.

Supervisor Mendes said Mr. Sadredin dominated the room during his testimony at the hearing. He said the District’s contingent was well received on both sides of the aisle and complimented staff for their work on setting up the trip and the District’s lobbyists as well.

ADJOURN

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

SJVAPCD Governing Board
ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES
April 20, 2017

The next scheduled meeting of the Governing Board is: Thursday, May 25, 2017. The meeting starts at 9:00 a.m., in the Central Region Office, Governing Board Room, 1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno. The meeting will be held via video teleconference (VTC) with the Northern Region Office (Modesto) and the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) participating via VTC.