

Action Summary Minutes

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, February 19, 2026

**Meeting was held via video teleconference: Central Region Office, Governing Board Room, 1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, the Southern Region Office, VTC Room, 34946 Flyover Court, Bakersfield, and teleconference in the Northern Region Office, VTC Room, and 4800 Enterprise Way, Modesto. Members of the public were allowed to participate in-person at any of the referenced locations or remotely via Zoom webinar. The meeting was also webcast.**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Chair, Supervisor Amy Shuklian, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

*Present:*

Amy Shuklian, Supervisor, <b>Chair</b>	Tulare County
Bobby Macaulay, Supervisor, <b>Vice Chair</b>	Madera County
Vito Chiesa, Supervisor	Stanislaus County
David Couch, Supervisor	Kern County
Rosa Escutia-Braaton, Councilmember	City of Modesto
Deborah Lewis, Mayor Pro Tem	City of Los Banos
Buddy Mendes, Supervisor	Fresno County
Tania Pacheco-Werner, PhD <sup>1</sup>	Appointed by Governor
Gilberto Reyna, Mayor Pro Tem <sup>2</sup>	City of Wasco
Robert Rickman, Supervisor <sup>3</sup>	San Joaquin County
Rusty Robinson, Supervisor	Kings County
Jose Rodriguez, Councilmember	City of Madera
Alexander Sherriffs, M.D.	Appointed by Governor

*Absent:*

Lloyd Pareira, Supervisor	Merced County
Liz Wynn, Vice Mayor	City of Visalia

A quorum was present.

<sup>1</sup> Arrived at 9:10 a.m.

<sup>2</sup> Arrived at 9:08 a.m.

<sup>3</sup> Arrived at 9:08 a.m.

3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR – ITEM NUMBERS (13-20)

13. APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 15, 2026
14. RECEIVE AND FILE LIST OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR 2026
15. RECEIVE AND FILE SUMMARY OF RULES AND PLANS
16. RECEIVE AND FILE OPERATIONS STATISTICS SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2026
17. RECEIVE AND FILE BUDGET STATUS REPORTS AS OF JANUARY 31, 2026
18. APPROVE REAPPOINTMENT OF HEARING BOARD MEMBERS
19. APPROVE NO-COST TIME EXTENSION FOR CONTRACT WITH DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO PROVIDE LABORATORY SPECIATION ANALYSIS OF PM2.5 SAMPLES
20. APPROVE NO-COST TIME EXTENSION FOR CONTRACT WITH ENTHALPY ANALYTICAL TO PROVIDE LABORATORY ANALYSIS OF TOXIC ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

Public Comment – No individuals provided comments during the time allotted for public comments on this item.

*Moved:* Macaulay

*Seconded:* Mendes

*Ayes:* Chiesa, Couch, Escutia-Braaton, Lewis, Macaulay, Mendes, Pacheco-Werner, Reyna, Rickman, Robinson, Rodriguez, Sherriffs, Shuklian

*Nays:* None

***Motion unanimously carried to approve Consent Calendar (Items 13-20).***

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following individual(s) provided public comment during this item:

- Connie Young, Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL)
- Manuel Cunha, Nisei Farmers League (NFL)

5. REPORT ON CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Manuel Cunha, Citizens Advisory Committee member, reported on highlights from the meeting held on February 3, 2026.

6. ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE \$3,015,461 IN ADDITIONAL REVENUE FROM THE CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD 2022 CLIMATE HEAT IMPACT RESPONSE PROGRAM

Todd DeYoung, Director of Grants and Incentives, presented this item requesting the Board to accept \$3,015,461 in California Air Resources Board (CARB) Climate Heat Impact Response Program (CHIRP) funding for Carl Moyer and Community Air Protection (CAP) projects.

Councilmember Rodriguez asked how the District ensures transparency in allocating funds from the Carl Moyer and other incentive programs, particularly for projects benefiting disadvantaged communities affected by heat emergencies. Samir Sheikh, Executive Director/APCO, explained that the District communicates program information through outreach, signage, press events, and annual reports, and noted that efforts to increase transparency are ongoing.

Mayor Pro Tem Reyna asked whether CHIRP could provide recurring funding for future extreme heat events. Mr. DeYoung explained that the program framework could be used for future events, and Mr. Sheikh added that the program helps address emissions while broader efforts continue at the state level to prevent such events.

Dr. Sherriffs praised the District's collaboration with CARB and other air districts in developing the CHIRP program and distributing funds while protecting public health.

Supervisor Mendes asked how much demand exceeds available funds for the programs. Mr. DeYoung responded that the Tractor Replacement Program currently has nearly \$700 million in pending applications, and the new funding will help address part of that backlog.

Supervisor Robinson noted that the Carl Moyer Program is in high demand and asked how the District balances program promotion with available funding. Mr. Sheikh explained that when programs are heavily oversubscribed, temporary pauses in accepting additional applications may be necessary. He emphasized the importance of balancing program outreach with program capacity and acknowledged CARB's role in program funding and development.

Public Comment – No individuals provided comments during the time allotted for public comments on this item.

*Moved:* Macaulay  
*Seconded:* Sherriffs

*Ayes:* Chiesa, Couch, Lewis, Macaulay, Mendes, Pacheco-Werner, Reyna, Rickman, Robinson, Rodriguez, Sherriffs, Shuklian

*Nays:* None

***Motion unanimously carried to:***

- 1. Accept and appropriate \$3,015,461 in CHIRP funding from CARB to fund eligible projects under the Carl Moyer Program or CAP incentives program;***
- 2. Approve the attached Budget Resolution amending the 2025–26 District Budget to appropriate \$3,015,461 in new state funding, including \$2,637,543 for project funds and up to \$377,918 for administrative costs; and***
- 3. Authorize the Executive Director/APCO to make administrative changes to the program, as necessary, to ensure successful program implementation.***

7. RECEIVE AND FILE DISTRICT'S ANNUAL AIR TOXICS REPORT FOR 2025

Seth Lane, Program Manager, presented the District's 2025 Annual Air Toxics Report.

Supervisor Robinson asked about alternative solvents, associated costs, and potential incentives for auto body shops. Mr. Sheikh explained that under AB 2588, facilities must assess and address risk if thresholds are exceeded, and the District will work with affected businesses to explore options to reduce risk. Mr. Sheikh noted the importance of developing a practical process that addresses requirements while recognizing that many facilities may require assistance.

Public Comment – No individuals provided comments during the time allotted for public comments on this item.

*Moved:* Mendes  
*Seconded:* Robinson

*Ayes:* Chiesa, Couch, Lewis, Macaulay, Mendes, Pacheco-Werner, Reyna, Rickman, Robinson, Rodriguez, Sherriffs, Shuklian

*Nays:* None

***Motion unanimously carried to:***

- 1. Receive and file the District's 2025 Annual Air Toxics Report; and***

**2. Authorize District staff to distribute the report to county boards of supervisors, city councils, and local health officers, and to make the report publicly available on the District website.**

8. VERBAL REPORT ON CLEAN AIR ACT IMPLEMENTATION

Tim Franquist, Director of Air Quality Planning, and Jon Klassen, Director of Air Quality Science, presented a verbal update on the status of the District's Clean Air Act attainment planning efforts and progress toward meeting federal ambient air quality standards.

Supervisor Macaulay asked whether wildfire emissions were removed from the air quality data. Mr. Klassen clarified that the data includes wildfire impacts and noted that wildfire emissions contributed to the spike observed in 2020.

Mayor Pro Tem Reyna praised the District's air quality improvements and emphasized the importance of continued efforts. He also expressed concern about the health impacts of asthma and poor air quality on vulnerable residents.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner thanked staff for the presentation and asked about policy and incentive opportunities in areas experiencing ongoing air quality challenges. Mr. Sheikh emphasized the importance of continued communication with the Governing Board, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and CARB. He noted unique local challenges, including elevated ozone levels at certain monitoring sites, and highlighted opportunities to reduce emissions through continued investment in cost-effective mobile, stationary, and area source programs. He also emphasized the importance of science, research, and coordinated state and federal action to guide air quality strategies.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner also asked about particulate matter composition, ozone science, and strategies to prioritize mobile source funding. Mr. Sheikh discussed progress made through NOx reductions, noted site-specific challenges, and described ongoing studies to support future strategies. Mr. Klassen provided additional information on monitoring data and emerging trends that may inform targeted policy and incentive decisions.

Dr. Sherriffs commended the District's air quality progress and collaboration with partners, noting ongoing challenges associated with mobile sources and the need for continued persistence and federal engagement to protect vulnerable populations.

Supervisor Robinson commended staff for their work to improve air quality and highlighted the District's collaborative approach with the business community.

Chair Shuklian asked about state funding for the FARMER program. Mr. Sheikh explained that funding levels have fluctuated, with recent state budgets providing

little to no funding, and emphasized the need for continued advocacy and state support to achieve cost-effective emission reductions and meet federal standards.

Councilmember Rodriguez asked how agricultural incentive programs account for broader emission impacts and whether additional incentives are available for projects that achieve greater overall emission reductions. Mr. Sheikh explained that the District works with the agricultural sector to reduce emissions through both regulatory programs and incentives. He noted that incentive projects include legally binding agreements, equipment replacement verification, and multi-year reporting to ensure emission reductions. He also highlighted regulatory efforts such as dust control requirements, engine replacement rules, dairy emission controls, and the phase-out of agricultural open burning, and noted that the District continues working with agriculture and other sectors to identify additional emission-reduction strategies.

Councilmember Robinson expressed support for the District's incentive-focused approach, noting that improved air quality and stable employment both contribute to community health.

The following individual(s) provided public comment during this item:

- Manuel Cunha, Nisei Farmers League (NFL)
- Christian Bisher, Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN)

9. AD HOC BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Sheikh requested that the Chair appoint members to the Ad Hoc Budget Subcommittee. He explained that a key step in the District's budget development process is forming an ad hoc subcommittee to review the Recommended Budget and provide feedback prior to the May Budget Hearing.

Chair Shuklian volunteered to serve on the subcommittee and appointed Councilmember Rodriguez, Councilmember Escutia-Braaton, Mayor Pro Tem Reyna, Dr. Sherriffs, and Vice Mayor Wynn to serve with her.

10. VERBAL REPORT ON CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD ACTIVITIES

Dr. Pacheco-Werner provided an update on CARB activities, including ongoing rulemaking efforts for the year. She offered to assist Board members and the public with questions as implementation proceeds.

11. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/APCO COMMENTS

Mr. Sheikh congratulated Dr. Pacheco-Werner on her recent reappointment to the Board, noting that it is pending Senate confirmation. He also commended Dr. Pacheco-Werner and Chair Shuklian for attending the World Ag Expo, highlighting their role in representing the District and engaging with the community.

Mr. Sheikh also acknowledged the efforts of CARB staff, legislators, and members of the agricultural community in facilitating visits to the Valley, allowing stakeholders to observe programs such as the tractor replacement program and other clean technology deployments. He emphasized that these visits help strengthen partnerships, share knowledge, and advance the District's air quality initiatives.

12. **GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Chair Shuklian thanked staff who provided support during the Ag Show by engaging with the public and sharing information about the District's programs and initiatives.

Dr. Sherriffs emphasized that extreme heat is California's leading weather-related health hazard and noted that it disproportionately affects vulnerable populations. He highlighted the growing public health threats posed by extreme heat and wildfire smoke.

Supervisor Mendes highlighted the history of air quality in the Valley and the improvements made over time, emphasizing the importance of remembering past challenges to avoid repeating them.

**ADJOURN** – Chair Shuklian adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.