

Action Summary Minutes

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

**SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING: REVIEW OF 2026-27 RECOMMENDED BUDGET AGENDA**

Thursday, May 14, 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 9:00 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
Rosa Escutia-Braaton, Councilmember	City of Modesto
Deborah Lewis, Mayor Pro Tem <sup>1</sup>	City of Los Banos
Buddy Mendes, Supervisor	Fresno County
Tania Pacheco-Werner, PhD <sup>2</sup>	Appointed by Governor
Lloyd Pereira, Supervisor <sup>3</sup>	Merced County
Rusty Robinson, Supervisor	Kings County
Jose Rodriguez, Councilmember	City of Madera
Liz Wynn, Vice Mayor	City of Visalia

*Absent:*

David Couch, Supervisor	Kern County
Gilberto Reyna, Mayor Pro Tem	City of Wasco
Alexander Sherriffs, M.D.	Appointed by Governor
Robert Rickman, Supervisor	San Joaquin County

A quorum was present.

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<sup>1</sup> Left at 10:23 a.m.  
<sup>2</sup> Arrived at 9:10 a.m.  
<sup>3</sup> Arrived at 9:23 a.m.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. PUBLIC HEARING FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT ON DISTRICT'S 2026-27 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Samir Sheikh, Executive Director/APCO, advised the Board that this was the first of two public hearings required by the California Health and Safety Code on the District's 2026-27 Recommended Budget. The purpose of this hearing was to present and receive public feedback on the Recommended Budget, and no formal action could be taken by the Governing Board at this meeting. He said staff would return to the Board at the June 18, 2026, meeting to present the Recommended Budget for adoption. The item was also presented by Deputy APCOs Morgan Lambert, Sheraz Gill, and Ryan Hayashi, along with Mario Orosco, Director of Finance and Administrative Services, and Ryan Kincaid, Controller.

Supervisor Robinson asked about the beginning General Fund reserve balance. Mr. Kincaid responded that the beginning General Fund reserve balance reserves was \$15.7 million. Supervisor Robinson commended staff for balancing a challenging budget and encouraged continued advocacy on grazing-related issues to support vegetation management and wildfire prevention efforts.

Councilmember Rodriguez asked how the District would maintain its core mission and incentive programs if state and federal funding were reduced. Mr. Sheikh responded that the District manages funding fluctuations through flexible staffing, conservative budgeting, and ongoing advocacy. He noted the proposed budget is well-positioned for the coming fiscal year and that local funding sources could help sustain incentive programs if state or federal funding declines.

Supervisor Shuklian asked whether the Governor's newly announced electric truck funding program would provide funding to local air districts. Mr. Sheikh responded that the program is expected to operate as a statewide utility-administered rebate program for electric truck adoption. He said that details are still emerging, but the District is actively working with state agencies to maximize funding opportunities.

Supervisor Chiesa emphasized the importance of continuing to advocate for incentive funding and asked why staffing totals remained unchanged despite proposed position reductions. Mr. Sheikh explained that the reductions involve temporary, grant-funded positions that are tracked separately and therefore do not affect the regular staffing totals.

Supervisor Mendes thanked staff for the presentation, noting they continue to improve and deliver the information efficiently while remaining comprehensive.

Supervisor Robinson commended staff for their continued focus and expressed his appreciation.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following individual provided public comment during this item:

- Christian Bisher, Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN)

**ADJOURN** – Chair Shuklian adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m.