

Action Summary Minutes

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING:
REVIEW OF 2024-25 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Thursday, May 16, 2024

Meeting was held via video teleconference (VTC): 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 Vito Chiesa, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.
2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was present.

Present:

Vito Chiesa, Supervisor, Chair	Stanislaus County
Deborah Lewis, Councilmember, Vice Chair	City of Los Banos
David Couch, Supervisor	Kern County
Robert Macaulay, Supervisor	Madera County
Buddy Mendes, Supervisor	Fresno County
Tania Pacheco-Werner, PhD	Appointed by Governor
Lloyd Pereira, Supervisor	Merced County
Alvaro Preciado, Mayor	City of Avenal
Robert Rickman, Supervisor	San Joaquin County
Alexander Sherriffs, M.D.	Appointed by Governor
Amy Shuklian, Supervisor	Tulare County

Absent:

Rosa Escutia-Braaton, Gilberto Reyna, Rusty Robinson, Liz Wynn

4. PUBLIC HEARING FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT ON DISTRICT'S 2024-25 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 2024-25 Recommended Budget. The purpose of this hearing is solely to present and receive public feedback on the Recommended Budget, and there can be no formal action by the Governing Board at this hearing. He said staff would return to the Board at the June 20, 2024, meeting to present the Recommended Budget for adoption.

Mr. Sheikh also thanked Chairman Chiesa, Dr. Sherriffs, Councilmember Lewis, Councilmember Reyna, and Councilmember Wynn for serving on the Board's Ad Hoc Budget Subcommittee and providing guidance to staff as the budget was prepared.

As presented, the budget highlights included:

- Total operating budget up 1%
 - Full-year funding of recent position enhancements
 - 6% salary savings through position control
- Significant workload absorbed through efficiency, program flexibility
- Strong public education and outreach
- Expeditious administration and use of emission reduction incentive funds in wide range of applications (\$575 million in funding)
- Significant funding to support Valley-based scientific research efforts
- Balanced budget, with adequate reserves and contingencies

Councilmember Lewis thanked the staff for the presentation.

Dr. Sherriffs commended the staff for a great presentation.

Dr. Pacheco-Werner said the investment in community outreach has been impactful. Additionally, she asked about if the monitoring equipment updates are funded solely from the monitoring equipment reserve or if there is another source of funding for these updates. Mr. Sheikh explained that the funding for the equipment comes from a reserve fund and ongoing budget appropriations.

Supervisor Mendes expressed his appreciation for a clear and well thought out presentation.

Mayor Preciado requested clarification on the amount of funds allocated to locomotive replacements. Mr. Sheikh responded that the District is seeking additional federal funds specifically for locomotives, and any awards received will be brought to the board to update the budget accordingly.

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

- *Manuel Cunha, Nisei Farmers League (NFL)*

- *Connie Young, Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL)*

5. PUBLIC COMMENT – The following individual commented on this item:

- *Connie Young, CCL*

ADJOURN – Chair Chiesa adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.