

Action Summary Minutes

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Thursday, June 18, 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 9:07 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present:

Amy Shuklian, Supervisor, **Chair**¹
Bobby Macaulay, Supervisor, **Vice Chair**
Vito Chiesa, Supervisor²
David Couch, Supervisor³
Rosa Escutia-Braaton, Councilmember
Deborah Lewis, Mayor Pro Tem
Buddy Mendes, Supervisor
Lloyd Pareira, Supervisor⁴
Gilberto Reyna, Mayor Pro Tem
Robert Rickman, Supervisor
Rusty Robinson, Supervisor
Jose Rodriguez, Councilmember
Alexander Sherriffs, M.D.

Tulare County
Madera County
Stanislaus County
Kern County
City of Modesto
City of Los Banos
Fresno County
Merced County
City of Wasco
San Joaquin County
Kings County
City of Madera
Appointed by Governor

Absent:

Tania Pacheco-Werner, PhD
Liz Wynn, Vice Mayor

Appointed by Governor
City of Visalia

A quorum was present.

¹ Left at 10:30 a.m.

² Left at 10:57 a.m.

³ Not present for the item 8 vote

⁴ Arrived at 9:09 a.m., left at 11:01 a.m.

3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR – ITEM NUMBERS (17-27)

17. APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETINGS OF APRIL 16, 2026 AND MAY 14, 2026
18. APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING: REVIEW OF 2026-27 RECOMMENDED BUDGET OF MAY 14, 2026
19. RECEIVE AND FILE LIST OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR 2026
20. RECEIVE AND FILE SUMMARY OF RULES AND PLANS
21. RECEIVE AND FILE OPERATIONS STATISTICS SUMMARY FOR THE MONTHS OF APRIL AND MAY 2026
22. RECEIVE AND FILE BUDGET STATUS REPORTS AS OF MAY 31, 2026
23. APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH FINLEY & COOK, PLLC TO UPGRADE THE DISTRICT'S SERENIC NAVIGATOR FINANCIAL SYSTEM TO A NEW SYLOGIST CLOUD-BASED PLATFORM
24. CONTRACT WITH MERGENT SYSTEMS FOR MODERNIZATION OF DISTRICT PHONE SYSTEM
25. AUTHORIZE USE OF SERVICE PROVIDERS AS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
26. APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH RFMC INC., DBA THE PATIO KINGS, FOR THE FURNISHING AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW ALUMINUM AWNING AT THE DISTRICT'S CENTRAL REGION BUILDING
27. APPROVE AMENDED BUDGET RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE \$3,015,461 IN ADDITIONAL REVENUE FROM THE CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD 2022 CLIMATE HEAT IMPACT RESPONSE PROGRAM

Public Comment:

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

Moved: Mendes
Seconded: Robinson

Ayes: Chiesa, Couch, Escutia-Braaton, Lewis, Macaulay, Mendes, Pareira,
Reyna, Rickman, Robinson, Rodriguez, Sherriffs, Shuklian
Nays: None

Motion unanimously carried to approve Consent Calendar (Items 17-27).

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following individual provided public comment during this item:

- Connie Young, Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL)

5. REPORT ON CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Manuel Cunha, Citizens Advisory Committee member, reported on highlights from the meeting held on June 2, 2026.

6. ADOPT THE DISTRICT'S 2026-27 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Samir Sheikh, Executive Director/APCO, explained that this action represented the final step in adopting the District's 2026-27 Recommended Budget. The Recommended Budget was presented at a public hearing on May 14, 2026, providing the public an opportunity to review and comment. Mr. Sheikh emphasized that the balanced budget maintains adequate reserves and contingencies while ensuring the District has the resources necessary to carry out its public health mission.

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

Moved: Lewis
Seconded: Mendes
Ayes: Chiesa, Couch, Escutia-Braaton, Lewis, Macaulay, Mendes, Pareira,
Reyna, Rickman, Robinson, Rodriguez, Sherriffs, Shuklian
Nays: None

Motion unanimously carried to:

Approve and authorize Chair to sign the attached Resolution establishing the District's 2026-27 Budget.

7. APPROVE THE CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DISTRICT'S DRIVE CLEAN IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VEHICLE REPAIR PROGRAM

Brian Dodds, Program Manager, presented this item requesting Board approval to execute an agreement with Valley Clean Air Now for continued implementation of the District's \$12 million vehicle repair program included in the Fiscal Year 2026-27

Budget and Incentives Spending Plan.

Rodrigo Sandoval, Chief Operating Officer of Valley Clean Air Now, thanked the Board, District staff, and partners for their continued support. He highlighted strong program demand, successful outreach efforts, and Valley CAN's commitment to providing emission reductions and reliable vehicle solutions for Valley residents.

Councilmember Escutia-Braaton congratulated staff on the program and asked whether available funding has been sufficient to meet demand and whether any participants have been turned away. Mr. Dodds responded that participation has been strong, no participants have been turned away, and sufficient funding is available to support the program through the fiscal year. Mr. Sheikh added that current funding and outreach levels are well aligned with demand and that additional funding could support expanded outreach and serve more eligible participants.

Mayor Pro Tem Lewis commended staff and Valley CAN for the program's successful implementation and asked whether similar programs are offered by other air districts. Mr. Sheikh explained that the program is unique to the San Joaquin Valley and highlighted it as an innovative, locally developed effort. He added that the District's complementary vehicle replacement program served as a model for a statewide program and credited the Board, staff, and community partners for the program's continued success.

Councilmember Rodriguez thanked staff and Valley CAN for their continued efforts and shared his observations from attending a Tune In & Tune Up event, noting strong community demand. He expressed support for continued, and potentially increased, program funding.

Supervisor Macaulay asked about administrative and event-related expenses and whether additional outreach or administrative functions could be handled in-house to maximize funding available for vehicle repairs. Mr. Sheikh explained that administrative costs primarily support event logistics, staffing, facilities, and outreach and affirmed the District's commitment to identifying efficiencies. Mr. Dodds added that the District closely reviews program expenditures and works with Valley CAN to improve processes and maximize program efficiency. Supervisor Macaulay expressed appreciation for the program's success and strong community demand and commended staff and partners for their efforts.

Dr. Sherriffs commended the program's effectiveness and asked how additional funding could further enhance the program. Mr. Sandoval responded that additional funding could support larger incentives, expanded outreach, and additional services to improve participant access. He also emphasized the District's innovation and commitment to continuous improvement.

Supervisor Robinson thanked District staff and Valley CAN for their partnership and praised the program's positive community impact. He commended the District's incentive-based approach and encouraged continued efforts to serve Valley

residents.

Supervisor Mendes commended the program and asked about average participation at each event. Mr. Dodds responded that events typically serve 350 to 400 residents, with larger events in Fresno, Bakersfield, and Stockton serving up to approximately 525 participants, depending on location and demand.

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

- Manuel Cunha, Nisei Farmers League (NFL)

Moved: Sherriffs

Seconded: Mendes

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

Nays: None

Motion unanimously carried to:

- 1) Authorize the Board Chair, with Executive Director/APCO recommendation, to execute an agreement with Valley Clean Air Now for the continued implementation of the District's \$12,000,000 vehicle repair program, included in the District's fiscal year 2026-27 Budget and associated Incentives Spending Plan.***
- 2) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO to make administrative changes to the program, in order to ensure successful implementation of program funding.***

8. APPROVE CONTRACT FOR ADVERTISING AND MARKETING AGENCY REPRESENTATION FOR COMPREHENSIVE MULTILINGUAL PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, presented the recommendation to approve the annual contract for advertising and marketing agency services supporting the District's clean air mission. Ms. Holt explained that the District conducted its standard competitive RFP process, distributing the solicitation to 28 potential Valley marketing and public relations firms. She also highlighted the District's continued investment in internal creative capabilities and stated that the selected firm, Hyphen, is a Central Valley-based agency with more than 30 years of experience.

Supervisor Robinson asked how target demographics are identified for campaigns and whether partnerships with retailers such as Home Depot and Lowe's could provide additional support or discounts. Ms. Holt explained that campaign targeting is based on program goals and available data and that the District continues to develop relationships with retailers to explore partnership opportunities.

Dr. Sherriffs asked about the campaign budget and allocation of funds. Mr. Sheikh explained that efficiencies identified through the zero-based budget process allowed the District to reduce funding while maintaining program goals, with most funding dedicated to media purchases. Ms. Holt added that increased internal creative capabilities have reduced costs and improved flexibility.

Councilmember Rodriguez asked about outreach efforts targeting students. Ms. Holt explained that the District's Healthy Air Living Schools program provides education and resources for students, teachers, and families, with most school outreach conducted by District staff.

Councilmember Escutia-Braaton asked about future outreach strategies, including the use of Board members, community members, and partners in outreach materials. Ms. Holt explained that the District will work with the new agency to evaluate and refine outreach strategies and identify opportunities to reach new audiences. Mr. Sheikh added that outreach strategies must continue to evolve and that the District will explore opportunities to incorporate Valley voices, including community partners and grantees, into future campaigns.

Supervisor Robinson emphasized the importance of community engagement and building trust by working directly with those impacted by District programs.

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

Moved: Pareira

Seconded: Sherriff

Ayes: Chiesa, Escutia-Braaton, Lewis, Macaulay, Mendes, Pareira, Reyna, Rickman, Robinson, Rodriguez, Sherriffs, Shuklian

Nays: None

Motion carried to:

Approve and authorize the Board Chair, with Executive Director/APCO recommendation, to execute a contract between the District and HYPHEN (formerly JP Marketing) to provide advertising and marketing agency representation services focused on media planning, buying, placement, optimization, and performance analysis for the District's comprehensive multilingual public outreach campaigns.

Chair Shuklian left the meeting, and Vice Chair Macaulay assumed the role of presiding officer for the remainder of the meeting.

9. APPROVE CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF UPDATED INCENTIVE LEVELS IN DISTRICT'S AG BURN ALTERNATIVES GRANT PROGRAM

Todd DeYoung, Director of Grants and Incentives, presented the item requesting

Board approval for continued implementation of updated incentive levels for the District's Ag Burn Alternatives Grant Program.

Supervisor Robinson asked about the difference between cane-pruned and cordon-pruned materials. Mr. DeYoung explained that cordon-pruned material is more difficult to process due to embedded wire, while cane-pruned material is easier to handle.

Dr. Sherriffs asked about the long-term transition away from agricultural burning and the role of alternatives for managing woody agricultural material. Mr. Sheikh explained that the market for alternatives is still developing and emphasized the importance of continued support, innovation, and potential future funding.

Supervisor Mendes thanked staff for their work on the program and highlighted the challenges facing the agricultural community during the transition away from open burning. He emphasized the need for additional state support and funding.

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

- Roger Isom, Western Ag Processors Association; CA Cotton Ginners and Growers Association
- Manuel Cunha, Nisei Farmers League (NFL)

Moved: Mendes

Seconded: Robinson

Ayes: Chiesa, Couch, Escutia-Braaton, Lewis, Macaulay, Mendes, Pareira, Reyna, Rickman, Robinson, Rodriguez, Sherriffs

Nays: None

Motion unanimously carried to:

- 1. Approve continued implementation of updated incentive levels in the District's Ag Burn Alternatives Grant program approved by your Board on April 16, 2026.***
- 2. Authorize the Executive Director/APCO to make administrative changes to the program as necessary to ensure successful implementation of program funding.***

10. VERBAL REPORT ON STATE AND FEDERAL ADVOCACY EFFORTS
SURROUNDING THE DISTRICT'S AIR QUALITY BUDGET PRIORITIES AND
LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mark Montelongo, Director of Policy and Government Affairs, provided an update on state and federal legislative activities and the District's ongoing advocacy efforts to advance Board priorities and secure clean air resources for the Valley.

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

11. VERBAL REPORT ON CLEAN AIR ACT IMPLEMENTATION

Tim Franquist, Director of Air Quality Planning, provided an update on the status and next steps for the District's attainment planning efforts to meet federal ambient air quality standards.

Supervisor Robinson asked for clarification regarding fence line monitoring. Mr. Franquist explained that fence line monitoring involves placing monitors near facility boundaries to measure emissions and provide information regarding potential impacts to surrounding communities. Mr. Sheikh added that the District is coordinating with state agencies to ensure consistent implementation of new requirements at affected facilities.

Mayor Pro Tem Lewis asked whether Rule 8051 applies specifically to agricultural areas or other types of land. Mr. Sheikh clarified that the rule applies to non-agricultural parcels, including residential and commercial properties, and establishes dust-control requirements for activities such as mowing and maintaining open land.

Supervisor Macaulay asked about exemptions from residential wood-burning curtailments in rural and mountain communities. Mr. Sheikh confirmed that areas without access to natural gas remain exempt from curtailments and noted that outreach and grant programs will continue in those communities.

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

12. ADOPT A TECHNOLOGY DISRUPTION POLICY AS REQUIRED BY SENATE BILL 707 (DURAZO)

Morgan Lambert, Deputy APCO, presented this item requesting Board adoption of the Technology Disruption Policy, which establishes procedures for responding to telephonic or internet service disruptions during public meetings of the Governing Board, as required by Senate Bill 707 and Government Code section 54953.4. Mr. Lambert provided an overview of the new requirements and the District's associated compliance obligations.

Supervisor Mendes asked what changes were required and whether the District's existing practices were already consistent with the new requirements. Mr. Lambert explained that the primary change is the formal adoption of a policy establishing new required procedures for technology disruptions.

Supervisor Robinson asked whether a simple majority vote would be required to resume a meeting following an hour-long disruption if the Board determines that its

interests in continuing the meeting outweigh the public's interest in having full access to the proceedings. Mr. Lambert confirmed that a simple majority vote would be required.

Councilmember Escutia-Braaton asked how the District would address a disruption to the visual connection if audio access remained available. Mr. Lambert explained that the requirements provide for audio or visual access and that the District would evaluate the circumstances of any disruption to determine whether the meeting could continue.

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

Moved: Rodriguez

Seconded: Lewis

Ayes: Couch, Escutia-Braaton, Lewis, Macaulay, Mendes, Reyna, Rickman, Robinson, Rodriguez, Sherriffs

Nays: None

Motion unanimously carried to:

Adopt the Technology Disruption Policy establishing the District's procedures for responding to a disruption of telephonic or internet service during public meetings of the Governing Board, as required by Senate Bill 707 and Government Code section 54953.4.

13. VERBAL REPORT ON CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD ACTIVITIES

Mr. Sheikh referred the Board members to the written item included in their agenda packet.

14. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/APCO COMMENTS

Mr. Sheikh provided an update on the District's response to the recent Tracy warehouse fire, highlighting coordination with the County Office of Emergency Services, deployment of temporary air monitoring equipment, air quality forecasting, and public outreach. He recognized Supervisor Rickman, first responders, and partner agencies for their efforts and reported that favorable meteorological conditions helped limit air quality impacts, with monitoring continuing as cleanup activities proceed.

Mr. Sheikh also reported that the District's annual reports are now available in English, with the Spanish version imminent, and recognized recent awards received for District outreach campaigns. He noted the District's participation in a recent CARB hearing regarding the Cap-and-Invest Program to advocate for continued support of Valley clean air programs and highlighted a recent CARB/OEHHA

workshop held at the District's Fresno office regarding the proposed acrolein risk factor.

Supervisor Robinson thanked Supervisor Rickman and District staff for their response to the Tracy warehouse fire and expressed appreciation for the real-time air quality information provided to residents. He asked what materials were involved in the fire. Mr. Sheikh responded that the warehouse contained various medical supplies and that additional evaluations were underway to determine potential impacts.

Supervisor Rickman thanked District staff and first responders for their response to the fire. He commended the District's rapid deployment of air monitors and communication of air quality information and recognized emergency responders for their efforts to contain the fire and protect surrounding communities.

Dr. Sherriffs asked whether staff planned to provide a future update regarding lessons learned from the fire and opportunities to improve emergency response efforts. Mr. Sheikh explained that staff continues to evaluate the response and identify opportunities to enhance incident response capabilities, regional coordination, and available resources. He emphasized the District's continued commitment to supporting local agencies and communities during future emergency events.

15. GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmember Rodriguez asked whether the District partners with or studies other regions facing similar air quality challenges to identify potential solutions and best practices. Mr. Sheikh explained that the District does not currently have formal sister-region partnerships but acknowledged the potential value of exploring such opportunities. He added that many regions worldwide face significant PM2.5 challenges and that opportunities may exist to learn from and share experiences with other jurisdictions.

Supervisor Mendes commended staff's meteorological forecasting during the Tracy warehouse fire response, noting that smoke movement aligned with predictions. He also emphasized the importance of strong leadership and expressed appreciation for Mr. Sheikh's leadership of the District.

16. CLOSED SESSION

The Board did not convene into closed session. This item was not heard.

ADJOURN – Vice Chair Macaulay adjourned the meeting at 11:57 a.m.