

Action Summary Minutes
San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 1, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

The Citizens Advisory Committee 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, 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 CAC Meeting was also webcast.

1. CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Manuel Cunha, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was present to hold the meeting.

<u>County</u>	<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Interest Group</u>	<u>Location</u>
Fresno	Manuel Cunha	IAIG (P)	Fresno
	Kacey Auston-Tibbetts	EIG (P)	Fresno
Kern	Les Clark	IAIG (P)	Bakersfield
	John Sanders	EIG (P)	Bakersfield
	Orchel Krier	CIG (P)	Bakersfield
Kings	Kelly Deming	EIG (P)	Fresno
	Kalish Morrow	CIG (P)	Fresno
Madera	Jeff Troost	CIG (P)	Fresno
Merced	Amy Lopes	IAIG (A)	Modesto
	Jose Delgadillo	CIG (P)	Modesto
San Joaquin	Roger Hoffdahl	IAIG (P)	Modesto
	Ben Cantu	CIG (P)	Modesto
Stanislaus	Richard O'Brien	CIG (P)	Modesto
	Chris Savage	IAIG (P)	Modesto
	Jami Aggers	EIG (P)	Modesto
Tulare	Derek Williams ¹	IAIG (P)	Fresno
	Dennis Mederos	CIG (P)	Fresno
	Fernando Rios ²	IAIG (A)	Bakersfield

(P) = Primary, (A) = Alternate, IAIG = Industry/Ag Interest Group, EIG = Environmental Interest Group, CIG = City Interest Group

¹ Left meeting at 10:46 a.m.

² Arrived at 10:46 a.m.

3. APPROVE MINUTES FOR June 6, 2023 – Mr. Cunha asked for member comments on the minutes from the June 6, 2023, CAC meeting. Hearing no comments or changes, he declared the minutes approved.

Public Comment: none

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – none

5. CHAIR COMMENTS – Mr. Cunha welcomed the committee members and staff, and thanked everyone for their attendance.

6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/APCO COMMENTS – Ryan Hayashi, Deputy APCO, welcomed the committee members and provided the CAC with an update on the following items:

- In June 2023, the Governing Board took the following actions:
 - Accepted and appropriated over \$30 million dollars from the state for the District’s vehicle replacement program.
 - Approved an additional \$1 million dollars in funding to further support the District’s Valley-wide Clean Air Rooms program, which provides free residential air filtration devices to people in low-income and disadvantaged communities.
 - Approved amendments to the District’s suite of rules that apply to oil and gas production and processing.
- The District launched the Zero Emission Landscaping Equipment Grant program, which provides businesses and public agencies up to 100% off the cost of new equipment. Participants can receive incentives up to \$15,000 for the purchase of equipment including ride-on mowers, walk-behind mowers, edgers, string trimmers, hedge trimmers, chainsaws, pole saws, and brush cutters.

Mr. Cunha inquired about the ZELE program for landscape equipment and asked what the average cost is of the new replacement equipment. Mr. Hayashi responded that it varies depending on size of the equipment and the incentives can be up to 100% of the costs.

Mr. Mederos inquired if governmental agencies would be eligible for the ZELE program. Mr. Hayashi confirmed that they are eligible to participate.

7. UPDATE ON ATTAINMENT PLANS AND RULES – Jon Klassen, Director of the District’s Air Quality Science and Planning Department, provided an update on the District’s planning and rule making efforts.

Mr. Savage asked what type of feedback was received from the public from the nonattainment fee workshop that was held.

Mr. Klassen responded that no public comments were received during the workshop, and that the commenting period is currently open for written comments.

8. VERBAL REPORT FROM CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD (CARB) – Laura Carr, CARB representative, provided a brief update on recent and upcoming actions by CARB.

Mr. Sanders asked for clarification if the oil and gas rules discussed are part of the 3200-foot setback of oil wells. Ms. Carr responded that she would get back clarification from the appropriate department staff to answer.

9. APPOINT CAC SUBCOMMITTEE FOR HEARING BOARD APPOINTMENTS – To fulfill its role in assisting the Governing Board in appointing new Hearing Board members, Mr. Hayashi requested that the CAC appoint an ad-hoc subcommittee to interview candidates for the current Hearing Board vacancies and provide a recommendation for CAC consideration at a future meeting. The CAC appointed an ad-hoc Subcommittee for Hearing Board Appointments consisting of the following members: Environmental Interest Group – Ms. Auston-Tibbetts and Ms. Deming; Industry/Agriculture Interest Group – Mr. Cunha and Mr. Williams; City Interest Group – Mr. Cantu and Mr. Krier.
Public Comment: None

10. UPDATE ON STATE BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE SESSION – Tom Jordan, Senior Policy Advisor, provided an update to the CAC on the state budget and legislative items of interest to the District. Mr. Jordan indicated that this was a challenging budget year going from \$100 million surplus last year to an estimated \$30 million deficit this year. The District and Valley stakeholders were active in advocating for our priorities throughout the budget process. A number of our priorities were not included in the initial budget proposal. The District and Valley stakeholders were successful in obtaining \$75 million in FARMER funding statewide. The Valley typically receives approximately 80% of this funding. The District was part of a coalition that advocated for continued funding for the AB 617 program. AB 617 received \$300 million in funding statewide (\$234 million for projects, \$60 million for district implementation, and \$6 million for community groups). The District also advocated for continued funding for alternatives to agricultural burning, but was unsuccessful in obtaining funding this year.

Mr. Jordan also provided an update on the status of legislation that the District has been active on. This includes AB 650 (Arambula) and AB 985 (Arambula) that the District has been opposed to. AB 650 died in its first policy committee. AB 985 is currently in the Senate Appropriations committee.

Mr. Phippen stated that it is encouraging to hear about the monies that are being made available. Furthermore, he inquired about the processing time for farm tractor replacement grants. Mr. Jordan explained that the program is currently oversubscribed and that the applications are processed as new funding comes into the program.

In regards to AB 985, Mr. O'Brien asked about the process to review ERCs. Mr. Jordan explained that the District has a very extensive process before an ERC can be issued. The analysis for each ERC is provided to CARB, EPA, and the public for review and comment prior to being issued.

Mr. Cantu asked about the tractor replacement program, specifically what happens to the old tractor. Mr. Jordan explained that the old tractors are demolished.

11. UPDATE ON THE DRIVE CLEAN IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VEHICLE REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT PROGRAMS – Brian Dodds, Program Manager, reported that the District recently received an additional \$30.4 million in state funds to support the District's vehicle repair and replacement programs. This funding will support over 2,000 vehicle replacement projects. Additionally, the state recently changed program requirements for the vehicle replacement program. Specifically, incentive levels for battery electric vehicles have been increased to \$12,000 up from \$9,500. The District is working closely with CARB to integrate these program enhancements into the Drive Clean program.

Mr. Krier asked if there are any incentive programs for engine replacement. Mr. Dodds responded that the current program is focused on repairing emission related issues that the cars are having if they are unable to pass smog tests.

Mr. Delgadillo inquired if there are any costs for the public to attend these events, to which Mr. Dodds answered the events are completely free.

Mr. Sanders commended the program and shared that he has had positive experiences with the program for two of his vehicles.

Ms. Morrow asked if the events are for residents of specific cities. Mr. Dodds responded that residents of any cities could attend the events, however the smog shops supporting in each event will be based in or around the city hosting the event.

Mr. Mederos asked for clarification on the Tune in Tune Up events and if they are diagnostic or repairs being done onsite. Mr. Dodds explained that diagnostic tests are performed at the events and then the participants are provided with vouchers to complete the repairs at a participating smog shop.

12. AB 617 IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES – Stephanie Ng, Program Manager, provided an update on the District's ongoing activities related to AB 617 implementation. CARB has selected four communities in the Valley for focused clean air resources. South Central Fresno, Shafter, Stockton, and Arvin/Lamont. Each community has developed a community emissions reduction program and a community air-monitoring plan. And each of these have a community steering committee made up of residents, business representatives, community based organizations, local agencies, and other

stakeholders who meet and work together to see the various adopted measures implemented in their community.

The District has continued to make progress on incentive measures prioritized by Community Steering Committees. Lawn and garden exchange events in several AB 617 communities are being planned in the fall to give free electric mowers to residents. In addition, the District allocated \$1,000,000 in the Fresno, Shafter, and Arvin/Lamont CERPs for free, residential air filtration devices, and an additional \$2,000,000 for the District's Valleywide program, which amounts to about 25,000 purifiers in total. While the AB 617 incentives are exclusively for those communities, the Valleywide program is open to all households in disadvantaged and low-income communities throughout the District.

Brian Moore from CARB's Office of Community Air Protection gave an update on the latest draft of their revised Blueprint guidance document, which is set to go to the CARB Board in September.

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS REPORTS – Heather Heinks, Program Manager, provided updates on the clean air rooms with specific outreach to the AB 617 communities. Ms. Heinks updated the committee on the availability of air filters in the Valleywide program in the Northern counties. Ms. Heinks shared updates on recent Zero Emissions Landscaping Equipment events to share information to landscape businesses.

Mr. Cunha thanked Ms. Heinks and all of the staff at the District for their efforts in promoting the programs that the District offers.

13. CAC MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Delgadillo commented that he had heard about six automobile manufacturers that are planning to install 30,000 electric vehicle charging stations in the valley and asked if the District had any details on that. Although Mr. Dodds did not have information specifically on the project Mr. Delgadillo mentioned, he gave information on District grant and incentive programs to install electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and also heavy duty charging infrastructure programs available.

14. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Mr. Cunha confirmed that he would present the CAC update at the August Governing Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.