

**ANTELOPE VALLEY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022
ANTELOPE VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY DISTRICT OFFICE
LANCASTER, CA**

Minutes

Board Members Present:

Marvin Crist, *Chair*, City of Lancaster
Newton Chelette, Public Member
Howard Harris, Los Angeles County
Ron Hawkins, Los Angeles County
Steven Hofbauer, City of Palmdale
Raj Malhi, City of Lancaster

Board Members Absent:

Austin Bishop, *Vice Chair*, City of Palmdale

CALL TO ORDER

Chair **CRIST** called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Chair **CRIST** called for roll call, roll call was taken. Chair **CRIST** asked Board Member **HOFBAUER** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

❖ Chair **CRIST** called for **PUBLIC COMMENT**. At this time, no public comment was made in person, or electronically, moved onto **CONSENT CALENDAR**.

CONSENT CALENDAR

CONSENT CALENDAR – The following consent items were acted upon by the Board at one time without discussion. Upon motion by Board Member **HOFBAUER**, seconded by Board Member **CHELETTE**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with six **AYES** votes by Board Members, **NEWTON CHELETTE, MARVIN CRIST, HOWARD HARRIS, RON HAWKINS, STEVEN HOFBAUER and RAJ MALHI, with Board Member AUSTIN BISHOP absent**, on the Consent Calendar, as follows:

Agenda Item #1 – Approve Minutes from Regular Governing Board Meeting of May 17, 2022.

Approved Minutes from Regular Governing Board Meeting of May 17, 2022.

Agenda Item #2 – Monthly Grant Funding Summary. Receive and file.

Presenter: Bret Banks, Executive Director/APCO.

Received and Filed Monthly Grand Funding Summary.

Agenda Item #3 – Monthly Activity Report. Receive and file.

Presenter: Bret Banks, Executive Director/APCO.

Received and Filed Monthly Activity Report.

Agenda Item #4 – Approve payment to MDAQMD in the amount of \$155,415.76 for April 2022 expenditures.

Presenter: Bret Banks, Executive Director/APCO.

Approved payment to MDAQMD in the amount of \$155,415.76 for April 2022 expenditures.

Agenda Item #5 – Receive and file the Financial Report. This Preliminary Financial Report is provided to the Governing Board for information concerning the fiscal status of the District at April 30, 2022. The Financial Reports for April 2022 provide financial and budgetary performance information for the District for the period referenced.

Presenter: Bret Banks, Executive Director/APCO.

Received and filed the Financial Report. This Preliminary Financial Report is provided to the Governing Board for information concerning the fiscal status of the District at April 30, 2022. The Financial Reports for April 2022 provide financial and budgetary performance information for the District for the period referenced.

Agenda Item #6 – 1) Authorize the acceptance of AB 197 Emission Inventory District Grant Program Funding; 2) Accept the terms and conditions for the funds; and 3) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO and staff to execute the agreement, approved as to legal form, and carry out related activities to meet the requirements of AB 197.

Presenter: Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst.

1) **Authorized** the acceptance of AB 197 Emission Inventory District Grant Program Funding; 2) **Accepted** the terms and conditions for the funds; and 3) **Authorized** the Executive Director/APCO and staff to execute the agreement, approved as to legal form, and carry out related activities to meet the requirements of AB 197.

Agenda Item #7 – Amend Governing Board Procedural Rules to change the District Office location address to 2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA 93536.

Presenter: Bret Banks, Executive Director/APCO.

Agenda Item pulled by staff to the next regular scheduled Governing Board meeting.

Agenda Item #8 – Reappoint Newton Chelette as the Public Member on the Governing Board of the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AVAQMD) for a two-year term.

Presenter: Bret Banks, Executive Director/APCO.

Reappointed Newton Chelette as the Public Member on the Governing Board of the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AVAQMD) for a two-year term.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

DEFERRED ITEMS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item #9 – Conduct Continued Public Hearing to consider the proposed AVAQMD Budget for FY 2022-23: a. Re-Open the continued public hearing; b. Receive supplemental staff report and/or staff update; c. Receive public testimony; d. Close public hearing; e. Adopt a resolution approving and adopting the budget for FY 2022-2023.

Presenter: Laquita Cole, Finance Manager.

Chair **CRIST** opened the public hearing. Laquita Cole, Finance Manager and Bret Banks, Executive Director/APCO, presented the proposed budget and answered questions from the Board. Chair **CRIST** called for public comment, no public comment was made in person, or electronically, being none, Chair **CRIST** closed the

Minutes 06.21.2022

public hearing. Upon motion by Board Member **HAWKINS**, seconded by Board Member **HOFBAUER**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with **six AYES** votes by Board Members, **NEWTON CHELETTE, MARVIN CRIST, HOWARD HARRIS, RON HAWKINS, STEVEN HOFBAUER and RAJ MALHI**, with Board Member **AUSTIN BISHOP** absent, the Board **adopted RESOLUTION 22-06, "A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-23."**

Agenda Item #10 – 1) Award an amount not to exceed \$27,132 of Mobile Source Emission Reductions Program (AB 923) funds to Jeovany Herrera Farms to replace an older diesel-powered farm tractor with cleaner technology; 2) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable sources become available; and 3) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO and staff to negotiate target time frames and technical project details and execute agreements, approved as to legal form by the Office of District Counsel, and pending review by the Governing Board Chairman.

Presenter: Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst.

Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst, presented the background information and answered questions from the Board. After discussion, upon motion by Board Member **HOFBAUER**, seconded by Board Member **CHELETTE**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with **six AYES** votes by Board Members, **NEWTON CHELETTE, MARVIN CRIST, HOWARD HARRIS, RON HAWKINS, STEVEN HOFBAUER and RAJ MALHI**, with Board Member **AUSTIN BISHOP** absent, the Board, 1) **Awarded** an amount not to exceed \$27,132 of Mobile Source Emission Reductions Program (AB 923) funds to Jeovany Herrera Farms to replace an older diesel-powered farm tractor with cleaner technology; 2) **Authorized** the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable sources become available; and 3) **Authorized** the Executive Director/APCO and staff to negotiate target time frames and technical project details and execute agreements, approved as to legal form by the Office of District Counsel, and pending review by the Governing Board Chairman.

Agenda Item #11– Reports.

Governing Board Counsel –

- No report.

Executive Director/APCO –

- Informed the Board of the recent changes to the upper management of the Environmental Regulatory agencies that interface with the District:
 - Martha Guzman new Administrator EPA Region IX
 - Liane Randolph Chair of the California Air Resources Board
 - Retirement of Richard Cory Executive Director of the California Air Resources Board.
- Action due to the upcoming termination of the Mojave Desert AQMD contract:
 - The District intends to enter into a contract for air quality permit engineering services with MS Hatch Consulting until such time the District can hire a permit engineer.
 - Adrianna is training to assume the Clerk of the Board tasks along with some accounting functions.
 - The expanded Lawn and Garden Program began with a “soft” opening with limited outreach. Social Media advertising to begin prior to July 1, 2022.
 - July 1, 2022 the District’s Alternative Fuel Rebate Program will limit vehicle rebates to \$500 for Antelope Valley residents that purchase vehicles from Antelope Valley dealerships.
- The District has seen a large increase in residential housing construction which has resulted in increased staff activity with Dust Control Plan management and complaint response.

Staff –

- No report.

Agenda Item #12– Board Member Reports and Suggestions for Future Agenda Items.

- Chair **CRIST** directed staff to contact the county regarding mulch being delivered to desert areas to ensure the material is used as soil amendment.
- Member **HAWKINS** commented that several Solar Farms have voluntarily replaced gravel driveways with asphalt driveways/being good neighbors and using sheep to clear the weeds under the solar arrays.

Agenda Item #13– Adjourn to Regular Governing Board Meeting of Tuesday, July 19, 2022.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m. to the next regularly scheduled Governing Board Meeting of Tuesday, July 19, 2022.

**ACTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
APPROVED**

Upon motion by **NEWTON CHELETTE**, seconded by **AUSTIN BISHOP**, as approved by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 BISHOP, CHELETTE, CRIST, HARRIS, HAWKINS, MALHI

Noes:

Absent: 1 HOFBAUER

Abstain:

DEANNA HERNANDEZ, SENIOR EXECUTIVE ANALYST

BY Deanna Hernandez

Dated: July 19, 2022