

**ANTELOPE VALLEY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024  
ANTELOPE VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY DISTRICT OFFICE  
LANCASTER, CA**

**Minutes**

Board Members Present:

Marvin Crist, *Chair*, City of Lancaster  
Austin Bishop, *Vice Chair*, City of Palmdale  
Newton Chelette, Public Member  
Ken Mann, City of Lancaster  
Howard Harris, Los Angeles County  
Ron Hawkins, Los Angeles County  
Richard J. Loa, City of Palmdale

Board Members Absent:

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair **CRIST** called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Chair **CRIST** asked Board Member **LOA** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair **CRIST** called for roll call, roll call was taken.

**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** – The following consent items were acted upon by the Board at one time without discussion. Upon motion by Board Member **BISHOP**, seconded by Board Member **HAWKINS**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with seven (7) **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MARVIN CRIST, AUSTIN BISHOP, NEWTON CHELETTE, RON HAWKINS, HOWARD HARRIS, RICHARD LOA and KEN MANN** with recused on the Consent Calendar, as follows:

**Agenda Item #1 – Approve Minutes from Regular Governing Board Meeting of October 15, 2024. Find that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to this item.**

Approved Minutes from Regular Governing Board Meeting October 15, 2024.

**Agenda Item #2 – Monthly Grant Funding Summary. Receive and file. Find that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to this item.**

Received and Filed Monthly Grant Funding Summary.

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

Presenter: Barbara Lods, Executive Director/APCO.

Received and Filed Monthly Activity Report.

**Agenda Item #4– 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 September 30, 2024.**

Presenter: Barbara Lods, 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 September 30, 2024.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**DEFERRED ITEMS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Agenda Item #5. 1) Award an amount not to exceed \$11,500 in Mobile Source Emission Reductions Program (AB 923) funds to A-G Sod Farms toward the replacement of an older diesel tractor with new, cleaner technology; 2) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable funding sources become available; 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 4) Find that this item is not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.**

Presenter: Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst.

Chair **CRIST** opened the public hearing. Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst, presented background information 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 public hearing. Upon motion by Board Member **BISHOP**, seconded by Board Member **HAWKINS**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with seven (7) **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MARVIN CRIST, AUSTIN BISHOP, NEWTON CHELETTE, RON HAWKINS, HOWARD HARRIS, RICHARD LOA and KEN MANN**, , 1) **Awarded** an amount not to exceed \$11,500 in Mobile Source Emission Reductions Program (AB 923) funds to A-G Sod Farms toward the replacement of an older diesel tractor with new, cleaner technology; 2) **Authorized** the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable funding sources become available; 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 4) **Find** that this item is not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

**Agenda Item #6 - 1) Award an amount not to exceed \$53,000 in Mobile Source Emission Reductions Program (AB 923) funds to Gene Wheeler Farms for the replacement of an older diesel tractor with new, cleaner technology; 2) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable funding sources become available; 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 4) Find that this item is not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.**

Presenter: Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst.

Chair **CRIST** opened the public hearing. Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst, presented background information 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 public hearing. Upon motion by Board Member **BISHOP**, seconded by Board Member **HARRIS**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with seven (7) **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MARVIN CRIST, AUSTIN BISHOP, NEWTON CHELETTE,**

**RON HAWKINS, HOWARD HARRIS, RICHARD LOA and KEN MANN**, the Board, **1) Awarded** an amount not to exceed \$53,000 in Mobile Source Emission Reductions Program (AB 923) funds to Gene Wheeler Farms for the replacement of an older diesel tractor with new, cleaner technology; **2) Authorized** the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable funding sources become available; **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 **4) Find** that this item is not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.  
CLOSED SESSION

**Agenda Item #7- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – PENDING LITIGATION Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District v. United States Environmental Protection Agency, et al. 9th Cir. Case No. 23-1614.**

The Governing board entered the Closed session at 10:06 am and concluded at 10:25 am with no report.

**Agenda Item #8– Reports.**

**Governing Board Counsel –**

- No report.

**Executive Director/APCO –**

- We are very busy with many new projects that have come in for engineering/permitting

**Staff –**

- No report.

**Agenda Item #9– Board Member Reports and Suggestions for Future Agenda Items.**

- No Report.

**Agenda Item #10– Adjourn to Regular Governing Board Meeting of Tuesday, December 17, 2024.**

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m. to the next regularly scheduled Governing Board Meeting of Tuesday, December 17, 2024.

**ACTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD  
APPROVED**

Upon motion by **RON HAWKINS**, seconded by **HOWARD HARRIS**, as approved by the following vote:

**Ayes: 6 - CRIST, CHELETTE, HARRIS, HAWKINS, LOA, MAHLI**

**Noes:**

**Absent: BISHOP**

**Abstain:**

**BARBARA LODS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**BY *Barbara Lods***

**Dated: December 17, 2024**