

**ANTELOPE VALLEY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024
ANTELOPE VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY DISTRICT OFFICE
LANCASTER, CA**

Minutes

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Absent:

Austin Bishop, *Vice Chair*, City of Palmdale
Richard J. Loa, City of Palmdale

CALL TO ORDER

Chair **CRIST** called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Chair **CRIST** asked Board Member **HAWKINS** 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 **CHELETTE**, seconded by Board Member **HAWKINS**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with five **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MARVIN CRIST**, **NEWTON CHELETTE**, **HOWARD HARRIS**, **RON HAWKINS** and **RAJ MAHLI**, with Board Members **AUSTIN BISHOP**, and **RICHARD LOA** absent; on the Consent Calendar, as follows:

Agenda Item #1 – Approve Minutes from Regular Governing Board Meeting of April 16, 2024. Find that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to this item.

Approved Minutes from Regular Governing Board Meeting April 16, 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– Approve payments to City of Lancaster in the amount of \$329,982.72 for FY24 Quarter 3 expenditures. Find that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to this item.

Presenter: Barbara Lods, Executive Director/APCO.

Approved payments to City of Lancaster in the amount of \$329,982.72 for FY24 Quarter 3 expenditures. Find that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to this item.

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 March 31, 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 March 31, 2024.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

DEFERRED ITEMS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item #6– 1) Award an amount not to exceed \$100,200 in Mobile Source Emission Reductions Program (AB 923) funds to Paraclete High School for an Electric Vehicle Charging Project; 2) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable sources become available; 3) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO and staff to negotiate target time frames and technical project details and execute an agreement, approved as to legal form by Special Counsel to the Governing Board; and 4) Find that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) does not apply to this item.

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. Board Member **NEWTON CHELETTE** recused himself from this item due to conflicts of interest and left the room prior to the vote. Upon motion by Board Member **HARRIS**, seconded by Board Member **MAHLI**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with four **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MARVIN CRIST, HOWARD HARRIS, RON HAWKINS, and RAJ MAHLI**, with Board Member **CHELETTE** recused and Board Members **AUSTIN BISHOP** and **RICHARD LOA** absent, the Board, 1) **Awarded** an amount not to exceed \$100,200 in Mobile Source Emission Reductions Program (AB 923) funds to Paraclete High School for an Electric Vehicle Charging Project; 2) **Authorized** the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable sources become available; 3) **Authorized** the Executive Director/APCO and staff to negotiate target time frames and technical project details and execute an agreement, approved as to legal form by Special Counsel to the Governing Board; and 4) **Find** that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) does not apply to this item.

Agenda Item #7– Conduct Public Hearing to consider the proposed AVAQMD Budget for FY 2024-25: a. Open public hearing; b. Receive staff report; c. Receive public testimony; d. Close public hearing; e. Find that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) does not apply to this item.; f. Continue to the meeting of June 18, 2024 for adoption.

Presenter: Barbara Lods, Executive Director/APCO.

Chair CRIST opened the public hearing. Barbara Lods, Executive Director/APCO, presented the proposed AVAQMD budget and answered questions from the Board. Chair Crist called for public comment, being none, Chair Crist continued item to the meeting of June 18, 2024.

CLOSED SESSION

Agenda Item #8- 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 10:20 am and concluded at 10:53 am with no report.

Agenda Item #8– Reports.

Governing Board Counsel –

- o No report.

Executive Director/APCO –

- o Contingency Plan was deemed complete by USEPA on April 29, 2024.
- o Staff participated with the City of Lancaster for Earth Day
- o Audit report for FY23 is still outstanding.
- o FY24 preliminary documents have been sent to CJ Brown and Associates

Staff –

- o No report.

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

- o No Report.

Agenda Item #10– Adjourn to Regular Governing Board Meeting of Tuesday, June 18, 2024.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m. to the next regularly scheduled Governing Board Meeting of Tuesday, June 18, 2024.

**ACTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
APPROVED**

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

Ayes: 5 CRIST, BISHOP, HARRIS, HAWKINS, MANN
Noes:
Absent: 1 CHELETTE
Abstain: 1 LOA

ADRIANNA CASTANEDA, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
BY *Adrianna Castañeda*
Dated: June 18, 2023