

Action Summary Minutes

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SPECIAL CITY SELECTION COMMITTEE

Central Region Office, Governing Board Room
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno CA

Tuesday, September 30, 2014

6:00 p.m.

Meeting held via video teleconferencing at the offices of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District: Central Region Office (Fresno), Northern Region Office (Modesto), and Southern Region Office (Bakersfield)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Chairman of the Special City Selection Committee, Chris Vierra, called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present:

Mayor Jerry Antonetti	City of Dos Palos
Mayor Lynn Ashbeck	City of Clovis
Councilmember Darlene Barber-Martinez	City of Riverbank
Mayor Virgil Bell	City of Maricopa
Councilmember Michael Belluomini	City of Merced
Councilmember Leonel Benavides	City of Farmersville
Councilmember Anita Betancourt	City of Reedley
Councilmember Bruce Blayney	City of Kingsburg
Councilmember Sally J. Bompreszi	City of Madera
Councilmember Bill DeHart	City of Turlock
Mayor Rodrigo Espinoza	City of Livingston
Mayor Tony Garcia	City of Coalinga
Councilmember Jose Gurrola	City of Arvin
Councilmember Virginia Gurrola	City of Porterville
Councilmember Leonard Hammer	City of Fowler
Mayor Pro Tem Jon Johnston	City of Shafter
Councilmember Jenny Kenoyer	City of Modesto
Councilmember Jose Martinez	City of Woodlake
Councilmember Lou Martinez	City of Hanford
Councilmember Terry Maxwell	City of Bakersfield
Councilmember Clint Olivier	City of Fresno
Councilmember Ralph Pardo	City of Orange Cove

Councilmember Jake Parks	City of Ripon
Mayor Pro Tem Hilda Plasencia	City of Huron
Director Daymon Qualls	City of Exeter
Mayor Pro Tem George Rodriguez	City of Selma
Mayor Anthony Silva***	City of Stockton
Councilmember Jill Silva	City of Hughson
Councilmember Elizabeth Stonegrove	City of Los Banos
Mayor Sergio Valdez	City of Mendota
Councilmember Craig Vejevoda	City of Tulare
Mayor Chris Vierra, Chair	City of Ceres
Mayor Ramona Villarreal-Padilla	City of Lindsay
Councilmember Ronald Waldrop	City of Taft
Councilmember Cherylee Wegman	City of Wasco
Mayor Gary Yep	City of Kerman

*Attended meeting in Southern Region Office

**Attended meeting in Northern Region Office

***Arrived at 6:20 p.m.

3. APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES OF JANUARY 29, 2013 – The Action Summary Minutes for the meeting on January 29, 2013 were approved as submitted.
4. APPOINT CITY REPRESENTATIVES AND ENHANCE CITY PARTICIPATION ON THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD – Seyed Sadredin, Permanent Secretary and Executive Director/APCO, thanked the members in attendance. In introducing this item, he noted a concern has been raised by a number of city representatives throughout the Valley that the current structure and term limits defined by state law do not allow them to effectively represent cities on the Governing Board. The presented recommendations were designed to empower Valley cities and facilitate more effective participation in shaping the Valley's public policies related to air quality.

Mr. Sadredin provided background information on the selection processes for city and county Board members. He said the recommendations today were formulated to increase the amount of time that city representatives serve on the District Governing Board and to increase the ability of the cities within each of the three regions of the Air District to nominate their representatives to the District Governing Board.

Mr. Sadredin recommended reappointing the following Board members to a new three-year term, beginning January 1, 2015:

- Sally Bompreszi, City of Madera, Small City-Madera County
- Oliver Baines, City of Fresno, Large City-Fresno County

- Harold Hanson, City of Bakersfield, Large City-Kern County

In addition, Mr. Sadredin noted that Councilmember Skip Barwick from the City of Tulare has chosen not to seek re-election and therefore cannot be recommended for reappointment.

In addition, he explained it would be possible to grant additional discretion to the cities within each region to select the cities and possibly nominate members for appointment to the District Governing Board that would represent them. He then outlined a possible way to accomplish this including:

- a) The North Valley League of Cities and the South Valley League of Cities work together to select large cities that will serve on the District Governing Board.
- b) The cities within each region would then select the small city that represents the region.
- c) The League of Cities could then nominate an individual for appointment by the Special City Selection Committee, or ask the Air District to solicit candidates for appointment under the process currently prescribed for nominating city representatives.

Member Comments:

- Councilmember Jill Silva, City of Hughson, asked for clarification on the proposed new process to nominate an individual for appointment by the Special City Selection Committee.
- Councilmember Sally Bompreszi, City of Madera, thanked the committee for giving her the opportunity to serve on the Governing Board. She said that serving on the Board demands a high level of understanding of complex science relating to the formation, control and dispersion of air pollution throughout the Valley. She noted Mr. Sadredin and staff have spent days conducting Board member orientation sessions, as well as an annual Study Session designed to keep members informed of the many challenges faced by the Valley. She said she supports the proposed recommendations which would provide more effective participation in shaping the Valley's public policies related to air quality, and encouraged others to do the same.
- Councilmember Craig Vejvoda, City of Tulare, thanked his colleagues for attending this meeting stating it has always been a major challenge to convene a quorum to take action. He said he was a part of the team that developed the current rotation schedule and they did not realize the unintended consequences and limitations of this schedule. He said current city Board members are doing a great job and that reappointment

makes a lot of sense. He commented his belief that the League of Cities would do a very good job of filling vacant city member seats with those who will represent the cities very well, and voiced support for the recommendations.

- Mayor Lynn Ashbeck, City of Clovis, asked if there was any provision to adjust the large city representation on the Board. Mr. Sadredin responded legislation requires only two large cities to serve on the Board at any given time, which makes it difficult for a Valley with 3 regions. He said any additional adjustments would require a change in state law.
- Councilmember Jose Gurrola, City of Arvin, asked if action would be taken on both recommendations together or separately. Mr. Sadredin responded the committee could vote on each recommendation separately. Mr. Gurrola asked if it were correct that a small city from Kern County could not serve on the Board at the same time as a large city from Kern County according to the current guidelines. Mr. Sadredin responded affirmatively, noting it was best to set parochial interests aside and look at the interest of cities as a whole as the issue to consider. Mr. Gurrola clarified smaller cities in Kern County would not be eligible to serve on the Board until after 2018 according to the current rotation schedule. Mr. Sadredin responded affirmatively.
- Councilmember Terry Maxwell, City of Bakersfield, asked if there was a possibility for the southern region to select the same large city representative, Councilmember Hanson, for representation if the recommendations were not approved at tonight's meeting. Mr. Sadredin responded if both recommendations did not pass, the selection process would remain on the current rotation schedule. He noted that schedule calls for a small city from Kern County and large city from Tulare County to serve on the Board beginning in 2015.
- Chairman Vierra commented that he was fortunate to serve on the Governing Board for six years and fully appreciates providing city members a longer term, as it is a steep learning curve to gain the air quality knowledge and experience necessary to best serve the residents of the San Joaquin Valley.

Public Comment – None

Motion: Bompresiasi
Seconded: Vejvoda
Ayes: Vierra, Ashbeck, Garcia, Qualls, Benavides, Hammer, Olivier, Martinez, Plasencia, Yep, Blayney, Villarreal-Padilla, Bompresiasi, Valdez, Belluomini, Pardo, Betancourt, Rodriguez, Vejvoda, Martinez, Gurrola, Antonetti, Silva, Espinoza, Stonegrove, Kenoyer, Parks, Barber-Martinez, Silva, DeHart, Maxwell, Johnston, Waldrop
Nays: Gurrola, Bell, Wegman

Motion passes to appoint city representatives and enhance city participation on the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Governing Board.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT – None
6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS – None
7. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.