

SACRAMENTO VALLEY

BASINWIDE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL COUNCIL

Chair	Vice Chair							
Butte	Colusa	Feather River	Glenn	Placer	Sacramento	Shasta	Tehama	Yolo-Solano

MINUTES September 5, 2007

1. A Meeting of the Sacramento Valley Basinwide Air Pollution Control Council was called to order by Chairman, Supervisor Curt Jossiassen, Butte County AQMD, at 10:15 a.m., September 5, 2007, at the Colusa Indian Community Center, 3270 Hwy 45, Colusa, CA.

BCC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Curt Josiassen, Butte County AQMD
Duane Chamberlain, Yolo-Solano AQMD
Gary Evans, Colusa County APCD
Kent Nakata, Placer County APCD
John Nicolletti, Feather River AQMD
Greg Avilla, Tehama County APCD

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mary Nichols, Chairman, California Air Resources Board
Lynn Terry, California Air Resources Board
Jim Wagoner, Butte County AQMD
Dave Valler, Feather River AQMD
Les Fife, Fife Environmental
Harry Krug, Colusa County APCD
Charles Price, Colusa County APCD rep
TJ Gomez, Colusa County APCD rep
Alan Abbs, Tehama County APCD
Susan Engstrom, Sacramento-Metro AQMD
Carol McLaughlin, CARB
Dar Mims, CARB
Mark Black, Glenn County APCD
Candis Woods, Glenn County APCD rep
Matt Ehrhardt, Yolo-Solano AQMD
Ross Bell, Shasta County AQMD rep
Tom Christofk, Placer County APCD
Jay Pendergraph, Wheatland
Paul Buttner, California Rice Commission
Mark Spannagel, Assemblyman Doug LaMalfa's rep
Amy Gwinnup, Secretary-Treasurer

2. Chairman Josiassen declares time for introductions and opening statements by members of the BCC and the Chairman of the California Air Resources Board, Mary Nichols.

3. Public Comment.

Chairman Josiassen declares a period of public comment and hearing none closes same.

4. Additional agenda items.

None.

Agenda Item 5

Mr. Harry Krug (Colusa County) gives a presentation regarding the History of the Sacramento Valley Air Basin Agriculture Burning Management Program (Smoke Management Program) and the working structure of the Sacramento Valley BCC. He summarizes the funding structure of local government and how that impacts air pollution programs.

Mr. Les Fife (Fife Environmental) presents growth information relative to population and air pollution

levels throughout the Sacramento Valley Basin. He summarizes trends for air quality throughout the last ten years and states that air quality is improving in spite of the growth.

Mr. Harry Krug (Colusa County) gives a brief history of how the Sacramento Valley BCC was developed and the purpose of the BCC. He states that the Health and Safety Code allows for Control Councils to be instituted and the Sacramento Valley BCC was created in 1976. He states that the BCC created the Technical Advisory Committee made up of the Air Pollution Control Officers and the Sacramento Valley Air Quality Engineering and Enforcement Professionals group which is made up of Air Pollution staff. He states that the primary function of the BCC is to maintain oversight of the Rice Straw Burning Reduction Act and the Conditional Rice Straw Burn Program and coordination of the Air Pollution Control Activities. He states that rules and regulations are reviewed by the BCC before being implemented so that the Air Districts can be operating on the same rules.

Mr. Les Fife (Fife Environmental) further summarizes the burn programs operated throughout the Sacramento Valley including Rice Straw Burning and the Smoke Management Program.

Discussion is held.

Ms. Nichols requests information regarding what alternatives have been developed as alternatives to rice straw burning.

Mr. Harry Krug (Colusa County) states that many farmers now bail the rice straw and use it for erosion control in the forests and animal bedding.

Mr. Paul Buttner (California Rice Commission) states that currently there is a bill that allows for a tax credit to growers to help assist in rice straw bailing program, but that bill will sunset this year. He states that the extension of the bill has been stalled in the Assembly Revenue and Tax Committee.

Further discussion is held.

Agenda Item 6

Mr. Jim Wagoner (Butte County) gives a presentation on the work the Sacramento Valley BCC has done on the attainment plan. He summarizes the process for updating the plan and the various challenges in doing so. He states that districts are moving forward in developing a list of feasible measures for update and suggests the Air Resources Board provide some modeling of those measures.

Ms. Carol McClaughlin (CARB) states she supports the update of the list of all feasible measures.

Discussion is held.

Agenda Item 7

Mr. Ross Bell (Shasta County) presents information on the state subvention funding in place of Mr. Larry Greene (Sac-Metro). He summarizes the funding levels for the various districts stating that despite efforts by CAPCOA and the legislature funding levels have decreased. He states that as subvention funding has decreased districts have been forced to continue to raise fees for service.

Ms. Nichols states that the Air Resources Board has made efforts to support subvention funding through the budget process and were unsuccessful with the governor's office. She states she

would like to find out what the issues were and what other programs are competing for that funding so they may be more successful in the future. She states that some counties have made an increase in the motor vehicle fees to increase funding as emissions are directly tied to air quality issues.

Discussion is held.

Agenda Item 8

Mr. Mark Black (Glenn County) presents information regarding the Sacramento Valley representation on the California Air Resources Board. He states that we have presented several options for attaining better representation at the Air Resources Board level and would like her input on how that may happen. He summarizes various issues facing the Sacramento Valley and states that the issues we face in the Sacramento Valley may not be easily addressed in a one size fits all problem solving method.

Ms. Mary Nichols (CARB) states that historically members have wanted the Air Resources Board to do more and that may not be what the Sacramento Valley is wanting. She states that perhaps creating a unified air district may create a stronger voice at the table.

Chairman Josiassen states that it can be frustrating for the smaller air districts because we don't have the same problems as areas such as the San Joaquin Valley and we can't run our programs in the same way they do.

Discussion is held.

Agenda Item 9

Chairman Josiassen (Butte County) declares time for an open discussion period from the floor.

Mr. Jim Wagoner requests information on AB32 regarding Climate Change and how this will affect this area.

Ms. Nichols states that the implementation of AB32 is in the early stages and at this time the large emitters of Carbon Dioxide are the first priority. She states this legislation will force us all to look at every kind of carbon emission and how that plays into air quality. She summarizes various requirements of the legislation and states that many see agriculture to be a potential winner under AB32 because land use will be placed back on the table and urban sprawl can be addressed.

Chairman Josiassen states the Agriculture Industry isn't finding enough economic value in making the changes in requirements and many will not be able to make the change and stay in production.

Extensive discussion is held regarding requirements of AB32, land use and development, the possibility of a cap and trade system, and emission credits.

11:35 a.m. Council member Kent Nakata departs from the meeting due to a prior engagement.

Continued discussion.

Ms. Nichols states that she is personally willing to commit to devoting time to deal with these issues and hopes there is a continued forum to do so.

Chairman Josiassen expresses thanks to Ms. Nichols for making time to come to Colusa and meet with the BCC and hopes we have continued discussions in the future.

Agenda Item 10

Chairman Josiassen states the next BCC meeting will be December 7, 2007 at the Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD.

Chairman Josiassen adjourns the meeting to lunch at 11:55 a.m.