

Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District
Brad Poiriez, Executive Director
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**REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024 - 10:00 A.M.
MDAQMD OFFICES, BOARD CHAMBERS
VICTORVILLE, CA**

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Merl Abel, Town of Yucca Valley,
Brigit Bennington, City of Hesperia, ***Vice Chair***
Paul Cook, San Bernardino County, 1st District Supervisor
Joseph “Joey” DeConinck, City of Blythe – *via teleconference*
Carmen Hernandez, City of Barstow
Kari Leon, Town of Apple Valley, ***Chair***
Robert Lovingood, Public Member
Jamie McCorkle, City of Needles – *via teleconference*
Dan Mintz, Sr., City of Twentynine Palms
V. Manuel Perez, Riverside County, 4th District Supervisor - *via teleconference*
Gabriel Reyes, City of Adelanto
Dawn Rowe, San Bernardino County, 3rd District Supervisor – *via teleconference*

Board Members Absent:

Elizabeth Becerra, City of Victorville

CALL TO ORDER

Chair **KARI LEON** called the meeting to order at 10:04 am and asked Board Member **GABRIEL REYES** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair **KARI LEON** called for Roll Call – Deanna Hernandez, Senior Executive Analyst, called roll.

Chair **KARI LEON** called for nominations for Chair of the Governing Board for 2024. Vice Chair **BRIGIT BENNINGTON** nominated Board Member **KARI LEON** for Chair, Seconded by Board Member **PAUL COOK**, being no other nominations, nominations for Chair was closed. Brad

Poiriez, Executive Director/APCO commented for the record that Board Member Elizabeth Becerra called and stated she was fine with both Kari Leon and Brigit Bennington remaining in their current positions as Chair and Vice Chair. Carried by the following roll call vote with twelve **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MERL ABEL, BRIGIT BENNINGTON, PAUL COOK, JOSEPH “JOEY” DECONINCK, CARMEN HERNANDEZ, KARI LEON, ROBERT LOVINGOOD, JAMIE MCCORKLE, DANIEL MINTZ, Sr., V. MANUEL PEREZ, GABRIEL REYES, and DAWN ROWE**, with Board Member **ELIZABETH BECERRA** absent, Board Member **KARI LEON** was elected Chair for 2024.

Chair **KARI LEON** called for nominations for Vice Chair of the Governing Board for 2024. Chair **KARI LEON** nominated Board Member **BRIGIT BENNINGTON** for Vice Chair, Seconded by Board Member **ROBERT LOVINGOOD**, being no other nominations, nominations for Vice Chair was closed. Carried by the following roll call vote with twelve **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MERL ABEL, BRIGIT BENNINGTON, PAUL COOK, JOSEPH “JOEY” DECONINCK, CARMEN HERNANDEZ, KARI LEON, ROBERT LOVINGOOD, JAMIE MCCORKLE, DANIEL MINTZ, Sr., V. MANUEL PEREZ, GABRIEL REYES, and DAWN ROWE**, with Board Member **ELIZABETH BECERRA** absent, Board Member **BRIGIT BENNINGTON** was elected Vice Chair for 2024.

Items with potential Conflict of Interests – If you believe you have a conflict of interest, please recuse yourself at the appropriate time. If you have a question regarding a potential conflict of interest, please contact District Counsel. Chair **KARI LEON** asked if any members wished to indicate a conflict of interest in regards to any agenda items. No Members did so.

PUBLIC COMMENT – The public may comment on any item not listed on the agenda. For comments relating to a specific item, please use the public comment card and specify the number of the item on which you wish to speak and submit it to the Clerk.

In compliance with the Brown Act, the Governing Board may not discuss or take action on non-agenda items or engage in question and answer sessions with the public. The Governing Board may ask brief questions for clarification, provide a reference to staff or other reference for factual information and or direct staff to add an item to a subsequent meeting.

Chair **KARI LEON** called for **PUBLIC COMMENT**. Public comment made in person by Mr. Mike Hernandez. Mr. Hernandez commented on a non-agenda item regarding the air quality and cannabis growth. Brad Poiriez, Executive Director/APCO, responded and advised Mr. Hernandez that his concern will be taken into consideration for a future agenda item regarding the District’s cannabis program at a future Governing Board meeting. Being no other public comment at this time, Chair **LEON** moved onto the **CONSENT CALENDAR**.

CONSENT CALENDAR – Chair **KARI LEON** polled the Board to determine if any member wished pull an item on the consent calendar for discussion. Board Member **CARMEN HERNANDEZ** requested to pull agenda item #9 for discussion. The following consent items were acted upon by the Board at one time without discussion and with agenda item #9 pulled to agenda item #12 for discussion. Upon motion by Vice Chair **BRIGIT BENNINGTON**, seconded by Board Member **MERL ABEL**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with

twelve AYES votes by Board Members, **MERL ABEL, BRIGIT BENNINGTON, PAUL COOK, JOSEPH “JOEY” DECONINCK, CARMEN HERNANDEZ, KARI LEON, ROBERT LOVINGOOD, JAMIE MCCORKLE, DANIEL MINTZ, Sr., V. MANUEL PEREZ, GABRIEL REYES, and DAWN ROWE**, with Board Member **ELIZABETH BECERRA** absent, on the Consent Calendar, as follows:

Agenda Item 1 – Approve Minutes from Regular Governing Board Meeting of October 23, 2023.
Approved Minutes from Regular Governing Board Meeting of October 23, 2023.

Agenda Item 2 – Receive and file the District Activity Report.

Presenter: Brad Poiriez, Executive Director/APCO.

Received and filed the District Activity Report.

Agenda Item 3 – Receive and file Financial Reports through November 2023, which reflects the District’s financial and budgetary performance to date.

Presenter: Laquita Cole, Finance Manager.

Received and filed Financial Reports for August 2023, which reflects the District’s financial and budgetary performance to date.

Agenda Item 4 – Adopt Resolution authorizing the District’s continued participation in the Community Air Protection Program (617-Implementation) in subsequent years.

Presenter: Jorge Camacho, Support Services Supervisor I.

Adopted Resolution 24-01, “**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE MOJAVE DESERT AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT FOR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE CARL MOYER MEMORIAL AIR QUALITY STANDARDS ATTAINMENT PROGRAM**” authorizing the District’s continued participation in the Community Air Protection Program (617-Implementation) in subsequent years.

Agenda Item 5 – Receive and file the District’s Community Air Protection Program (617-Implementation) Year 7 executed agreement.

Presenter: Truong Tran, Grants Specialist.

Received and filed the District’s Community Air Protection Program (617-Implementation) Year 7 executed agreement.

Agenda Item 6 – Receive and file Community Air Protection (CAP) Program Incentives Year 7 grant agreement.

Presenter: Jorge Camacho, Support Services Supervisor I.

Received and filed Community Air Protection (CAP) Program Incentives Year 7 grant agreement.

Agenda Item 7 – Receive and file FARMER fiscal year 2023-2024 Solicitation, Application and Agreement.

Presenter: Jorge Camacho, Support Services Supervisor I.

Received and filed FARMER fiscal year 2023-2024 Solicitation, Application and Agreement.

Agenda Item 8 – Receive and file Carl Moyer Program Year 26 Solicitation, Application and Agreement.

Presenter: Jorge Camacho, Support Services Supervisor I.

Received and filed Carl Moyer Program Year 26 Solicitation, Application and Agreement.

Agenda Item 9 – Ratify the Air Pollution Control Officer’s new appointments to the Agricultural Member position, the Cement Industry Member and the Military Member due to the recent vacancies on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

Presenter: Brad Poiriez, Executive Director/APCO.

Agenda item pulled for discussion, see agenda item #12.

Agenda Item 10 – Set Date of February 26, 2024 to conduct a public hearing to to consider a State Implementation Plan (SIP) Cleanup: Rescission of South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1136 – *Wood Products Coatings* as it appears in the SIP for the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley portion of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) and to acknowledge that it has been replaced by the currently SIP approved MDAQMD Rule 1114 – *Wood Products Coating Operations*.

Presenter: Alan De Salvio, Deputy APCO.

Date set of February 26, 2024 to conduct a public hearing to to consider a State Implementation Plan (SIP) Cleanup: Rescission of South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1136 – *Wood Products Coatings* as it appears in the SIP for the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley portion of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) and to acknowledge that it has been replaced by the currently SIP approved MDAQMD Rule 1114 – *Wood Products Coating Operations*.

Agenda Item 11 – Set date of February 26, 2024 to conduct a public hearing to consider a State Implementation Plan (SIP) Cleanup: specifically, the rescission of South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1122 — *Solvent Metal Cleaners (Degreasers)*, and Rule 1171 – *Solvent Cleaning Operations*, as they appear in the SIP for the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley portion of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) in Riverside County and to acknowledge that the currently SIP approved MDAQMD Rule 1104 – *Organic Solvent Degreasing Operations* and Rule 442 – *Usage of Solvents*, adequately regulate the emissions in question.

Presenter: Alan De Salvio, Deputy APCO.

Date set of February 26, 2024 to conduct a public hearing to consider a State Implementation Plan (SIP) Cleanup: specifically, the rescission of South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1122 — *Solvent Metal Cleaners (Degreasers)*, and Rule 1171 – *Solvent Cleaning Operations*, as they appear in the SIP for the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley portion of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) in Riverside County and to acknowledge that the currently SIP approved MDAQMD Rule 1104 – *Organic Solvent Degreasing Operations* and Rule 442 – *Usage of Solvents*, adequately regulate the emissions in question.

Agenda Item 12 – DEFERRED ITEMS.

Agenda Item 9 – Ratify the Air Pollution Control Officer’s new appointments to the Agricultural Member position, the Cement Industry Member and the Military Member due to the recent vacancies on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

Presenter: Brad Poiriez, Executive Director/APCO.

Board Member **CARMEN HERNANDEZ** inquired into the vacancy of the Building Member on the Technical Advisory Committee. Brad Poiriez, Executive Director/APCO, provided an explanation and answered questions from the Board. After discussion, Chair **KARI LEON** called for a motion. Upon motion by Board Member **DANIEL MINTZ, Sr.**, seconded by Vice Chair **BRIGIT BENNINGTON**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with twelve **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MERL ABEL, BRIGIT BENNINGTON, PAUL COOK, JOSEPH “JOEY” DECONINCK, CARMEN HERNANDEZ, KARI LEON, ROBERT LOVINGOOD, JAMIE MCCORKLE, DANIEL MINTZ, Sr., V. MANUEL PEREZ, GABRIEL REYES, and DAWN ROWE**, with Board Member **ELIZABETH BECERRA** absent, the board **Ratified** the Air Pollution Control Officer’s new appointments to the Agricultural Member position, the Cement Industry Member and the Military Member due to the recent vacancies on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

Agenda Item 13 – Conduct a public hearing to present the 2021 and 2022 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Annual Report and discuss its content and significance: a. Open public hearing; b. Receive the 2021 and 2022 Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Annual Report; c. Receive public testimony; d. Close public hearing; e. Direct staff actions.

Presenter: Alan De Salvio, Deputy APCO.

Chair **KARI LEON** opened the public hearing. Alan De Salvio, Deputy APCO, provided the staff report and answered questions from the Board. After discussion Chair **KARI LEON** called for public comment, no public comment was made in person or electronically, being none, Chair **KARI LEON** closed the public hearing. After discussion, Chair **KARI LEON** called for a motion. Upon motion by Board Member **CARMEN HERNANDEZ**, seconded by Board Member **ROBERT LOVINGOOD**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with twelve **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MERL ABEL, BRIGIT BENNINGTON, PAUL COOK, JOSEPH “JOEY” DECONINCK, CARMEN HERNANDEZ, KARI LEON, ROBERT LOVINGOOD, JAMIE MCCORKLE, DANIEL MINTZ, Sr., V. MANUEL PEREZ, GABRIEL REYES, and DAWN ROWE**, with Board Member **ELIZABETH BECERRA** absent, staff directed to **receive and file** the 2021 and 2022 Air Toxic “Hot Spots” Program Annual Report.

Agenda Item 14 – Conduct a public hearing to consider the amendment of MDAQMD Rule 900 – *Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources (NSPS)* as well as to file updates to the Airborne Toxic Control Measures (ATCMs) Notifications: a. Open public hearing; b. Receive staff report; c. Receive public testimony; d. Close public hearing; e. Make a determination that the CEQA Categorical Exemption applies; f. Waive reading of Resolution; g. Adopt Resolution making appropriate findings, certifying the Notice of Exemption, amending MDAQMD Rule 900 – *Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources (NSPS)* and directing staff actions.

Presenter: Alan De Salvio, Deputy APCO.

Chair **KARI LEON** opened the public hearing. Alan De Salvio, Deputy APCO, provided the staff report and answered questions from the Board. After discussion Chair **KARI LEON** called for public comment, no public comment was made in person or electronically, being none, Chair **KARI LEON** closed the public hearing, made the determination that the CEQA Categorical Exemption applies, and waved reading of the resolution. Upon motion by Vice Chair **BRIGIT BENNINGTON**, seconded by Board Member **CARMEN HERNANDEZ**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with twelve **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MERL ABEL, BRIGIT**

BENNINGTON, PAUL COOK, JOSEPH “JOEY” DECONINCK, CARMEN HERNANDEZ, KARI LEON, ROBERT LOVINGOOD, JAMIE MCCORKLE, DANIEL MINTZ, Sr., V. MANUEL PEREZ, GABRIEL REYES, and DAWN ROWE, with Board Member ELIZABETH BECERRA absent, the board adopted Resolution 24-02, “A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE MOJAVE DESERT AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MAKING FINDINGS, CERTIFYING THE NOTICE OF EXEMPTION, AMENDING MDAQMD RULE 900 AND UPDATING NOTIFICATIONS REGARDING AIRBORNE TOXIC MEASURES (ATCMs) AND DIRECTING STAFF ACTIONS.”

Agenda Item 15 – Conduct a public hearing to consider a State Implementation Plan Cleanup: Rescission of South Coast Air Quality Management District SCAQMD Rules 1108 – *Cutback Asphalt* and 1108.1 – *Emulsified Asphalt* as they appear in the SIP for the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley portion of the MDAQMD, and acknowledgement that the currently SIP approved MDAQMD Rule 1103 - *Cutback and Emulsified Asphalt* adequately regulates the source category and is applicable throughout the jurisdiction of the MDAQMD: a. Open public hearing; b. Receive staff report; c. Receive public testimony; d. Close public hearing; e. Make a determination that the CEQA Categorical Exemption applies; f. Waive reading of Resolution; g. Adopt Resolution making appropriate findings, certifying the Notice of Exemption, adopting the SIP Cleanup: Rescission of SCAQMD Rules 1108 – *Cutback Asphalt*; 1108.1 – *Emulsified Asphalt* as they appear in the SIP for the Riverside portion of the MDAQMD, and acknowledgment that the currently SIP approved MDAQMD Rule 1103 - *Cutback and Emulsified Asphalt* adequately regulates the source category and is applicable through the jurisdiction of the MDAQMD.

Presenter: Chris Anderson, Planning/Air Monitoring Supervisor I.

Chair **KARI LEON** opened the public hearing. Chris Anderson, Planning/Air Monitoring Supervisor I, provided the staff report and answered questions from the Board. After discussion Chair **KARI LEON** called for public comment, no public comment was made in person or electronically, being none, Chair **KARI LEON** closed the public hearing, made the determination that the CEQA Categorical Exemption applies, and waved reading of the resolution. Upon motion by Board Member **CARMEN HERNANDEZ**, seconded by Vice Chair **BRIGIT BENNINGTON**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with twelve **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MERL ABEL, BRIGIT BENNINGTON, PAUL COOK, JOSEPH “JOEY” DECONINCK, CARMEN HERNANDEZ, KARI LEON, ROBERT LOVINGOOD, JAMIE MCCORKLE, DANIEL MINTZ, Sr., V. MANUEL PEREZ, GABRIEL REYES, and DAWN ROWE**, with Board Member **ELIZABETH BECERRA** absent, the board, adopted Resolution 24-03, “A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE MOJAVE DESERT AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MAKING FINDINGS, CERTIFYING THE NOTICE OF EXEMPTION, RESCISSION OF SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT SCAQMD RULES 1108 – CUTBACK ASPHALT AND 1108.1 – EMULSIFIED ASPHALT AS THEY APPEAR IN THE SIP FOR THE BLYTHE/PALO VERDE VALLEY PORTION OF THE MDAQMD, AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT THE CURRENTLY SIP APPROVED MDAQMD RULE 1103 - CUTBACK AND EMULSIFIED ASPHALT ADEQUATELY REGULATES THE SOURCE CATEGORY AND IS APPLICABLE THROUGHOUT THE JURISDICTION OF THE MDAQMD AND DIRECTING STAFF ACTIONS.”

Agenda Item 16 – Discuss composition of the Budget Committee, Executive Committee and the Personnel Committee; and direct staff action.

Presenter: Brad Poiriez, Executive Director/APCO, on behalf of the Governing Board Chair. Brad Poiriez, Executive Director/APCO, presented the background information and answered questions from the Board. After discussion, Chair **KARI LEON** directed staff actions to proceed with Board Chair appointments as follows:

Budget Committee, upon motion by Board Member **GABRIEL REYES**, seconded by Vice Chair **BRIGIT BENNINGTON**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with twelve **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MERL ABEL, BRIGIT BENNINGTON, PAUL COOK, JOSEPH “JOEY” DECONINCK, CARMEN HERNANDEZ, KARI LEON, ROBERT LOVINGOOD, JAMIE MCCORKLE, DANIEL MINTZ, Sr., V. MANUEL PEREZ, GABRIEL REYES, and DAWN ROWE**, with Board Member **ELIZABETH BECERRA** absent, Budget Committee appointments are Members **BENNINGTON, HERNANDEZ, REYES** and **MCCORKLE** as an alternate.

Executive Committee, upon motion by Board Member **GABRIEL REYES**, seconded by Board Member **CARMEN HERNANDEZ**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with twelve **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MERL ABEL, BRIGIT BENNINGTON, PAUL COOK, JOSEPH “JOEY” DECONINCK, CARMEN HERNANDEZ, KARI LEON, ROBERT LOVINGOOD, JAMIE MCCORKLE, DANIEL MINTZ, Sr., V. MANUEL PEREZ, GABRIEL REYES, and DAWN ROWE**, with Board Member **ELIZABETH BECERRA** absent, Executive Committee appointments are Members **HERNANDEZ, LEON, BENNINGTON, MINTZ, BECERRA, COOK** and **ABEL** as an alternate.

Personnel Committee, upon motion by Board Member **CARMEN HERNANDEZ**, seconded by Board Member **DANIEL MINTZ, Sr.**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with twelve **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MERL ABEL, BRIGIT BENNINGTON, PAUL COOK, JOSEPH “JOEY” DECONINCK, CARMEN HERNANDEZ, KARI LEON, ROBERT LOVINGOOD, JAMIE MCCORKLE, DANIEL MINTZ, Sr., V. MANUEL PEREZ, GABRIEL REYES, and DAWN ROWE**, with Board Member **ELIZABETH BECERRA** absent, Personnel Committee appointments are Members **LEON, BECERRA, COOK, DECONINCK, ABEL** and **LOVINGOOD** as an alternate.

Agenda Item 17 – Executive Director Reports:

Miscellaneous:

- Welcome back, I hope everyone enjoyed their Holiday break. I am looking forward to another successful year in 2024 and all the exciting projects and air quality improvement efforts we will be working on. We filled our last remaining 2023 open positions, both Fiscal Specialist I's – Autumn Duty and John Coronel-Ceja – welcome to the team.
- Even after one of the busiest years in recent memory, there will be a lot of Rule Development/Planning efforts this year as we have several clocks ticking on rule modifications with SIP planning deadlines we need to meet, a new Ozone Good Neighbor FIP rule development is in the works, Ozone SIP contingency measure in the works with the State, and we are still moving along with the NSR SIP litigation versus EPA.
- As a recap we received another outstanding fiscal audit last year and our **Fiscal** team is already doing work on next year's budget (not to mention they will be training up our two new team members) and we are currently out to bid for Auditor services. The **Grants** team

is in full force and working on existing grant funding streams and also trying to infuse new sources of grants into our jurisdiction (which during consent calendar today – the Board acknowledged grants totaling \$3.45M that we will be implementing this year). Since the majority of the current grants are State – the State Budget deficit and the impending budget could significantly impact several of those grants in future fiscal years. The **Compliance and Engineering** teams are continuing to crank out amazing work and numbers in terms new, revised, and renewed permits, emissions inventory data inputs, and percentage of annual inspections continues to be very high. The **Records Management** group completed a total of 85 Public Records Requests for the entire year of 2023 with an average turnaround time of 1.37 days, which is an amazing turnaround time, not to mention the volume of daily documentation that is scanned into our system weekly. **Public Information** section was extremely successful in getting our needed air quality information and brand out into the community, and 2024 is already off to a raging start with getting more school sites signed up for our AQI Flag program. CDAWG 2023 was extremely successful and had most attendance and participation to date. This section also ensures records ADA compliance on website, designs our forms, keeping our social media air quality information up to date, and much more. The **Monitoring** section has been busy modifying and maintaining station equipment, closing and relocating additional site monitors, QA/QC monitoring data for our Planning team, and have continued to do well on State/Federal audits of our sites. Speaking of **Planning/Rule Section** – they too had a very busy and successful year in terms of Ozone Plan adoption, rule revisions and clean ups, Air Quality Data Analysis (Exceptional Events and influenced Ozone Days) as well as commenting on proposed development projects both to the County and city planning agencies. The **IT** group has been busy keeping the District up and running through some difficult outages and continues to take part in training and assessment efforts on cyber security, building security software upgrades, and hardware upgrades. **Human Resources/Risk Management** was extremely busy with turnover, recruitment, onboarding of several new staff this past year along with all the benefits information dissemination and processing as well. And the **Executive** staff worked extremely diligently to get the board packages prepared and out to the Board members, FPPC documentation, and assist Board members and staff with any question or information they need, and the daily support to the Executive Director.

- Under the National Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) grants the Federal Government awarded \$622.57M to 47 applicants across 22 states, Puerto Rico, and 2 Tribes. California received 10 of the grants, and of those 10 – two are going to areas in our jurisdiction: 1)VVTA was awarded a \$12M grant for Barstow Hydrogen and EV charging under the CFI Community portion and 2) City of Blythe was awarded \$19.635M for I-10 Truck Charging Terminal under the CFI Corridor portion – congrats to both of them. The MDAQMD on the other hand participated in submittal of an \$60M application during the CFI process for Heavy Duty Truck EV charging locations for two proposed sites within Barstow that was not selected.
- We recently received Title to an adjacent parcel we purchased; efforts will begin during the year on exploring the future use for the parcel which may include District parking and storage and establishing more EV charging options.
- The MDAQMD will be receiving the brand-new Blink EV chargers on January 25th to replace all our existing chargers.

Mr. Poiriez updated the Board of past events:

- Jan 2nd-4th – attended the CAPCOA Winter Board Strategic Meeting. Topics included: Moyer implementation challenges, Air Emission Reporting Requirements (AERR), Legislative/Budget year discussions, Membership Dues, AB617 allocation strategy, Engagement with CARB/District Board members, Energy Agencies engagement strategies. Session with CARB Executive Team, discussing much of the above and CPRG updates, SIP/FIP issues, Resources and support for CAPCOA/CARB led efforts, and many more.
- Jan. 10th – The governor's budget was released. It is a \$291.5 Billion-dollar budget, with \$208.7 Billion in General Fund. Of Note – the new deficit number is a projected \$38B dollar deficit. The solutions to the deficit number: 18.8B in Reserves/Revenue/Borrowing; 11.9B in Reductions/Fund Shifts; and 7.2B in Delays/Deferrals. The Governor's proposed budget is contained in two identical bills, [AB 1812 \(Gabriel\)](#) and [SB 917 \(Skinner\)](#) A reminder on [the timetable ahead](#):
 - Late January: Legislative budget committees will start hearings.
 - May 14: Newsom's deadline to present a revised budget, based on updated revenue estimates.
 - June 15: The Legislature's deadline to pass a balanced budget (lest they don't get paid).
 - July 1: The deadline for Newsom and the Legislature to approve a final 2024-25 spending plan.
- Jan. 10th - Held CAPCOA Budget Committee call
 - Participated in CAPCOA Executive Committee call
 - Participated in District Planning/Rule coordination meeting
 - Grants staff met with BNSF staff at Barstow yard for walk through (potential grants)
- Jan. 12th – Martial gave a presentation to the Mountain Desert Career Pathways Partnership and the school superintendents on the District's School Flag Program, Purple Air Sensors and grant opportunities.
- Jan. 17th - Participated in the AAPCA Local Government Call
 - Participated in the CAPCOA Executive Committee Call
 - Participated in the MEEC Board monthly meeting
 - Held CAPCOA Governor Budget discussion
- Jan. 18th - EPA Motion to Stay response brief due
 - Participated in the AAPCA Air Director monthly call

Mr. Poiriez updated the Board of coming events:

- Jan. 23rd – Quarterly joint MDAQMD/EPA Region IX coordination meeting.
- Feb. 7th – CAPCOA Executive Committee meeting.
- Feb. 13-14th – CAPCOA Board and Legislative Committee meeting.
- Feb. 20th – EPA response brief due in NSR litigation.
- Feb. 21st – MEEC Board meeting.
- Feb. 26-28th – Medium District's APCO meeting.

Next Board meeting, will be February 26, 2024.

Agenda Item 18 - Board Member Comments and Suggestions for Future Agenda Items.

- Board Member ABEL thanked public commenter Mr. Hernandez; advised that staff will follow up. Inquired if staff member Martial Haprov had reached out to Morongo Unified School District regarding flag program.

- Vice Chair **BENNINGTON** assured that there will be a follow up in response to Mr. Hernandez public comment; welcomed new staff members; kudos for a great CDAWG conference.
- Board Member **COOK** indicated he and his staff will be visiting Mountain Pass regarding current concerns of federal and land ownership. Welcomed District staff to participate in visit.
- Board Member **HERNANDEZ** stated that the City of Barstow has set sanctions for the cannabis operations and a follow up is scheduled January 24, 2024 for an odor complaint.
- Chair **LEON** welcomed new staff members; thanked Martial Haprov for a great CDAWG conference.
- Board Member **LOVINGOOD** referenced a similar odor nuisance at a local dog food operation that might assist with addressing cannabis odors.
- Board Member **REYES** welcomed new staff members; inquired about exploring grant fund options to supply filters for cannabis mitigation.

Being no further business, Chair **KARI LEON** adjourned the meeting at **11:15 a.m.** to the next Regular Meeting of *February 26, 2024*.

ACTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

APPROVED

Upon Motion by **GABRIEL REYES**, seconded by **ELIZABETH BECERRA**, as approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	11	ABEL, BECERRA, BENNINGTON, COOK, DECONINCK, HERNANDEZ, JERNIGAN, LEON, PEREZ, REYES, ROWE
Noes:		
Absent:	2	LOVINGOOD, MINTZ
Abstain:		

DEANNA HERNANDEZ, SENIOR EXECUTIVE ANALYST

BY Deanna Hernandez

Dated: February 26, 2024