

# Clean Air Fund Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

## September 18, 2017

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Mike Stubblefield.
- II. Approve summary of the May 18, 2017, meeting: Mr. Reach moved and Mr. DeGeorge seconded approval. The Committee approved the summary with one correction of the name of the county jail, which should be Todd Road Jail.
- III. Public Comment: There was no public comment on items not related to the agenda.
- IV. Staff Report: Mr. Villegas, Air Pollution Control Officer, provided an update on the status and the history of transit bus emission controls in the county. The Clean Air Fund grants to provide 15 compressed natural gas (CNG) buses for South Coast Area Transit (now called Gold Coast) started an important chapter in this history. Now, Gold Coast has 50 CNG Buses, and the cities of Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley have 100 percent CNG fleets. In addition, the city of Thousand Oaks will be adding a Battery Electric Transit Vehicle to their fleet and Gold Coast will be adding conduit to their new facility to potentially prepare for electric buses.

Fund Update: The current permanent endowment fund balance is \$591,481, and the amount available for distribution in the next fiscal year is \$35,000.

- V. Old Business:
  1. Phase 2 Ventura County APCD Electric Vehicle Rebate Program (Update): Mr. Cowen reported that all the EV rebate reservations have been issued. These include 71 reservations for Battery EVs (60 rebates have been issued) and 60 reservations for Plug-in Hybrids (53 rebates have been issued). The most popular BEV was the Chevy Bolt and the most popular Plug-in Hybrid was the Chevy Volt. The next most popular BEV was the lower price Tesla, and the next most popular hybrid was the plug-in Prius Prime. Staff issued a press release that was picked up by the Thousand Oaks Acorn, the Camarillo Acorn, and the Simi Valley Acorn. The popularity of the program negated the need to spend the \$3,000 advertising budget.
  2. Grant to fund the City of Ojai up to \$60,000 to replace gasoline landscaping equipment with battery powered models (APCD Board approved general program expenditure; need committee recommendation on specific proposal): Steve Colome, a volunteer for the City of Ojai (and new APCD Advisory Committee member) provided the history on this proposal. He was referred by Air Resource Board member Michael Benjamin to the American Green Zone Alliance (AGZA), a consultant specializing in converting gasoline-powered landscaping equipment to battery electric.

Based on the criteria set by the Clean Air Fund Advisory Committee, a contract (grant agreement) was negotiated by the City of Ojai and APCD, and was present to the Committee for their recommendation. The agreement provided a grant up to

\$60,000 to reimburse the cost of battery electric equipment for this one-year demonstration project. Half of the grant would be paid up-front, and the remainder would be paid at the end of the demonstration project provided the gasoline powered replaced equipment has been rendered permanently inoperable and proof of recycling is provided. The Committee agreed to an amendment to Subsection 5.a that would allow up to 10 percent of the cost of the grant to be used for consulting services. The grant does allow an exclusion from the recycling requirement for heavy duty chain saws that are needed for heavy duty purposes such as tree removal or emergency applications. In addition, a written report is required at the end of the demonstration project that will quantify the emission reduction and cost advantages of the project. Furthermore, the City of Ojai will conduct a kick-off meeting and invite the press and government officials, and provide credit to the Clean Air Fund for their support. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the project grant agreement as amended to the Board for their approval. This motion was made by Mr. King and seconded by Mr. DeGeorge.

3. Proposed Bylaw Update: Mr Reach, the Bylaws Subcommittee Chair, along with subcommittee members, Mr. Bullard and Mr. King, met on August 29, 2017, to draft the new Bylaws. Mr. Reach summarized the main features of the new Bylaws, which were discussed by the Committee. The most significant changes to the Bylaws include:
  1. Specifically consider Clean Air Fund projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change.
  2. Increase the maximum number of committee members from eleven to thirteen with the two additional members classified under the Citizens category.
  3. Terms of committee membership will be four years, and members may be reappointed by the Board for additional four-year terms. Existing members will be grandfathered and not need to be re-appointed.
  4. CAFAC should meet a minimum of three times per year.
  5. Annual meetings will occur in the first quarter of the calendar.
  6. Officers (Chair and Vice Chair) will hold office for two years, or until successors are elected.
  7. Two-thirds of the committee members present are needed to amend the bylaws, subject to Board approval.

The proposed draft was amended by the Committee as follows:

1. The redundant Sections 3 and 4 in Article II, Purpose, were deleted, which referenced specific ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
2. The word “shall” was changed to “should” in Article IV, Section C.
3. The word “Additionally” was added as the first word in Article V, Section D.
4. The words “plus one member” were added to Article IX, Quorum.

Mr. Reach moved and Ms. Meeker seconded the Draft Bylaws as amended, and the Committee voted unanimously to recommend them to the Board for approval.

4. Update on Proposed Electric Vehicle DC Fast Charger (Santa Clara River Valley):

Mr. Reach updated the Committee on the potential Electric Vehicle DC Fast Charger to be located in the Santa Clara River Valley. There are currently no fast chargers between Ventura and Santa Clarita. Mr. Reach suggested that a site in Fillmore would be suitable to fill the Highway 126 charging infrastructure gap.

Mr. Reach contacted the City of Fillmore staff (Claire Faith) Her advice was to locate a DC Fast Charger at the Balden Towne Plaza (owned by Watt Companies) with a VON's grocery store on Highway 126 in Fillmore. Mr. Reach contacted the property manager (Charles Dunn Management Company) and spoke with Vanessa. One suggestion by Mr. Bullard was to have the company donate the funding to the Clean Air Fund (VCCF) to get a tax deduction, and then this funding would be used to construct the new EV charging station. This project is waiting for permission from the property owner to locate and host this charging station at their shopping center. Once this is obtained, a funding source will be needed.

VI. New Business: There was no new business.

VII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Prepared by:

Stan Cowen, Air Pollution Control District Staff

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| City of Ojai Demonstration<br>Project to Convert<br>Gasoline/Diesel Gardening<br>Equipment to Battery Electric<br>(\$60,000 Grant Agreement) | New Proposed Bylaws |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|

| Member       | Attendance | Moved | Second | Vote | Moved | Second | Vote |
|--------------|------------|-------|--------|------|-------|--------|------|
| Bullard      | P          |       |        | Y    |       |        | Y    |
| DeGeorge     | P          |       | X      | Y    |       |        | Y    |
| King         | P          | X     |        | Y    |       |        | Y    |
| Kromka       | P          |       |        | Y    |       |        | Y    |
| Logan        | P          |       |        | Y    |       |        | Y    |
| Meeker       | P          |       |        | Y    |       | X      | Y    |
| Merkord      | P          |       |        | Y    |       |        | Y    |
| Montoya      | A          |       |        |      |       |        |      |
| Reach        | P          |       |        | Y    | X     |        | Y    |
| Stubblefield | P          |       |        | Y    |       |        | Y    |

Attendance – P (present),A(absent),E(excused)

Vote - Y(yes), N(no), A(abstain)

APCD Staff:

Mike Villegas  
 Chuck Thomas  
 Stan Cowen

Guests:

Johnny Johnston, Mayor of Ojai  
 Steven Colome, EcoPas  
 Greg Grant, Ojai Public Works