

GREAT BASIN UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

September 6, 2018

(All Meetings Are Mechanically Recorded)

The Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District Governing Board of the Counties of Alpine, Inyo and Mono, State of California met at 10:00 am on September 6, 2018 in the Mono County Board of Supervisors Chamber (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), Mono County Courthouse, Main Street (Highway 395), Bridgeport, California 93517.

Governing Board members present:

David Griffith, Board Chair, Alpine County  
Dan Totheroh, Board Vice Chair, Inyo County  
Matt Kingsley, Inyo County  
Fred Stump, Mono County  
Katherine Rakow, Alternate Alpine County

Governing Board members absent:

John Wentworth, Town of Mammoth Lakes  
Stacy Corless, Mono County  
Ron Hames, Alpine County

A quorum was present.

GBUAPCD staff present:

Phill Kiddoo, Air Pollution Control Officer  
Ann Logan, Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer  
Tori DeHaven, Clerk of the Board

Members of the public included: (as indicated by voluntary sign-in)

None.

*\*Please note that due to background noise, the audio recording is difficult to hear clearly in some parts.*

**Agenda Item #1**  
Call to Order  
Pledge of  
Allegiance

Board Chair Griffith called to order the regular meeting of the Governing Board at 10:02 a.m.

Board member Kingsley then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Item #2**  
Public Comment  
on Matters not on  
the Agenda  
(No Action)

Board Chair Griffith asked for public comment on items not on the agenda at 10:03 am.

Mr. Nelson Mejia, City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP), introduced himself to the Board and noted that he would be replacing Mr. Milad Taghavi and added that he is optimistic that DWP and the District would be able to resolve any outstanding issues.

**Agenda Item #3**  
Approval of  
Resolution 2018-  
04 Requesting  
Renewal of  
Residential  
Burning  
Exemptions and  
Submission to the  
California Air  
Resources Board  
(Action)

The public hearing was opened at 10:07 am. Staff made a brief staff report and public comment was requested at 10:11 am; no comment was offered.

**Motion** (Kingsley/Stump) Following the public hearing, and upon asking for and receiving no public comments, a motion was made authorizing the Air Pollution Control Officer to submit a residential burn renewal exemption request to the California Air Resources Board for the Charleston View sub-area and authorizing the Air Pollution Control Officer to evaluate and request any future renewal requests for existing exemption sub-areas. The Board also adopted Resolution 2018-04 and authorized the Air Pollution Control Officer to sign the Exemption Request Letter to the California Air Resources Board.

*Ayes: Board Members – Kingsley, Stump, Griffith, Totheroh, Rakow*

*Noes: 0*

*Abstain: 0*

*Absent: Board Members – Wentworth, Corless, Hames*

Motion carried 5/0 and so ordered.

B/O #180906-03

**Agenda Item #4**  
Consent Items  
(Action)

**Motion** (Totheroh/Kingsley) adopting consent items a, c and d as follows:

- a. Approval of the May 10, 2018 Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes (with corrections made to Board Chair Griffith's Board Member Report as clarified on 9/6/2018)
- c. Authorize APCO to Sign and Submit Application for Subvention Funds
- d. Award Bid and Authorization the Purchase of One (1) New High-Clearance 4-Door 4-Wheel Drive Sport Utility Vehicle for \$36,415.32

*Ayes: Board Members – Kingsley, Stump, Griffith, Totheroh*

*Noes: 0*

*Abstain: Board Alternate - Rakow*

*Absent: Board Members – Wentworth, Corless, Hames*

Motion carried 4/0 and so ordered.

B/O #180906-04a

**Motion** (Griffith/Stump) adopting consent item b as follows:

- b. Approval of the July 12, 2018 Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes

*Ayes: Board Members – Kingsley, Stump, Griffith, Totheroh, Rakow*

*Noes: 0*

*Abstain: 0*

*Absent: Board Members – Wentworth, Corless, Hames*

Motion carried 5/0 and so ordered.

**Agenda Item #5**  
Adoption of  
Exceptional  
Events Mitigation  
Plan for the Coso  
Junction PM10  
Planning Area  
(Action)

Mr. Mejia commented that the DWP appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on this item. He acknowledged that DWP agrees with APCO Kiddoo as it relates to the comments that were made and how they were incorporated in the final Exceptional Events Mitigation Plan for the Coso Junction PM10 Planning Area.

**Motion** (Totheroh/Kingsley) adopting the District’s Exceptional Events Mitigation Plan for the Coso Junction PM10 Planning Area for submission to the California Air Resources Board and the United States Environmental Protection Agency Region IX Administrator for approval.

*Ayes: Board Members – Kingsley, Stump, Griffith, Totheroh, Rakow*

*Noes: 0*

*Abstain: 0*

*Absent: Board Members – Wentworth, Corless, Hames*

Motion carried 5/0 and so ordered.

**Agenda Item #6**  
Public Outreach  
During Wildfires  
and Development  
of Public Health  
Recommendations  
for Smoky  
Conditions  
(No Action)

Deputy APCO Logan indicated that her report provides an update of the District’s work over the summer wildfire season. This summer all three counties, Inyo, Mono and Alpine, experienced widespread and severe wildfire smoke impacts from numerous fires including the Lions Fire, Ferguson Fire, Donnell Fire and now the Boot Fire. Many communities sustained air quality impacts with hourly particulate matter values in the unhealthy or hazardous range with little or no reprieve. District staff put forth great effort in several arenas to improve public outreach for the air quality impacts due to wildfire smoke. Efforts included monitoring, District website updates, public health recommendations and additional public and press outreach. Emergency monitors were installed in the communities of Crowley, Bridgeport, Walker, Coleville and Woodfords. Low-cost sensors (Purple Air) will be deployed starting in Alpine County as soon as a power supply issue is resolved. The District website was also updated earlier this year and now provides more expansive public health information as well as smoke and wildfire updates. She then asked for comments and questions from the Board.

Board member Stump thanked staff for their efforts to improve monitoring as well as public outreach concerning wildfire smoke impacts. He indicated that members of the communities that he represents have complained to him about smoke impacts and how they are being affected by them. He suggested a letter or resolution be written, which would be approved by the Board and signed by the Chair, to communicate the concerns of the public as well as the Board. Board member Stump also indicated that there is a great need for clean air centers in every community as well as the availability of a FEMA claims process to help people and businesses impacted by the wildfires. Board member Stump also added that the public have expressed concerns about the fire agencies not having to file permits with the air district for full suppression wildfires.

Discussion continued regarding the District's Smoke Management Plan policy as well as staff communication with other involved air districts and fire management agencies. Staff also indicated that it may be more appropriate for Mono County or the Town of Mammoth Lakes to write and approve a resolution as suggested by Board member Stump. Members of the Board also agreed that there is a need for clean air centers in every community.

Staff added that they are continually looking for places in the various represented communities to deploy monitors.

Ms. Cindy Duriscoe, Big Pine Paiute Reservation, noted that some of the actions the tribes are taking include having emergency services buildings or centers set up. Currently the Big Pine Tribal Wellness Center is the location for emergency services as well as a cooling center and as a clean air center. The tribe has also purchase N-95 masks. At this time, services are for tribal members, elders and the health sensitive population.

Deputy APCO Logan suggested that, to help address the Board's and public's concerns regarding how fires are being managed, staff should revise and renew the overdue Memorandum of Agreement the District currently has with the land management agencies for both the smoke management program and wildland use for resource benefit. The Memorandum of Agreement for Smoke Management was signed in 2001 by California Air resources Board, all the forests located within the District, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Parks Service; it is currently expired and due for renewal.

Board member Stump requested that an item directing staff to renew and revise the expired Memorandum of Agreement for Smoke Management, be added to the next regular meeting's agenda.

A break was taken at 11:34 am. The meeting resumed at 11:38 am.

**Agenda Item #7**  
Informational  
Items  
(No Action)

It was suggested by Board Chair Griffith that the future permit enforcement activity data be presented in spreadsheet form to show trends over a five-year time period and that a "year to date" heading be added to future quarterly financial reports to provide clarification.

**Agenda Item #8**  
Board Member  
Reports  
(No Action)

Board member Totheroh reported that he attended an Eastern Sierra Council on Governments meeting where discussions took place regarding forest health and prescribed burns. He then stated that there is a desire to utilize, as much as possible, woodchips that are a result of fuels management. A question was asked about whether they could be used on Owens Lake.

Board Chair Griffith noted that concerning the Woodstove Replacement Program, there aren't enough retailers willing to go to Alpine County. A constituent has reported to him that the closest one was in Lone Pine, California.

Ms. DeHaven, Clerk of the Board, replied that there are, in fact, other retailers closer than Lone Pine that are willing to go to Alpine County for the Woodstove replacement Program.

Board Chair Griffith than asked if the District could accept and utilize retailers that have been certified by other air districts in order to reach remote communities.

APCO Kiddoo explained that each air district has their own set of guidelines for certifications which may be different from one another.

Board alternate Rakow asked about the waiting list that was generated previously, and what happens to those people.

Ms. DeHaven explained that the funding for this program is from a different grant. People will have to reapply as waiting lists from previous grants and programs are not rolled over to new grants and programs.

Board Chair Griffith commented on how previously, the Region 4 Forest Service and Humboldt-Toiyabe did not have a good neighbor authority agreement with California. However, a couple of days ago an agreement was signed which means that those agencies are eligible for state funding.

**Agenda Item #9**  
Air Pollution  
Control Officer's  
Report  
(No Action)

APCO Kiddoo gave report on the following items

- 1) On Saturday, September 8, Bishop is having a Picnic in the Park event which he has been invited to come and speak at. APCO Kiddoo will be giving a talk about what the District does.

**Agenda Item #10**  
Confirm Date and  
Location of Next  
Regular Meeting  
(November 1,  
2018, in Mono  
County, CA)  
(No Action)

The next regular meeting of the District Governing Board will convene at 10:00 am on November 1, 2018 in Mammoth Lakes, California. The District's Clerk of the Board will find and reserve a handicap accessible meeting room and contact the District Board members as to its location.

**Agenda Item #11**  
**CLOSED**  
**SESSION**

The Board convened into closed session at 11:57 am.

The Board reconvened into open session at 1:42 pm.

**CLOSED SESSION – CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL –  
EXISTING LITIGATION:**

- a. Russell Covington; Robert Moore; Randy Sipes; Randal Sipes, Jr.; Laborers' International Union of North America Local Union No. 783 vs. Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District; Mono County Superior Court, Case No. CV140075; pursuant to

subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9 of the California Government Code.

- b. Mammoth Community Water District vs. Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District; Mono County Superior Court, Case No. CV140076; pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9 of the California Government Code.

**Report:** Information given.

**Agenda Item #12  
CLOSED  
SESSION**

**CLOSED SESSION – CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL –  
EXISTING LITIGATION:**

City of Los Angeles vs. Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District, et al., Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, Case No. 34-2013-80001451-CU-WM-GDS, pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1).

**Report:** Information given.

**Agenda Item #13  
CLOSED  
SESSION**

**CLOSED SESSION - CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY  
NEGOTIATORS**

Real Property Negotiations. Government Code Section 54956.8. Property: 157 Short Street, Bishop, CA. Agency Negotiator: Air Pollution Control Officer. Negotiating Parties: Great Basin Governing Board and Owner. Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Sale.

**Report:** Direction given.

**Agenda Item #14  
CLOSED  
SESSION**


**CLOSED SESSION -**

Evaluation of Performance – Section 54957(b)(1) of the California Government Code. Employee Being Evaluated: Air Pollution Control Officer.

**Report:** Direction given.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Board Chair Griffith at 1:42 pm. The Board will reconvene in open session at 10:00 am, on Thursday, November 1, 2018 in Mammoth Lakes, California.

  
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David Griffith, Board Chair

**Attest:**

  
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Tori DeHaven, Board Clerk