



**AB 617 Community Air Protection Program
Steering Committee Meeting Agenda
ECRMC Community Education Center
3451 Dogwood Rd.
El Centro, CA 92243**

MEETING AGENDA

**Wednesday, April 10, 2019
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

Facilitator: Amy Ramos of Harder Co.

Chair of Meeting: Luis Olmedo (Alt. Humberto Lugo)

WELCOME

1. Roll Call/Opening Remarks by CSC Members Co-Chairs

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Co-Chairs

March 14, 2019 Community Steering Committee Meeting (See Attachment of Minutes: March 14, 2019)

4. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Co-Chairs

- AB 617 CAPP Grant
- CSC Stipend (Primary and Alternate Members)
- Mobile and Stationary Sources Surveys
- CARB Mobile Source Data Collection Program

5. ACTION ITEM(S):

- Discussion on Duration and Frequency of AB 617 CSC Meetings
- Discussion on Creating and Establishing a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

6. PRESENTATIONS

- IVAN Presentation/Reporting Tool (CCV)
- Emission Inventory Data (CARB)

7. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

- Source Attribution (CARB)
- Preliminary Data Education (CARB)

8. AGENDA TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING/TIME & LOCATION OF MEETING Co-Chairs

- Pesticide Presentation by DPR and Ag Commissioner
- Proposal of Emission Reduction Projects

9. CLOSING REMARKS/ADJOURNMENT

**AB617 Community Air Protection Program
Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting**

March 14th, 2019

Co-Chairs: Luis Olmedo and Reyes Romero (Alternate for Matt Dessert)

Facilitator: Scott Weaver of Ramboll

I. Attendance

Bob Fischer, (Alternate member for *Diahna Garcia Ruiz*); **Mireya Diaz**, community member representing the El Centro Corridor; **Jose Celaya**, representing the Heber Corridor; **Mercedes Martinez**, ICRMC representing El Centro; **Mary Salazar**, representing Calexico Corridor, she introduces *Irene García*, her alternate from El Centro, CA.; **John Hernandez**, community corridor member; **Sergio Cabañas**, Heber/El Centro Corridor and his alternate **Michael Moore**; **Kristian Salgado** representing Calexico and her alternate **Marcy Marlette**; **Blake Plourd** community member ; **Aide Fulton-Munguia** representing El Centro Corridor.

Alternates: Diego Gamboa, Sandra Mendiola, Rosa Guerrero, Humberto Lugo.

II. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Scott Weaver welcomed and thanked everybody for their presence. He then proceeded to give the microphone to the Co-Chairs starting with Mr. Reyes Romero.

Reyes Romero (In representation of **Matt Dessert**) welcomed everybody urging them to participate, thanked the volunteers of the committee and the members of the community. He then passes the microphone to **Luis Olmedo**.

Luis Olmedo greets everyone briefly and returns the microphone to **Reyes Romero**.

Reyes Romero gives the microphone to the members of the committee to introduce themselves.

III. Public Comment Period

Reyes Romero asks to the members of the committee for a motion to add a public comment at the end of the agenda, everyone agrees.

There were no comments at the time.

IV. Informational Item

Approval of minutes

Reyes Romero reminds everyone that there are two set of minutes that need to be approved. January 30th 2019 & February 13 2019; he asks the members of the committee and the community if they have something to add to the minutes before approval and asks if they should approve both at the same time or one by one.

Bob Fischer proceeds to make a motion to approve the minute of January 30th 2019 & February 13th 2019 as they stand.

All were in favor to approve the minutes of January 30th 2019 & February 13th 2019.

Bylaw/Charter update

Reyes Romero comments that the bylaws and charter updates were reviewed and approved by all the members of the committee previously at their last meeting on February 13th 2019, he added that they're planning on taking those bylaws to their Air Board for their approval on March 19th.

A member of the community asks if the Imperial County Board supervisors would do the approval of the bylaws and if the presence of some of the members of the committee would be necessary in the presentation of the bylaws to the Air Board.

Reyes Romero confirms

A Co-Chair member of the committee encourages the other members their participation to the extent possible, he adds that they have the right to assist on the presentation to the Air Board.

A member of the committee asks if they can distribute the final version of the bylaws previously to their showing with the Imperial County Board.

Reyes Romero answers by confirming that the final version of the bylaws is added on the county board package.

Ag Burn Policy 34 Update

Reyes Romero introduces **Mr. Emmanuel Sanchez** (Deputy Division Manager in charge of the Air Pollution Control District)

Emmanuel Sanchez greets and gives an update on the Ag Burn Policy 34; after meeting with the Planning Division and the Reinforcement Division of the California Resources Board there were some changes on step #3 and step #4, providing a better description of what do the fields require to get priority of being allowed to Ag Burn. In addition, a new paragraph was added to the policy regarding the Ag Burn near schools. He concludes that those were the only changes that were added since the last meeting.

A member of the committee had a question regarding the new paragraph, in specific, asking about making a list in collaboration with the school districts of the days in school and the days off school.

Emmanuel Sanchez responded that the ICOE already has a school calendar that they are working with and they will be notifying the schools as well.

An attendee had a question regarding the average number of acres per field, in specific how did they get to that number being the average.

Emmanuel Sanchez responded by saying that most fields in Imperial County have an average of 70 acres and that can be corroborated with Google Earth; he also added that fields that have more of 70 acres will have to section their fields to smaller parts in order to get priority and be able to ag burn.

In response to Emmanuel Sanchez statement, the same attendee asked if the number of 40 acres was representative of another past regulation.

Emmanuel Sanchez responded that the only regulation regarding the number of 40 acres is the burn permit from the Air District, which states that the first 40 acres are included in the first fee, after the 40th acre there will be a fee per acre.

Reyes Romero takes the microphone and quotes a small part of the California Air Pollution Regulation, regarding the penalties of not complying within the law regulations of ag burn. He finishes by adding a question for Mr. Emmanuel Sanchez regarding the penalty fees regarding ag burn from the Imperial County District.

Emmanuel Sanchez responds that the Health And Safety Code is up to 5,000 dollars per day, referring to someone who keeps not following regulations of field burning after being told not to.

Reyes Romero asks **Emmanuel Sanchez** for his opinion regarding the quantity of the penalty, in particular if he thinks that quantity would be enough to keep farmers from burning fields in ways that do not comply with regulations.

A member of the committee asks about a reference for the Health And Safety Code to research the uniform application across the state of said code.

A member of the committee made a statement about some miswording in step #5.

Scott Weaver proceeds with the next step in the agenda, which is an update on the AB617 milestones and the development of the Air Monitoring Plan and Emission Reduction Program. He proceeds to introduce **Mr. Alek Van Houghton** from Ramboll to provide an overall review.

Alek Van Houghton starts by talking about the 14 elements of the Air Monitoring Plan and a blueprint made by CARB as part of the Community Air Protection Program. The elements are divided into two sections depending on the due date for each element and are color-coded, blue for the ones that already have been drafted and sent to CARB for review, and the rest of the colors signify different stages of development. The first stage is represented by the color orange, the elements on this section of the coding are those that are still pending on their analysis, the ones represented by the yellow color are those in the stage of groundwork and foundation, the Community Steering Committee Process are ready to be brought to discussion with drafting in process, those are represented by the color green meaning that the first part has been drafted and the second part is being worked on.

He then proceeds to talk about the Emissions Reduction Plan, he mentions that the elements of this program are also based on directions by CARBs blueprint with a timeline that covers the stages of the program and its development with the same color-coding, said timeline ends in June.

Reyes Romero adds a comment regarding the blue coding of the first program, congratulating the committee for submitting to CARB in excellent time and form. He also reminded the members of the committee that the next meeting with CARB would be on May 1st to review the 5 more elements urging them to cooperate in order to meet the deadline.

Luis Olmedo acknowledges the work done by the committee and the Air Pollution Control District.

No further questions regarding the presentation were added.

Alek Van Houghton presentation concludes.

V. Action Items

Discuss the CAC code of conduct

Luis Olmedo starts the discussion by reading through the principals of the code of conduct, he finishes by saying the Code of Conduct is still a draft and it was made in collaboration with Air Pollution Control District.

Reyes Romero asks the committee to make a motion to approve the Code of Conduct.

Bob Fischer adds a comment before making a motion encouraging the corridor members and alternates to participate in the meetings.

Luis Olmedo responds by saying that the Air District and the Civic Committee elected the corridor members and alternates because of their knowledge and expertise, noting that when, someone is missing, their absence does not allow for a fully comprehensive and complete understanding of the entire corridor. He adds that an economical incentive might be established if the board approves the stipend, regarding the absences he noted that if there is a certain amount of absences the Co-Chairs members of the Air District and the Civil Committee will take action.

Reyes Romero asks **Belen** a question regarding the stipend of the meeting attendance.

Belen proceeds to respond that the bylaws have not been approved, adding that the alternates and CAC members would get a 75 dollars stipend per meeting.

Luis Olmedo asks **Belen** about the amount of absences of both CAC member and alternate that would be needed to start a discussion to replace their absence in the meetings.

Belen responds that three meetings would be needed.

Bob Fischer thanks the clarification and adds that his previous statement that started the discussion was with an emphasis on absences not a payment, adding that they cannot move further as a group in such scenario.

Reyes Romero responds that their statement was meant to express that their presence is so important to them that they are capable of adding an economical incentive.

A motion was made to approve the AB617 Code of Conduct.

Aide Munguia adds that communication between the members and their alternates is vital to keep at least one of them in the meeting.

Motion is carried and Code of Conduct was approved.

A clarification was added that the amount of absences of the main partner does not necessary signifies that the alternate would take over as the main member; however, a certain amount of absences from the alternate will create a discussion to replace his position.

Scott Weaver introduces the next step in the agenda

The establishment of AB617 Community Corridor Boundary.

Reyes Romero responds that everyone should have a copy of a map that distributes the boundaries between the Heber, El Centro and the Calexico corridor. One of the Geo Thermals and an Aggregate Facility located on the east side of the corridor will be included in the emission inventory in the Heber corridor. A motion of approval was requested to maintain the boundaries as they were since the beginning.

Kristian Salgado asks the committee if the maps present areas of concern and certain facilities that were previously enlisted as such.

A member of the committee confirms that the areas enlisted by the community are represented in the corridor map proposed.

The same member also noted that some sources on the South West corner close to Heber will not be within the corridor but will be added to the emission inventory.

Kristian Salgado has a question regarding research about facilities outside the Imperial County that affect the corridors with their emissions.

Reyes Romero responds that the State is working on a list of all the sources in the corridor.

An attendee has a question regarding the shape and distribution of the corridors in the map.

A member of the committee responds that they were distributed according to zip codes.

A motion was requested to approve the boundaries of the AB617 corridor

Regarding the facilities that are outside the corridor boundaries but were included in the inventory because of their impact, an attendee asked what was used to determine which facilities to include.

Reyes Romero responded that it was a decision made by the committee because the amount of emissions from said facilities

The motion was carried and the boundaries were approved.

VI. Presentations

Community Outreach and Reinforcement by the Air Resources Board

Linda Zedillo and **Warren Hawkins** from CARB with the Enforcement Division Fields Operation Committee presents a discussion about the operations from the Enforcement Division already conducts on the area, the objective of this is to have suggestions of other activities.

The main topics were the responsibilities for air by BRND district with the Enforcement Division, activities and the enforcement with AB617.

An attendee had a question regarding CARB inspection activities in Imperial County and proposed to post on social media these inspection activities to raise awareness within the community.

Reyes Romero clarifies that CARB has jurisdiction over mobile sources, the Air District over stationary sources, the EPA over locomotives, so when they are talking about CARB inspections they are referring to mobile sources.

Mireya Diaz adds that a big number of their community are senior citizens that don't have a computer at home and are distrustful to agencies , she adds details that posts on user media or a website should have to be more user friendly.

Aide Munguia asked if the number of investigations were sufficient based on the population of transportation that crosses the border in Calexico.

Warren Hawkins answers by saying the will be supplying the 4 years of history of CARB investigations and do an analysis of the compliance rates.

Aide Munguia also added a comment regarding idling semi-trucks in areas of the community where it will not be vocalized and since CARB has jurisdiction over mobile sources, they should reach out to those areas of the community.

An attendee asked if she has to contact a different agency depending on their jurisdictions and if CARB, IVAN, Air Pollution, Cal EPA share their data.

Linda Zedillo responded by saying they could contact either agency and they would be addressed to the right agency, she also said that they do share their information with each other.

Reyes Romero added that if you submit a report video or pictures to Cal EPA they would submit it to the proper agency.

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An attendee asked for the statics from the stationary sources.

Linda Zedillo responded that ARB has received information directly from the Air District

An attendee answered that Ramboll will give a presentation next month regarding that subject.

A member of the committee said that TV would also be a good option to raise awareness in older members of the community that are not involved in social media.

Reyes Romero mentioned violations turning into profit and that are being badly managed, so it is because of that a regulation was proposed and passed demanding that at least 50% of the profit should go back to the community for it to be invested in projects that serve the community.

An attendee suggested that IVAN should be listed in the list of agencies to report to.

Mireya Diaz added a comment that there has to be a way for the community to keep track of the reports made.

Linda Zedillo responded that there is an option to leave your personal data to the agency and they will contact you back with the results.

Scott Weaver introduced the next presentation

New AB617 website and public outreach in Imperial County.

New sections of the website were presented such as subscription option to the mailing list, an "About Us" page including background and objectives of the programs, blueprints, map of the corridor for viewing and downloading available to the public, backgrounds of committee members, calendar for the meetings and community bylaws, archive for past meetings and a contact page with direct links to other agencies websites.

An attendee made a suggestion to list the links to the Air Monitoring Programs.

John Hernandez added that Mexicali also has Air Monitoring Programs that should be listed as well.

Reyes Romero corroborated that there are over 50 programs operating in Mexicali.

Luis Olmedo made a comment that the community monitoring utilizes the 14 elements that the Air Resources Board implemented in the blueprint. He noted that is very important that they distinguish the different types of sensors commenting that they do not know where they're located, they're not maintained nor calibrated, adding that before sharing data they should investigate said sensors.

An attendee thanked to local Air District for their improvement in social media management.

VII. Topics for the Next Meeting / Time and Location for the Next Meeting.

Emission Inventory Presentation

14 elements

Pesticides by the Department of Pesticides Regulations

The next meeting will be held April 10th and the location is to be determined

VIII. Public Comment at the End of the Meeting / Closing Remarks.

An invitation was made to a workshop by the Civic Committee and the Govt. Commission about low carbon transportation advancement.

An attendee suggested that they get more microphones next meeting.

Another attendee made a statement about alternate solutions to crop burning.

An attendee made a suggestion to make the presentations more personal and interactive.

Luis Olmedo asked to have an IVAN presentation for the next meeting and a presentation on Community Air Management Network.

He also proposed to have a space in the agenda for innovative strategies.

Reyes Romero thanked to attendants, the members of the committee, Ramboll for their support and development. He also thanked Scott for his participation as a facilitator.

An attendee had a suggestion about adding to the website a question and answers section.

A motion to close the meeting was carried and the meeting concluded.

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