**AB 617 Community Air Protection Program**

**Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting**

**ECRMC Community Education Center**

**El Centro, California**

**April 10th, 2019**

**Co-chairs: Luis Olmedo; Matt Desert**

**Facilitators: Amy Ramos; Daniela Flores**

1. **Attendance**

***Humberto Lugo (alternate for Luis Olmedo); Matt Dessert****, community corridor****; Diahna Garcia Ruiz***, community member; ***Mireya Diaz,*** community member representing the El Centro Corridor; ***Jose Celaya,*** representante del corredor de Heber Corridor; ***Mersedes Martinez,*** ICRMC representing El Centro; ***Mary Salazar,*** representing Calexico Corridor; ***John Hernandez,*** community corridor member; ***Sergio Cabañas,*** Heber/El Centro Corridor; ***Kristian Salgado*** representing Calexico community member; ***Blake Plourd****, community corridor;* ***Mark Baza****, ICTC – community corridor;* ***Diego Gamboa****, community corridor.*

***Alternates: Sandra Mendivil, Rosa Guerrero, Michael Moore, Irene Garcia, Paul Monarrez.***

1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Time was given for any for members of the Steering Committee members to share their remarks or concerns. Since no remarks or concerns were shared at the moment, they proceeded with the next agenda item.

1. **Public Comment Period**

**Johnny Wills** thanked everyone in attendance and said he was thankful for having a space provided for handicapped people to sit.

**David Salardino** from the Air Resources Board said he just wanted to address that the Air Resources Board is present at these meetings in order to support the District, the community members, the steering committee itself as well as the development of this program. Therefore, he indicated that if there is any information that they may be able to provide for the group, they should feel free to contact them. He introduced the CARB members at the meeting at that time.

**Belen Leon** with the Air Pollution Control District, announced that they were having their Fourth Annual Lawn Equipment Exchange Program the following Saturday at SA Recycling from 8 to 11 in the morning. She indicated they had to pre-register and said she would me more than happy to give more details to those who were interested in attending.

1. **Revision of Minutes from Prior Meeting**

**Sergio Cabañas** made a motion for the approval of the March 14th minutes. **Mireya Diaz** seconded the motion and after voting on this, the minutes were approved.

1. **Informational Items**

**AB 617 Community Air Grants**

**Matt Dessert** explained this is the mechanism utilized for funding education outreach and additional monitoring related to emission reduction projects and their community benefits projects. He stated they had been working towards this goal for the last 7 meetings and informed they had been funding these activities thus far out of the Air Pollution Control District, and explained this is the official funding mechanism to help reimburse the Air District for their expenses. He also mentioned there was additional money around $30,000.00 dollars put at front at the very beginning to assist them facilitating the outreach. He added they had been working very hard with technical staff, attorneys, and special consultants in order to meet the benchmarks and the requirements of this opportunity. He informed that grant application had been submitted and had been approved and accepted by the Board of Supervisors the previous Tuesday. Therefore, he said they are anticipating receiving funding to continue with this effort by early June.

**Community Steering Committee Stipend for Primary and Alternate Members**

**Matt Dessert** said that they had put into the Bylaws a funding mechanism for a per Diem to be paid to the committee members for their time put into these meetings and doing their own homework and research that they so desperately need. He informed that item has been approved by the Board of Supervisors and that now it is back in their hands to administer that portion of it. He explained they would pay that per Diem in retro that is, to the date of the meeting that the Bylaws were passed and that corresponds to their meeting in February. Therefore, any primary or alternate member that has been in attendance since then would be entitled to this per Diem payment and that this will be kept on the regular basis moving forward.

**Diego Gamboa** asked what the procedure would be to get this benefit.

**Matt Dessert** said they would be handling this individually with each one of the members.

**Mobile and Stationary Sources Survey**

**Thomas Brinkerhoff** with the Air Pollution Control District said these surveys were emailed out by their staff about three weeks prior to this meeting in order to get some feedback as to the concerns the members of this committee would have regarding mobile and stationary sources. He said they have only received a handful of responses so far. Therefore, he asked the committee members to please take the time to answer this survey and for this purpose he said they had brought hard copies of it, which could be turned in to any of the staff members before leaving this meeting. He also said they could e-mail them a copy or drop it off by their office at their convenience. He said their feedback was important as they would take it into consideration as they move forward with finalizing the air monitoring plan as well as the emission reduction program, which is due this fall.

**CARB Mobile Sources Data Collection Program**

**Belen Leon** said they would find a draft project scope of this program in their packets. She explained that on page 2 of this document they would find a table, which they would be going over during the round table section of this meeting. She said they would have a dialogue opportunity to discuss locations, hot spots, etc., and she said CARB would really like their input on this.

1. **Action Items**

**Frequency of Meetings in Order to Meet Goals and Deadlines**

**Belen Leon** said they are proposing to add meetings on May 22nd, and June 19th for this purpose.

**Mireya Diaz** said she was in agreement to adding those 2 dates to their meeting calendar.

**Sergio Cabañas** said it is extremely important that the steering committee members attend these meetings. He said he mentioned this because he could notice some absences at this meeting, and he also mentioned that reappointing somebody at this point would mean falling behind.

**Mersedes Martínez** made a motion to approve the 2 extra dates on their meeting calendar.

**Mireya Diaz** seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and approved by the committee.

**Forming a Technical Advisory Committee**

**Humberto Lugo** said they were planning on having members from the steering committee form a part of this committee. He informed there would not be a stipend for this committee and that they would probably meet for about an hour during the day.

**Matt Dessert** said their proposal was to have 4 primary or alternate members who have the time and want to participate and do more to be a part of this committee. He informed that **Luis Olmedo** and he had already contacted some candidates for this purpose, but that the final decision would be taken as a group with the participation of all committee members.

**Mark Baza** made a motion to put together this technical advisory committee.

**Diahna Garcia Ruiz** seconded the motion. They voted on it and it was approved by the community steering committee.

**John Hernandez** asked if this technical advisory committee would have input on the agenda or if this would be for something other than their agenda. He also suggested for the action items on the agenda to have a summary and a recommendation.

**Matt Dessert** said that his suggestion for the agenda would be taken into consideration. He also said that the technical advisory committee would be aimed at monitoring for budget purposes to help them better frame that future agenda item, making sure that all basis are covered and easily understood.

1. **Presentations / Questions and Answers**

**IVAN Environmental Reporting Tool; Sergio Valenzuela from CCV**

**John Hernandez** asked since they are talking about air quality, if they have a person from the Air Pollution Control District assigned at the Imperial Valley Environmental Task Force meetings.

**Matt Dessert** informed that **Miguel Coronel** from their enforcement division has been participating at those meetings as well as their enforcement division manager **Emanuel Sanchez**. He added they had been following the IVAN reports in the last 2 years and that they had seen completion on investigations on those reports. He also mentioned they had noticed a reduction on the amount of IVAN reported calls, and he mentioned they have had complaints about agricultural burning that have been submitted to the state of California and that their staff on their enforcement division has been alert to these calls. He also mentioned that they have records of all of this.

**John Hernandez** asked if there was a policy or a complaint process posted on their website that a citizen could follow if need be.

**Matt Dessert** said they do have a process through which complaints can be filed directly to their office through their website and that they can also be filed over the phone and in writing. He added that they can also be filed anonymously for your own security or piece of mind.

**Ray Askins** suggested adding all the air monitors links on the information they provide on the meetings.

**Matt Dessert** said all suggestions and comments will be taken into consideration by **Gilbert Rebollar** who is in charge of uploading information into the AB 617 website.

**Mireya Diaz** suggested including a Spanish tag at the IVAN Imperial Website homepage.

**Draft Community Emissions Inventory; Adrian Cayabyab from CARB**

**A CSC member** asked if the diesel PM 10 emissions would be attributed to only diesel vehicles.

**Adrian Cayabyab** said that was correct.

**A CSC member** asked **Adrian** to expand a little more on emissions generated by agriculture.

**Adrian Cayabyab** asked if he was referring to the slide he was presenting at the time. He said it referred to agricultural off road tractors and anything used in a farm with a combustion engine.

1. **Round Table Discussions on Preliminary Data Education Site and Source Attribution**

The CSC members and alternates divided into 2 groups and spent some time discussing these 2 topics.

1. **Agenda Topics and Date for Next Meeting**

The topics proposed for the next meeting were a pesticide presentation by DPR and the Agriculture Commissioner and a proposal on emission reduction projects. The date for the next meeting will be on May 8th.

1. **Closing Remarks / Adjournment**

**Amy Ramos** asked if anyone had any pressing questions, comments or suggestions they wanted addressed before leaving this meeting.

**Mireya Diaz** suggested having a clear idea as to what the end outcome they are aiming for at these meetings is. She said she wanted to know what she really needs to be paying attention to and doing a little further research in order to be better prepared when she comes to these meetings.

**Matt Dessert** explained they are trying to get a fact and science based foundation for administrating moneys that is going to come into their community for emission reduction programs, and/or community benefit projects that reduce exposure to emissions.

**A CSC member** said he feels they need to give some priority to the plan going forward to put together the items that they need to get done by the end of May or June on the agenda.

**Jose Celaya** suggested getting more information on their e-mails prior to the meetings to come better prepared to participate.

**Kristian Salgado** said she was very grateful for the information given at the meeting and she recommended inviting science based experts who can talk about specific areas that they are interested in looking at to perhaps also be able to come up with science based solutions to the issues at hand.

Next Meeting: May 8, 2019

**Meeting Adjourned.**