

VENTURA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD Standing Committee Regular Meeting September 13, 2022 Meeting Summary

- Chair Matt LaVere convened the meeting at approximately 2:25 p.m. Vice Chair Lynn Edmonds, and Mayor Rich Rollins, were present. Also present were Franchesca Verdin, County Counsel, Ali Ghasemi, APCO, Nancy Mendoza, Tyler Harris, and Resa Albert of APCD staff.
- 2. There were no public comments.
- 3. The adoption of a resolution authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the Standing Committee for a 30-day period pursuant to Government Code Section 54953, Subdivision (e), of the Ralph M. Brown Act was moved by Chair Matt LaVere, seconded by Vice Chair Lynn Edmonds, and approved unanimously by the committee.
- 4. The approval of the May 2, 2022 Meeting Summary was moved by Chair Matt LaVere, seconded by Mayor Rollins, and approved unanimously by the committee. received and filed.
- 5. In considering the vacant Standing Committee member position. Committee members unanimously approve to wait until January 2023.
- 6. In providing guidance to District staff about securing funding from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and/or the Environmental Protection Agency to continue the Vessel Speed Reduction (VSR)/Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies (PBWBS) program and authorize a letter of support for the PBWBS program to urge CARB to secure \$4 million in funding to sustain the PBWBS program for the next 5 years. Ali Ghasemi reiterated that this is a follow up to a template sent to the Committee sometime in May and to report that if the program discontinues, there is no funding available to continue the program. Mr. Ghasemi informed the members that even if there is a regulatory requirement, it will not help the Ventura County's attainment of 8hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard of 70 ppb by the year 2026. On Mayor, Rollins inquiry if there were any feedback from the Port of Hueneme, Mr. Ghasemi responded that they have not received any feedback yet. Nevertheless, he stated there are some shipping companies who oppose it, but there are more shipping companies who are willing to participate in the program. Chair LaVere pointed out that this is not a mandate, but an incentive. Vice Chair Edmonds also asked how they can help push the program to continue and if it needed approval. Mr. Ghasemi responded that staff are available to assist in whatever the committee members needed in their decision. Mr. Ghasemi also informed the committee that APCD staff had previous discussions with CARB about the program but somehow it

Standing Committee Meeting Summary Page 2

did not progress and just stopped. The committee members made several suggestions other than regulatory requirements, such as a tax credit/incentive that is incorporated in the MOU.

- 7. Regarding the reappointment and/or replacement of Advisory Committee members whose terms of office have expired. The committee unanimously approved to wait until January 2023 for any recommendations to either reappoint or replace the Advisory Committee members whose terms expired.
- 8. The next regular meeting was tentatively scheduled for October 11, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.
- 9. Chair LaVere adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:15 p.m.