

# Clean Air Fund Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

## July 28, 2008

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.
- II. Approve summary of the May 17, 2007 meeting: Mr. Kromka moved and Mr. King seconded approval. The Committee approved the summary without any changes.
- III. Public Comment: There was no public comment.
- IV. Staff Report: Mr. Villegas, APCO, reported that a project proposal was being developed by the Farm Adviser, APCD, and local farmers to study ways to reduce emissions from fumigants used by Ventura County berry farmers. The close proximity of residents to these farms and the new regulations by the Department of Pesticide Regulation are two reasons for moving forward with this project.
- V. Old Business:

Mr. Cowen reported that on June 26, 2007, the Board approved the Conservation Tillage Tool Rebate, and that four out of the five \$7,000 rebates have been provided to local farmers, and that one rebate remains. Farmers have expressed satisfaction with the new farm implements.

Mr. Cowen reported that the Lawn Mower Trade-In Program was still active, and over 320 electric lawn mower vouchers had been issued since the program began in late 2006.

Mr. Cowen also indicated that committee member, Manuel Ceja, had to resign from the Committee because he transferred to a new position with Procter and Gamble in the Midwest. Currently, there are two vacancies on the committee: one business member and one environmental/citizen member. Since Committee member Russ Baggerly resigned, a new vice chairman will need to be elected. This will be placed as an item on the next meeting's agenda.

- VI. New Business:

### Proposed Project: Ventura Police Department Electric Mobility Vehicles

Sergeant Jack Richards and Tom Higgins presented information and demonstrated the T3 Electric Mobility Vehicle. This vehicle is similar to the Segway, but is larger, more stable and has three wheels. The Ventura Police Department requested a total of \$24,298.20 to purchase two of these vehicles for policing in the downtown Ventura area, and for use at the local high schools. By replacing a police patrol car, the use of these two electric vehicles would reduce emissions and fuel consumption.

In 2006, the Committee recommended a proposed project by the Ventura Police Department for three electric bicycles for \$7,092. That project was never completed because the

manufacturer went out of business. It is proposed to cancel that grant, and use those funds to partially offset the funding for this proposal. The Committee agreed that this was a worthwhile project. Mr. King expressed concern that it was being funded at 100 percent, while most previous projects are funded at 50 percent of cost or less. The Committee reasoned that this was a special circumstance involving a public safety agency, and that budgets are extremely tight at the current time. The Committee recommended this project be approved by the Board (5 yes, 1 abstention).

Proposed Project: Residential Compressed Natural Gas Vehicle Refueling Appliances

Two residents of Ventura County, Joe Bacon and Jon George, own CNG-fueled vehicles, and each requested \$2,000 incentives to defer part of the cost of installing a home natural gas refueling device. Although Mr. Bacon presented a quote for approximately \$6,000 for his home installation, and he also qualified for a \$1,000 tax credit. His proposed installation at his home in Simi Valley has been approved by the Gas Company and ARB. However, Mr. George has not yet gained approval for his Camarillo home installation because ARB regulations do not allow new natural gas fueling installations because of concerns with the quality of the natural gas in western Ventura County. He is currently working with ARB staff to obtain a waiver from these regulations.

The use of CNG vehicles, especially the Honda Civic GX, will reduce emissions compared to average gasoline vehicles. The lack of fueling infrastructure in Ventura County requires that these vehicles be driven many miles out of the way to be re-fueled, wasting both fuel and creating more emissions. The \$2,000 incentive, similar to a grant program already in progress in the South Coast AQMD, would help to spur the purchase of these cleaner vehicles, that reduce emissions, including CO2 emissions, and reduce the use of imported oil. The Committee unanimously recommended the award of a \$2,000 incentive to each of the applicants. Mr. Villegas commented that these types of grant awards in the future may be funded from DMV fee funds since they are vehicle emission reduction projects.

VII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m..

Prepared by:

Stan Cowen, Air Pollution Control District Staff

Date: July 28, 2008

Member	Attendance *	Ventura P.D. Electric Mobility Vehicles			CNG Vehicle Home Refuelers		
		Moved	Second	Vote* *	Moved	Second	Vote
Bayman	AE						
Forsythe	AE						
King	P			A			Y
Kobayashi	P		X	Y			Y
Kromka	P			Y		X	
Montoya	A						
Neiswender	P			Y			Y
Poole	P			Y			Y
Stubblefield	P	X		Y	X		Y

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

APCD Staff:

Stan Cowen  
 Chris Frank

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

Guests:

Jack Richards, Ventura Police Dept.  
 Tom Higgins, Ventura Police Dept  
 Joe Bacon  
 Jon George