

**ANTELOPE VALLEY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICT  
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026  
ANTELOPE VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
DISTRICT OFFICE  
LANCASTER, CA**

**Minutes**

Board Members Present:

Marvin Crist, *Chair*, City of Lancaster  
Ken Mann, *Vice Chair*, City of Lancaster  
Newton Chelette, Public Member  
Howard Harris, Los Angeles County  
Ron Hawkins, Los Angeles County

Board Members Absent:

Laura Bettencourt, City of Palmdale  
Austin Bishop, City of Palmdale

**CALL TO ORDER 10:00 A.M.**

Chair **CRIST** called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Chair **CRIST** asked Board Member **MANN** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair **CRIST** called for roll call, roll call was taken.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair **CRIST** called for **PUBLIC COMMENT**. At this time, no public comment was made in person, or electronically, moved to **CONSENT CALENDAR**.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

The following consent items were acted upon by the Board at one time without discussion. Upon motion by Board Member **CHELETTE**, seconded by Board Member **HAWKINS**, and carried by the following roll call vote, with five **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MARVIN CRIST, KEN MANN, NEWTON CHELETTE, HOWARD HARRIS, and RON HAWKINS**, with Board Members **LAURA BETTENCOURT** and **AUSTIN BISHOP** absent, on the Consent Calendar, as follows:

**Agenda Item #1 – Approve Minutes from Regular Governing Board Meeting of December 16, 2025. Find that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to this item.**

Approved Minutes from Regular Governing Board Meeting of December 16, 2025.

**Agenda Item #2 – Monthly Grant Funding Summary. Receive and file. Find that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to this item.**

*Minutes*

Received and Filed Monthly Grant Funding Summary.

**Agenda Item #3 – Monthly Activity Report. Receive and file.**

Presenter: Barbara Lods, Executive Director/APCO.

Received and Filed Monthly Activity Report.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

DEFERRED ITEMS

PRESENTATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

**Agenda Item #4 – 1) Award an amount not to exceed \$568,265 in Carl Moyer Program funds to Allied Potato for the replacement of an older diesel tractor with new, cleaner technology; 2) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable funding sources become available; 3) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO and staff to negotiate target time frames and technical project details and execute agreements, approved as to legal form by the Office of District Counsel; and 4) Find that this item is not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.**

Presenter: Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst.

Chair CRIST opened the public hearing. Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst, presented background information and answered questions from the Board. Chair Crist called for public comment, no public comment was made in person, or electronically, being none, Chair CRIST closed the public hearing. After group discussion and upon motion by member HARRIS, seconded by Board Member MANN, as approved by the following roll call vote, with five AYES votes by Board Members, MARVIN CRIST, KEN MANN, NEWTON CHELETTE, HOWARD HARRIS, and RON HAWKINS, with Board Members LAURA BETTENCOURT and AUSTIN BISHOP absent, the Board, 1) Awarded an amount not to exceed \$568,265 in Carl Moyer Program funds to Allied Potato for the replacement of an older diesel tractor with new, cleaner technology; 2) Authorized the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable funding sources become available; 3) Authorized the Executive Director/APCO and staff to negotiate target time frames and technical project details and execute agreements, approved as to legal form by the Office of District Counsel; and 4) Find that this item is not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

**Agenda Item #5 – 1) Approve an award not to exceed \$274,707 in Carl Moyer Program funds to Dakota Transport for the replacement of older diesel equipment with new, cleaner technology; 2) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable funding sources become available; 3) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO and staff to negotiate target time frames and technical project details and execute agreements, approved as to legal form**

**by the Office of District Counsel; and 4) Find that this item is not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.**

Presenter: Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst.

Chair CRIST opened the public hearing. Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst, presented background information and answered questions from the Board. Chair Crist called for public comment, no public comment was made in person, or electronically, being none, Chair CRIST closed the public hearing. After group discussion and upon motion by member **HAWKINS**, seconded by Board Member **HARRIS**, as approved by the following roll call vote, with five **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MARVIN CRIST, KEN MANN, NEWTON CHELETTE, HOWARD HARRIS, and RON HAWKINS**, with Board Members **LAURA BETTENCOURT** and **AUSTIN BISHOP** absent, the Board, 1) **Approved** an award not to exceed \$274,707 in Carl Moyer Program funds to Dakota Transport for the replacement of older diesel equipment with new, cleaner technology; 2) **Authorized** the Executive Director/APCO the option to change the funding source if warranted or if other applicable funding sources become available; 3) **Authorized** the Executive Director/APCO and staff to negotiate target time frames and technical project details and execute agreements, approved as to legal form by the Office of District Counsel; and 4) **Find** that this item is not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

**Agenda Item #6 – 1) Approve the Application for Climate Heat Impact Response Program (CHIRP) Year 2022 Funds and authorize its submission to the California Air Resources Board (CARB); 2) Authorize the Executive Director/APCO and staff to execute the CHIRP Grant Agreement and any related documents with CARB, approved as to legal form by Special Counsel to the Governing Board; and 3) Find that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) does not apply to this item.**

Presenter: Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst.

Chair CRIST opened the public hearing. Julie McKeehan, Grants Analyst, presented background information and answered questions from the Board. Chair Crist called for public comment, no public comment was made in person, or electronically, being none, Chair CRIST closed the public hearing. After group discussion and upon motion by member **HARRIS**, seconded by Board Member **CHELETTE**, as approved by the following roll call vote, with five **AYES** votes by Board Members, **MARVIN CRIST, KEN MANN, NEWTON CHELETTE, HOWARD HARRIS, and RON HAWKINS**, with Board Members **LAURA BETTENCOURT** and **AUSTIN BISHOP** absent, the Board, 1) **Approved** the Application for Climate Heat Impact Response Program (CHIRP) Year 2022 Funds and authorize its submission to the California Air Resources Board (CARB); 2) **Authorized** the Executive Director/APCO and staff to execute the CHIRP Grant Agreement and any related documents with CARB, approved as to legal form by Special Counsel to the Governing Board; and 3) **Find** that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) does not apply to this item.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Agenda Item #5 - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL PENDING LITIGATION Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District v. United States Environmental Protection Agency, et al. 9th Cir. Case No. 23-1614.**

Closed session was not held; no reports or updates.

**Agenda Item #6 Reports:**

**Governing Board Counsel –**

Governing Board Counsel, Allison Burns, handed out hard copies of the updated Brown Act to the Board Members in attendance. A hard copy of the updated Ralph M. Brown Act was delivered to Board Member Laura Bettencourt and Board Member Austin Bishop at Palmdale City Hall and were signed for by Jessica Pena.

**Executive Director/APCO –**

- Working with the City of Lancaster to add a new staff member due to proposed projects.

**Staff – No Report**

- No report.

**Agenda Item #7 - Board Member Reports and Suggestions for Future Agenda Items.**

- No report.

**Agenda Item #8 - Adjourn to Regular Governing Board Meeting of Tuesday, February 17, 2026.** Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m. to the next regularly scheduled Governing Board Meeting of Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

**ACTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD  
APPROVED**

Upon motion by **NEWTON CHELETTE** seconded by **AUSTIN BISHOP**, as  
Approved by the following vote:

**Ayes: 6 - CRIST, MANN, BISHOP, CHELETTE, HAWKINS, OHLSEN**

**Noes:**

**Absent:**

**Abstain: 1 - HARRIS**

**ADRIANNA CASTANEDA, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**

**BY *Adrianna Castañeda***

**Dated: FEBRUARY 17, 2026**