



W. James Wagoner  
Air Pollution Control Officer

(530) 891-2882  
(530) 891-2878 Fax

**MAUREEN KIRK, CHAIR**  
*Supervisor, District 3*

**JAMES JOHANSSON, VICE CHAIR**  
*Vice Mayor, Oroville*

**BILL CONNELLY**  
*Supervisor, District #1*

**JANE DOLAN**  
*Supervisor, District #2*

**STEVE LAMBERT**  
*Supervisor, District #4*

**KIM YAMAGUCHI**  
*Supervisor, District #5*

**ANGELA THOMPSON**  
*Councilmember, Biggs*

**SCOTT GRUENDL**  
*Councilmember, Chico*

**JERRY ANN FICHTER**  
*Mayor, Gridley*

**ALAN WHITE**  
*Councilmember, Paradise*

## **Minutes of the Butte County Air Quality Management District Governing Board of Directors Meeting Of April 23, 2009**

### **Members Present**

Maureen Kirk, Chair  
James Johansson, Vice Chair  
Bill Connelly  
Jane Dolan  
Steve Lambert  
Kim Yamaguchi  
Scott Gruendl  
Jerry Ann Fichter

Butte County Supervisor  
Vice Mayor, City of Oroville  
Butte County Supervisor  
Butte County Supervisor  
Butte County Supervisor  
Butte County Supervisor  
Councilmember, City of Chico  
Mayor, City of Gridley

### **Staff Present**

W. James Wagoner  
Robert McLaughlin  
Robyn Sousa  
David Lusk  
Greg Einhorn  
Patricia Cummings

Air Pollution Control Officer  
Assistant APCO  
Admin. Services Officer  
Senior Air Quality Engineer  
District Counsel  
Clerk of the Board

### **Members Absent**

Angela Thompson  
Alan White

Councilmember, City of Biggs  
Councilmember, Town of Paradise

### **Others Present**

James D. Bier  
Tom Christofk  
Bill Mannel  
Steve Schoonover  
Brett Storey  
Pat Sullivan

Ameresco  
Placer County APCD  
Butte County Public Works  
Enterprise Record  
Placer County  
SCS Engineers

### **1. Call to Order.**

Chair Kirk called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. at the Chico City Council Chambers, 421 Main Street, Chico, California.

### **2. Additions and Deletions to the Consent Agenda.**

None

## **Agenda Item 3.1**

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**3. Consent Agenda.**

- 3.1 By consent, approve minutes of the March 26, 2009 meeting of the Board of Directors.
- 3.2 By consent, accept and file, activity report on BCAQMD activities.
- 3.3 By consent, accept and file, financial status report for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.
- 3.4 By consent, accept and file, status report on calendar of events.
- 3.5 By consent, accept and file, status report on air quality related legislation.
- 3.6 By consent, accept and file, status report on State Airborne Toxic Control Measures (ATCMs).
- 3.7 By consent, accept and file, status report on the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association activities.
- 3.8 By consent, accept and file, status report for January and February 2009 Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Data.
- 3.9 By consent, accept and file, status report on federal stimulus funding.
- 3.10 By consent, accept and file, status report on Phase II Enhanced Vapor Recovery upgrades.
- 3.12 By consent, accept and file, status report on proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.
- 3.13 By consent, accept and file, status report on draft amendments to Rules 1001, 441 and 513 to implement a low use exemption for stationary engines used in agricultural operations.

**Action Requested: Approve Consent Agenda Items 3.1 through 3.12.**

**Motion: Approve Consent Agenda Items 3.1 through 3.12.**

AYES: Supervisor Kirk, Supervisor Connelly (Motion), Supervisor Dolan, Supervisor Lambert, Supervisor Yamaguchi, Mayor Fichter (Second), Councilmember Gruendl  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Vice Mayor Johansson, Councilmember Thompson, Councilmember White

**Regular Agenda**

**4. Items removed from the Consent Agenda for Board consideration and action.**

None

Vice Mayor Johansson arrived at 10:33 a.m.

**5. Presentation on Placer County biomass diversion program.**

Brett Storey, Program Manager for biomass projects in Placer County, presented information on their biomass diversion program. Some of the points covered included:

- Project locations:
  - SSO/BFP Projects, Foresthill, CA
  - Sugar Pine Dam and Shirttail Creek Watershed, Foresthill, CA
  - SPI Facility, Lincoln, CA

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- Case study demonstration project:
  - Moved 7,089 green tons (4,200 BDT)
  - Excellent Fuel quality – 9,000 Btu/lb, 40% moisture
  - 4,652 MWe
- Economics – approx. \$55/BDT (\$3.25/MMBtu); Working to increase operating efficiency and reduce cost.
- Criteria air pollution emission reductions; Open pile burn vs biomass waste to energy.
- Greenhouse gas emission reductions; Open pile burn vs. biomass waste to energy.
- CO<sub>2</sub> cost effectiveness.
- Potential benefits to the watershed:
  - Once that Biomass piles have been removed: USFS rehabilitation & planting of genetically superior seedlings, net increase in water yield, forest more fire resilient and less erosion.

Tom Christofk, Air Pollution Control Officer for Placer County Air Pollution Control District (PCAPCD), discussed the land development (CEQA)/carbon offsets including:

- Land development project review; CEQA review to determine GHG impacts, Credit on-site GHG reduction activities and Mitigation to below significance.
- Off-site GHG mitigation program; Cost of GHG at market rate, PCAPCD to issue credits by applying funds to viable carbon beneficial projects and Forest management protocols.
- Schedule: GHG Mitigation program targeted for implementation in 2009.

Placer County staff also provided a DVD presentation of the pilot project.

Brett Storey and Tom Christofk answered various questions from the Board regarding the biomass program. They stated that they will be receiving federal government money to develop a guide book which includes protocols and should have a draft available next year that can be replicated. They also stated that presently they have a couple of reports that they can make available to the Board regarding the technology side.

Jim Wagoner, Air Pollution Control Officer, stated that staff will be bringing forward some recommended ideas for a mitigation program in the context of the woodstove program that would still avail itself to any type of situation like this. He also stated that the District is looking at CEQA (criteria pollutant) thresholds. He explained that the District is having the same issues that PCAPCD has with greenhouse gases, that we are waiting for the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to come up with some direction. He further stated that California Air Pollution Control Officers Association will be working on recommendations for CARB. He explained that the District will keep the Board updated on this issue. He concluded that the District will take a look at the reports provided by Brett Storey and Tom Christofk to see how staff could work with the concepts that they are developing and perhaps ways that the District might be able to partner with them.

**Action Requested: Receive presentation.**

No further Board action was taken.

**6. Report on permitting activities for the waste-gas to energy project at the Neal Road Landfill.**

David Lusk, Senior Air Quality Engineer, presented information on the permitting activities for the waste-gas to energy project at the Neal Road Landfill including:

- Net Pollutant increases and decreases from the project.
- Requirements faced by similar projects in California.
- Other rule changes that may be necessary to facilitate greenhouse gas reductions.

Supervisor Connelly departed at 11:23 a.m.

Councilmember Gruendl departed at 11:35 a.m.

James D. Bier, Ameresco, Inc. and Patrick W. Sullivan, SCS Engineers, presented information on the Landfill gas to energy project at Neal Road Landfill (LFGTE) including:

- Scope of the project.
- Benefits of LFGTE project.
- County benefits.
- Economic benefits.
- Emission Reduction Credits-Resource recovery.
- Emission Reduction Credits-Exemptions.
- Emission Reduction Credits-Lease.

James D. Bier and Patrick W. Sullivan answered various questions from the Board regarding the Neal Road Landfill project.

Bill Mannel, Butte County Public Works, provided information as to why Public Works is in support of a District rule change that will allow the needed Emission Reduction Credits at no charge to the Neal Road Landfill project in order that it may operate in a cost effective manner.

**Action Requested: Receive report.**

No further Board action was taken.

**7. Report on draft amendments to Rule 431, Emission Reduction Credits and Banking, to disburse from the Community Bank provision.**

Jim Wagoner, Air Pollution Control Officer, reviewed draft amendments to Rule 431, Emission Reduction Credits and Banking

**Action Requested: Review concepts and provide direction to staff as appropriate for proposed amendments.**

**Motion: Direct staff to bring to the next Board meeting a policy or rule change that defines landfill gas to energy projects and biomass to energy projects as essential public services making no distinction as to who owns and operates it and to provide emission reduction credits at no charge.**

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AYES: Supervisor Kirk, Vice Mayor Johansson, Supervisor Dolan (Motion), Supervisor Lambert,  
Supervisor Yamaguchi (Second), Mayor Fichter  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Supervisor Connelly, Councilmember Gruendl, Councilmember Thompson, Councilmember White

**8. Adjourn to Closed Session.**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 12:10 p.m.

**8.1 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

Agency designated representatives: Jim Wagoner and Greg Einhorn

Employee organization: Butte County Air Quality Management District Employees' Association

The Board returned from Closed Session at 12:20 p.m.

**9. Announcements from Closed Session.**

There were no announcements.

**10. Other Business**

None

**11. Public Comment Period.**

None

**12. ADJOURNMENT: 12:25 p.m.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
W. James Wagoner, Air Pollution Control Officer

I hereby attest that this is a true and correct copy of the action taken  
by the Butte County Air Quality Management District Board of  
Directors on April 23, 2009.

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia J. Cummings, Clerk of the Governing Board