



TAMI RITTER, CHAIR
Supervisor, District #3

TOD KIMMELSHUE, VICE CHAIR
Supervisor, District #4

BILL CONNELLY
Supervisor, District #1

PETER DURFEE
Supervisor, District #2

DOUG TEETER
Supervisor, District #5

ZACH BROWN
Councilmember, Biggs

BRYCE GOLDSTEIN
Councilmember, Chico

BRUCE JOHNSON
Vice Mayor, Gridley

ERIC SMITH
Vice Mayor, Oroville

RON LASSONDE
Councilmember, Paradise

STEPHEN ERTLE
Air Pollution Control Officer

PATRICK LUCEY
Assistant Air Pollution Control Officer

Final Minutes of the Butte County Air Quality Management District Governing Board of Directors Meeting of March 23, 2026

Members Present:

Bill Connelly	Supervisor, District 1
Peter Durfee	Supervisor, District 2
Tami Ritter	Supervisor, District 3
Doug Teeter	Supervisor, District 5
Bryce Goldstein	Councilmember, Chico
Zach Brown	Councilmember, Biggs
Bruce Johnson	Councilmember, Gridley
David Pittman	Mayor, Oroville (Alternate)

Members Absent:

Eric Smith	Vice Mayor, Oroville
Ron Lassonde	Councilmember, Paradise
Tod Kimmelshue	Supervisor, District 4

Staff Present:

Stephen Ertle	Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO)
Patrick Lucey	Assistant Air Pollution Control Officer (AAPCO)
Kelly Towne	Clerk of the Board
Jason Mandly	Senior Air Quality Planner
Samuel Nassie	Air Quality Compliance Specialist, II

Staff Remote:

Riley Peacock	Air Quality Engineer, II
---------------	--------------------------

Others Present:

Jeff Krisa	Brighton Energy
------------	-----------------

Others Remote:

Michelle Mittman	Chico State
------------------	-------------

Public comments are accepted before and during the meeting by emailing ktowne@bcaqmd.org.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Chair Tami Ritter called the meeting to order at 10:29 a.m. at the BCAG Board Room, 326 Huss Drive, Suite 100, Chico, California.

2. Additions and Deletions to the Consent or Regular Agenda.

Agenda Item 3.1

No additions or deletions.

3. Consent Agenda.

- 3.1 Minutes of February 26, 2026 Meeting of the Board of Directors.
- 3.2 Minutes of February 26, 2026 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors.
- 3.3 Activity Report on Butte County Air Quality Management District Activities.
- 3.4 Financial Status Report for Fiscal Year 2025-26.
- 3.5 Status Report on Calendar of Events.
- 3.6 Status Report on Communications.
- 3.7 AB197 Grant Participation (Approve Resolution 2026-07).

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve Consent Agenda Items.

Board comments: None.

Public comments: None.

A motion was made by Supervisor Durfee and seconded by Supervisor Teeter to approve the Consent Agenda Items.

AYES: Supervisor Ritter, Supervisor Durfee(motion), Supervisor Teeter(second), Supervisor Connelly, Councilmember Goldstein, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Johnson and Mayor Pittman (Alternate, Oroville).

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Supervisor Kimmelshue, Councilmember Lassonde, and Vice Mayor Smith.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

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

No items were removed from the Consent Agenda.

5. Authorize Fixed Asset Vehicle Purchase without Bid Process and Release of a Fixed Asset.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize the APCO to purchase a fixed asset (replacement vehicle) without following the bid process for the maximum budgeted amount of \$30,000 to purchase a new district fleet vehicle for use by inspector staff. Authorize the release of a fixed asset (2012 Honda Civic).

The Fixed Asset Vehicle Purchase without Bid Process and Release of a Fixed Asset report was presented by Stephen Ertle, Air Pollution Control Officer.

Board comments: None.

Public comments: None.

A motion was made by Supervisor Durfee and seconded by Councilmember Goldstein to approve the fixed asset vehicle purchase without bid process and the release of a fixed asset (2012 Honda Civic).

AYES: Supervisor Ritter, Supervisor Durfee(motion), Supervisor Teeter, Supervisor Connelly, Councilmember Goldstein(second), Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Johnson and Mayor Pittman (Alternate, Oroville).
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Supervisor Kimmelshue, Councilmember Lassonde, and Vice Mayor Smith.

6. CAP Incentives Policy & Procedures Update (Woodsmoke Program)

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve new woodsmoke reduction project addendum to CAP Incentives Policies and Procedures through Resolution 2026-08.

The Community Air Protection (CAP) Incentives Policies & Procedures Update (Woodsmoke Program) report was presented by Jason Mandly, Senior Air Quality Planner.

Board comments: Discussion ensued.

Public comments: None.

A motion was made by Supervisor Teeter and seconded by Supervisor Connelly to approve the CAP Incentives Policy & Procedures Update (Woodsmoke Program).

AYES: Supervisor Ritter, Supervisor Durfee, Supervisor Teeter(Teeter), Supervisor Connelly(second), Councilmember Goldstein, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Johnson and Mayor Pittman (Alternate, Oroville).
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Supervisor Kimmelshue, Councilmember Lassonde, and Vice Mayor Smith.

7. Review and Approval of FY24-25 CAP Incentives Projects

ACTION REQUESTED:

Consider approval of Brighton Energy projects using FY 2025-2025 (G24) CAP Incentives.

The Review and Approval of FY24-25 CAP Incentives Projects report was presented by Jason Mandly, Senior Air Quality Planner and Jeff Krisa from Brighton Energy Spoke to the Board.

Board comments: Discussion ensued.

Public comments: None.

A motion was made by Supervisor Connelly and seconded by Vice Mayor Johnson to not approve the FY24-25 CAP Incentives Projects submitted by Brighton Energy. Staff were directed to bring back all other eligible projects for further review.

- AYES: Supervisor Durfee, Supervisor Teeter, Supervisor Connelly(motion), Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Johnson(second) and Mayor Pittman (Alternate, Oroville).
- NOES: Supervisor Ritter and Councilmember Goldstein.
- ABSTAIN: None.
- ABSENT: Supervisor Kimmelshue, Councilmember Lassonde, and Vice Mayor Smith.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8. Receive Summary Report on 2025-26 Check Before You Light Program.

ACTION REQUESTED:

None. This Item is provided for information and discussion.

The Summary Report on 2025-26 Check Before You Light Program was presented by Samual, Nassie, Air Quality Control Specialist II.

9. APCO Report.

The APCO Report provides information and prompts discussion.

10. Other Business.

11. Public Comment Period. Any person may address the Board of Directors on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Board that is not on the agenda for this meeting. Any person may address the Board on an agendized item when that time is called. The Chair requests that each person addressing the Board limits their presentation to five (5) minutes.

Mayor Pittman of Oroville shared that a report was complete and available on the previous Oroville Cogeneration facility and the concern for contamination of the site. The site was determined to be free of Dioxins.


12. Adjourn to Closed Session. No closed session.

13. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m. The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the Butte County Association of Governments Board Room, 326 Huss Drive, Suite 100, Chico, California.



Stephen Ertle, Air Pollution Control Officer
Butte County Air Quality Management District

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 March 23, 2026.


ATTEST: _____
Kelly Towne, Clerk of the Governing Board

Attachment 1

AAPCO Notes

- **CAPCOA Enforcement Managers**

- The April 2026 Enforcement Managers meeting will be held at the Oxford Suites in Chico. The District has hosted the April meeting for this committee for the last several years. More than 20 Enforcement Management Staff from all over the state will come to Chico for this meeting. I concluded my role as Secretary, Vice Chair, and Chair in 2024 but continue to assist the leadership team including with the planning of the Enforcement Symposium in Sacramento in October where more than 100 air district staff attended a 2 day event.

- **CAPCOA Engineering Managers**

- District Engineer Riley Peacock is currently serving as Vice Chair of the Engineering Managers Committee. He will transition to Chair at the end of this year. Active involvement in these groups provides valuable training, connections for staff and helps to assure the District's voice is represented statewide.

- **2026 CARB Incentives Policy & Strategic Planning Session**

- CARB hosted this training session at the new Katerina Hotel in Chico in early March. District Planner Jason Mandly was instrumental in the planning of this training and organized an afterhours facility tour of the Sierra Nevada Brewery. Two (2) District staff attended the training about upcoming grants and incentives for:

- Community Air Protection (CAP)
- Carl Moyer
- On Road and Off Road Regulations

- **Burning**

- **Prescribed - BCCG Tour 3/12**

- The Butte County Collaborative Group (BCCG) held a tour of the CALFire Phoenix Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) on March 12th, 2026. Your Board approved District membership in the BCCG by MOU last year. The District values staff involvement in these activities to strengthen fire resiliency and leverage community involvement to create unexpected benefits. The Phoenix VMP is a prescribed burn project in the Phoenix Hill area east of Oroville. 2 District staff attended.

- **Butte County Environmental Crimes Task Force**
 - The next meeting is scheduled for April 16th at the District Attorney's Office in Oroville. The Task Force is led by Matt Carr, a Placer County Environmental Circuit Prosecutor, arranged by District Attorney Mike Ramsey. Several agencies that enforce environmental law attend the meetings. Some of those agencies are the sheriff's office, local police departments, Fish and wildlife, the waterboard, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), CalFire, State Parks, Environmental Health, the Ag Commissioner and CalEPA.

- **Stratti Cyber Security Grant**
 - The District is working on next year's budget and held our annual budget meeting with Stratti, our managed IT provider. Stratti applied for a Cyber Security Grant from CalOES on the District's behalf. The Grant would pay for up to 3 years of cyber security services provided by Stratti. The District hopes to have an answer on any award prior to the adoption of the 2026-2027 Fiscal Budget.

- **Virtual VEE – Alt152a**
 - Over the past couple of years, CARB has worked to enter an agreement with Compliance Assurance, a company that has brought the states Visual Emission Evaluation (VEE) testing certification to an app that works with Meta/Facebook's Virtual Reality Headset. Prior to the release and approval of this technology, District staff would have to drive to Sacramento or Redding to certify every 6 months. Staff can now test and certify at the District office without the need to travel. This has made the process of VEE certification much more efficient and has been well received by District staff. Input from staff is that they prefer the ability to complete the certification from the comfort of the office.