

**Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)
Minutes – January 24, 2005**

Commission members present: Krista Clark, Mike Fallon, William Gibson, Whitnie Henderson, Marjorie Namba, Val Siebal, and Frederick Tornatore.

Commission members absent: None.

Commission Staff: Mel Knight, Director, Environmental Management Department (EMD) and Linda Jimenez, SEC Executive Secretary.

Other Guests: Dennis Green, Chief, Hazardous Materials Division, EMD; Stein Buer, Executive Director, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency; Mark Charlton, Deputy District Engineer, Sacramento District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Rod Mayer, Department of Water Resources; and Robert D. Bailey, Resident, City of Folsom.

The meeting was called to order by **SEC Chair Frederick Tornatore** at 6:31 p.m. Attendance list and sign in sheet were distributed.

1. **Public Comment** – **Chair Tornatore** read a statement relative to videotaping of the meeting and posting of agendas. He then opened the meeting to members of the audience.
2. **Consent Item** – **Minutes** – It was **moved (Henderson), seconded (Gibson) and carried** to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2004 meeting as presented.
3. **EMD Policy for Management of Enforcement Revenue** – **Chair Tornatore** called upon **Dennis Green**, Chief, Hazardous Materials Division, Environmental Management Department. Mr. Green reviewed information contained in a previously distributed document detailing the background and impact of the proposed policy governing the management of enforcement revenue.

In answer to a question as to other disbursement options for enforcement monies, Mr. Green noted that State statutes dictate that enforcement monies must remain within the program initiating the enforcement order. He also noted that it is the practice of the Department to include all costs for programs; i.e. training, equipment, educational outreach, etc. into its fee structure.

A member of the Commission questioned whether all registered businesses would receive rebates. Mr. Green advised that only compliant businesses would be eligible for rebates; businesses involved in Administrative Enforcement Orders would not be eligible.

During further discussion of the proposed rebate process, members were advised that enforcement monies would be applied toward the next year's fee by way of an offsetting entry on their annual invoice. Affected businesses would receive the same prorated rebate percentage.

In closing, Mr. Green noted that the Hazardous Materials Division of EMD had implemented 75 Administrative Enforcement Orders during the previous year.

It was **moved (Henderson)**, **seconded (Clark)** and **carried** that a letter of support for the proposed Policy for Management of Enforcement Revenue be prepared and submitted to the County Board of Supervisors.

4. **Flood Control**

A. Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) – Chair Tornatore introduced **Stein Buer**, SAFCA Executive Director, who noted that SAFCA was created in 1989 and has representation from the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, the Sacramento City Council, the American River Flood District, the Reclamation District and the Sutter County Board of Supervisors.

During his presentation, Mr. Buer provided information on the Sacramento River Flood Control System, the causes of Sacramento's high flood risk, and the risks of a major flood. He also discussed progress on eight projects being undertaken to address flood risks greater than 1%. He noted that completion of the eight projects would make the area eligible for a 100-year certification by FEMA. Members received additional information on projects which would bring the area to 140-year and 200-year goals.

In concluding his presentation, Mr. Buer noted that SAFCA's biggest challenge is to secure State and Federal funding.

B. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Chair Tornatore welcomed **Mark Charlton**, Deputy District Engineer, Sacramento District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers who provided information on the seven environmental operating principles that guide the activities of the Corps. Members were advised that the principles: (1) Create unity of purpose within the Corps when dealing with environmental issues; (2) Reflect a new tone and direction for dialogue on environmental matters; and (3) Ensure that conservation, environmental preservation and restoration are considered in all Corps activities at the same level as economic issues.

Members were advised that the principles are consistent with the: (1) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); (2) Other environmental statutes and environmental provisions of Water Resources Development Acts that govern Corps activities; and (3) Army's Environmental Strategy for prevention, compliance, restoration and conservation.

Mr. Charlton noted that although funding is an increasing concern, the Corps has a good history of receiving project funds.

Members were informed that Sacramento has a very short hydrology history as compared to other cities. It was also noted that east and west coast flood engineering characteristics are different.

- C. California Department of Water Resources – Chair Tornatore** introduced **Rod Mayer** from the California Department of Water Resources who distributed a document titled, “Flood Warning: Responding to California’s Flood Crisis”. Mr. Mayer then presented information on the challenges, recommended strategies, and legislative/constitutional actions necessary to implement the recommended strategies.

Members were advised that public hearings regarding the Flood document will begin in February 2005.

During discussion following Mr. Mayer’s presentation, it was noted that eight sites are critical to the FEMA 100-year Certification. Members were informed that a tropical “pineapple express” storm, or possibly several smaller storms on small streams, could overwhelm the system and cause a flood in the Sacramento area.

<p>Action item: Commission members to review the Flood document for future discussion at the February 28, 2005 meeting.</p>
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5. **Environmental Excellence Awards (Update)** – **Chair Tornatore** called upon **Commissioner Namba** (Awards Chair) who noted that four Award Nominations had been received to date. Nominations must be received by February 11, 2005 and interested persons were encouraged to submit nominations.
6. **Sacramento County Environmental Management Department Director’s Report** – Members received a copy of the January 2004 *EMD Update*. **Director Knight** shared information on: (1) UPN Channel 31 segments on Restaurant Inspections; (2) A *Sacramento Bee* article on “Making the Grade”; and (3) The number and process of EMD documents imaged.

During a discussion of imaged documents, **Director Knight** noted that a timeline has not been established for electronic accessibility of property and other inspection records.

7. **Report on Project Advisory Committee of Sacramento GreenCycle** – **Chair Tornatore** called upon **Commissioner Gibson** who provided information on the need for a Green Waste facility. Mr. Gibson then detailed the progress on the site selection process and noted that the number of potential sites has been reduced from 151 to 12 sites. The next meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 2, 2005 in Conference Room #170 at the County of Sacramento Department of Water Quality, 10545 Armstrong

Avenue in Mather Park. Members were referred to the Advisory website at www.sacgreencycle.com for additional information.

Action item: Staff to secure a follow-up presentation on the GreenCyle project at a future meeting of the Commission.

8. **Environmental News Review** – Vice Chair Fallon distributed copies and reviewed the following news articles: (1) “Making the grade...”; (2) “Agency enters fertilizer business”; (3) School site review started...”; and (4) “Rivers called repository of sunken boats”.
9. **Revised 2005 SEC Meeting Schedule** – Members received and reviewed the revised 2005 SEC meeting schedule.

It was the consensus of the Commission to approve the dates of Monday, July 18 and Monday, October 17, 2005 as presented.

10. **2005 Meeting Topics/Teams** – Chair Tornatore and the members of the Commission undertook a discussion of potential meeting topics for the remainder of 2005 and agreed to revisit the item at the February 2005 meeting.
11. **Correspondence** – Secretary Jimenez noted that no correspondence had been received.

Commissioner Henderson asked to be heard and recommended that the Commission update the 2000 Environmental Health Report.

It was the consensus of the Commission to proceed with updating the Environmental Health Report.

Action item: Commissioner Henderson volunteered to serve as Chair of the Environmental Health Report Update Committee. Committee members will include Commissioners Clark and Siebal. Additional discussion on the Environmental Health Report will be held at the February 28, 2005 meeting of the Commission.

13. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next SEC meeting will be held February 28, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. at the Environmental Management Department, 8475 Jackson Road, Sacramento, California.