

**Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)  
Minutes – April 25, 2005**

**Commission members present:** Robert Bailey, Krista Clark, Mike Fallon, William Gibson, Whitnie Henderson, Marjorie Namba, Sharon Merker, 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:** Glennah Trochet, M.D., Sacramento County Health Officer; Pat Quinn, Program Manager, Sacramento County Department of Waste Management and Recycling; Jim Miller, Sacramento 49er Travel Plaza; Alan Ehgott, American River Conservancy; Dave Mark, SMUD; Walt Seifert, Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates; Crystal Barber, American River Conservancy; Susan Gilmore, Principal, A. Warren McClasky Adult Center; Daniel Briggs, Mayor, City of Elk Grove; Betty Masuoka, Assistant General Manager of Administrative Services, Sacramento Municipal Utility District; and Michael Monasky.

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. **Welcome New Commission Member** – **Chair Tornatore** called upon **Director Knight** who provided brief background information and welcomed Sharon Merker to membership on the Commission.
3. **Consent Item – Minutes** – It was **moved (Clark), seconded (Siebal)** and **carried** to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2005 meeting as presented.
4. **Presentation of Environmental Recognition Awards** – **Chair Tornatore** called upon **Director Knight** who provided information on the Environmental Recognition Awards program. **Awards Chair Namba** and **Vice Chair Fallon** then presented recipients with a Certificate of Appreciation and an engraved plaque.

Awards for “Providing Leadership Toward the Protection and Enhancement of the Environment in the Greater Sacramento Community” were presented to the American River Conservancy, A. Warren McClaskey Adult Center Recycling Program, and Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates.

Awards for “Voluntarily Exceeding Environmental Regulatory Requirements” were presented to the City of Elk Grove, Ozark Trucking, Sacramento 49er Travel Plaza, and Sacramento Municipal Utility District.

At the conclusion of the Awards presentation, **Chair Tornatore** noted that a member of the audience had requested to speak to the item. He then called upon **Michael Monasky** of Elk Grove who expressed objection to recognition of the City of Elk Grove. Members were provided with a letter detailing Mr. Monasky's objections.

5. **Disease Prevention Demonstration Program** – **Chair Tornatore** introduced **Dr. Glennah Trochet**, Sacramento County Health Officer, who provided information on SB 1159, which allows for the establishment of the Disease Prevention Demonstration Project (DPDP). **Dr. Trochet** noted that implementation of a DPDP within Sacramento County must be authorized by the Board of Supervisors.

Members were advised that implementation of a DPDP within Sacramento County would allow for the purchase of up to ten syringes, without a prescription, by a person at least 18 years of age. A DPDP would also allow for the possession of up to ten syringes if acquired from an authorized source; it would not be illegal to carry used syringes in a container.

**Dr. Trochet** then shared information on Local Health Department, Pharmacy, and California Department of Health Services responsibilities with regard to the DPDP. She then provided information on the scope of the problem, including: (1) The number of cumulative cases of AIDS; (2) The average number of cases of Hepatitis C; (3) The number of end-stage liver disease cases; and (4) The yearly cost of treating a single case of HIV and Hepatitis C in Sacramento County.

Members were then provided with a list of pharmacies who have expressed support for the DPDP. Members also received a list of supporters for, as well as those in opposition to, implementation of a DPDP within Sacramento County.

Members received a list of California Counties who have authorized implementation of a DPDP and were advised that there are 43 states who currently allow purchase of syringes without a prescription.

During the question and answer session which ensued a member of the Commission questioned about available indicators which would support implementation of a DPDP within Sacramento. **Dr. Trochet** noted that counties with a DPDP must report to the State Legislature in January 2010.

Members then questioned disposal of the used syringes and were advised that users could either purchase a disposal package or package the used syringes in a rigid, clearly marked container.

A member of the Commission noted that the landfill showed a marked decline in syringes after the implementation of a syringe collection program by the City of Folsom.

A Commission member then suggested adding the available locations for the purchase of disposal packages to the Facts brochure provided

It was **moved (Siebal)**, **seconded (Namba)**, and **carried** to consider providing a letter of support for implementation of a DPDP in Sacramento County after review of the draft Resolution at the May 23, 2005 meeting of the Commission.

6. **SWA Green Waste Facility** – **Chair Tornatore** introduced **Pat Quinn**, Program Manager, Sacramento County Department of Waste Management and Recycling. **Mr. Quinn** shared information on the Solid Waste Authority (SWA) GreenCycle Project. He noted that garden refuse is the most important residential program in terms of tonnage recycled; three SWA member agencies produce about 200,000 tons of garden refuse per year.

Members received an overview of community outreach efforts relative to the siting process and were provided with a map noting the site locations currently under consideration. The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) will be presenting its siting recommendations to the SWAC on May 31, 2005 and to the SWA on June 9, 2005.

During a brief question and answer session, members were advised that additional public outreach will be solicited during the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process.

7. **Update on Superfund Sites** – **Director Knight** informed the members of the Commission that the Update on Superfund Sites item had been cancelled due to presenter conflicts. The item will be rescheduled.
8. **Sacramento County Environmental Management Department Director's Report** – Members received a copy of the April 2005 *EMD Update*. **Director Knight** shared information on the progress toward imaging Department records relative to clean-up sites. He then provided an update on potential options for enhanced food safety disclosure. In closing, **Director Knight** noted that EMD is one of three jurisdictions involved in testing Envision Connect software for field inspections.
9. **2005 Environmental Health Report – Environmental Health Indicators** – Members were advised that this item was postponed to a future date.
10. **Environmental News Review** – **Vice Chair Fallon** reviewed the following news articles: (1) "Solar power angling for a cool image"; (2) "Roseville homes harness the sun"; and (3) "An Idle Threat...Roseville railyard raises pollution risk". Members also received information on an article titled, "Ecological light pollution" which was published by The Ecological Society of America.

11. **2005 Meeting Topics/Teams** – **Chair Tornatore** and the members of the Commission confirmed meeting topics for May, June and July. Agenda topics for future meetings will be discussed at the May 2005 Commission meeting.
12. **Correspondence** – **Secretary Jimenez** noted that no correspondence had been received. Members then discussed drafting a letter in response to information provided by Mr. Michael Monasky and suggested possible changes to the Awards Nomination process.

**Commissioners Fallon and Namba** agreed to draft a letter of response to Mr. Monasky.

13. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The next SEC meeting will be held May 23, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. at the Environmental Management Department, 8475 Jackson Road, Sacramento, California.