

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

Commission members present: Robert Bailey, Krista Clark, Mike Fallon, William Gibson, Marjorie Namba, Sharon Merker, Val Siebal, and Frederick Tornatore.

Commission members absent: Whitnie Henderson.

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; and Richard Sanchez, Chief, Environmental Health Division, EMD.

The meeting was called to order by **SEC Chair Frederick Tornatore** at 6:30 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 (Seibal), seconded (Namba) and carried** to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2005 meeting as presented.
3. **Disease Prevention Demonstration Program (DPDP)** – **Chair Tornatore** introduced **Dr. Glennah Trochet**, Sacramento County Health Officer, who shared information on a June 1 meeting held with representatives from the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society, Sacramento County District Attorney's Office and the Sheriff's Office.

Members were then informed that a meeting was held on July 20 to organize proponent presentations at the Board hearing. **Dr. Trochet** noted that Commission member involvement at the Board hearing would be welcome.

Members were advised that if the DPDP is implemented, DHHS is mandated to provide reports to the State, including information on an increase/decrease in the number of improperly disposed syringes, the spread of disease, etc. within the County. **Dr. Trochet** noted that if an increase is found in any of the above, DHHS will review the statistics relative to suspending or continuing the program.

After much discussion, it was **moved (Siebal), seconded (Gibson) and carried** to forward a letter of support for implementation of a Disease Prevention Demonstration Program within Sacramento County to the Board of Supervisors.

Dr. Trochet then provided members with an update on the West Nile Virus. She noted citizens should continue to call the West Nile hotline, but that birds will not be tested nor picked up. Thus far, two human cases of the Virus have been reported in Sacramento County; 40 other counties have reported positive for the Virus. The public is urged to take precautions against mosquito bites. **Dr. Trochet**

noted that mosquitoes are most active at dawn and dusk and that people should use an effective repellent, such as DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus and follow label directions carefully. All standing water should be drained and people should wear long sleeves and pants when outdoors during dawn and dusk.

4. **Status Update on Food Safety Initiatives** – **Chair Tornatore** called upon **Director Knight** who advised members that Richard Sanchez, Chief, Environmental Health Division, would be leaving the County on August 24 to accept the position of Assistant Director of Environmental Health with Orange County.

Director Knight noted that EMD is in the midst of major enhancements to the Food Program and then introduced **Richard Sanchez**. **Mr. Sanchez** noted that the Environmental Health Division has initiated a Food Subcommittee composed of industry and SEC representatives who will meet regularly to discuss options for public notification of inspection results.

Members were advised that Director Knight, Chief Sanchez, and Supervising Environmental Specialist Alicia Enriquez had met with representatives from the Toronto (Canada) Environmental Health Division to discuss the green-yellow-red color coding system which they utilize as public notification of inspection results and to witness their inspection process. **Mr. Sanchez** then shared additional information relative to color-coding.

The Department is scheduled to present its proposal to the Sacramento Environmental Commission on October 24 and to the Board of Supervisors on November 22. If approved, the enhancements will become effective July of 2006.

It was **moved (Siebal)**, **seconded (Namba)** and **carried** to forward a letter of commendation to Richard Sanchez.

5. **SWA Green Waste Facility** – **Chair Tornatore** called upon **Commissioner Gibson** who noted that the Sacramento GreenCycle Project is beginning Phase III, the environmental review and vendor procurement activities. Members were then provided with a copy of correspondence from the Sacramento Regional Solid Waste Authority relative to continuance of the PAC. **Commissioner Gibson** will report back to the Commission in August.
6. **Sacramento County Environmental Management Department Director's Report** – Members received a copy of the June 2005 *EMD Update*. **Director Knight** shared information on the Department's Food Safety Education Program (Food School). He also provided information on a recently held workshop for small water system operators and the initiation of beta testing for on-site usage of tablet computers during field inspections. **Director Knight** noted that Sacramento is only one of three Counties involved in the testing project.

Commission members requested that EMD provide a tablet demonstration at a future SEC meeting.

7. **2005 Environmental Health Report – Environmental Health Indicators** – Members were asked to provide Commissioner Henderson with a draft of their assigned indicator prior to the August meeting of the Commission.

Staff was asked to electronically forward the Microsoft Word version of the 2000 Environmental Health Report to each member of the Commission. **Commissioner Gibson** noted that he was already in receipt of the Report.

8. **Environmental News Review** – **Vice Chair Fallon** reviewed the following news articles: (1) “Feds scale back plans to clean up pollution at McClellan”; and (2) “Eatery safe? Check color”. Members also received a copy of correspondence from Linda Geissinger, Regional Public Affairs Specialist, Air Force Real Property Agency, clarifying some misconceptions contained in the story on scaled-back cleanup at McClellan.

9. **2005 Meeting Topics/Teams** – **Chair Tornatore** and the members of the Commission confirmed meeting topics for August, September, October and November.

10. **Correspondence** – **Secretary Jimenez** advised that no correspondence had been received.

Vice Chair Fallon noted that he had received two comments from members of the Commission relative to proposed changes/additions to the SEC web page.

Members were informed that EMD has added a Customer Survey to its web page and will discuss adding an additional Survey to the SEC web page.

11. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. The next SEC meeting will be held August 22, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. at the Environmental Management Department, 8475 Jackson Road, Sacramento, California.