

**Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)
Minutes – September 25, 2006**

Commission members present: Robert Bailey, Krista Clark, William Gibson, Shane Jiang, Marjorie Namba, and Val Siebal.

Commission members absent: Mike Fallon and Frederick Tornatore.

Commission Staff: Cecilia Jensen, Chief, Water Protection Division, Environmental Management Department (EMD) (substituting for Mel Knight) and Linda Jimenez, Administrative Services Officer I, EMD (substituting for Karen Nelson, Executive Secretary).

Other Guests: Peter Buck, Natural Resources Supervisor, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA); Jose R. Ramirez, Senior Civil Engineer, Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District; Dana Booth, Program Manager I and John Lewis, Environmental Specialist, Water Protection Division, Environmental Management Department; and Zarha Ruiz, Supervising Environmental Specialist, Environmental Health Division, Environmental Management Department.

The meeting was called to order by **SEC Vice Chair Val Siebal** at 6:00 p.m. Attendance list and sign in sheet were distributed.

1. **Public Comment** – **Vice Chair Siebal** read a statement relative to audiotaping of the meeting and posting of agendas. He then opened the meeting to members of the audience.
2. **Consent Item** – **Minutes** – It was **moved (Gibson)**, **seconded (Namba)** and **carried** to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2006 meeting as presented.
3. **Update on Sacramento Flood Planning** – **Vice Chair Siebal** called upon **Chief Cecilia Jensen** who introduced **Peter Buck**, Natural Resources Supervisor, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA). **Mr. Buck** noted that the storms of 1986 identified a need for a coordinate local effort and thus SAFCA was formed in 1989 as a joint powers agency. Members were advised that SAFCA's mission is to reduce the risk of flooding in the Sacramento Region and to preserve and enhance environmental and recreational values of floodways and floodplains. SAFCA's strategic plan includes eliminating high risk – 100-year, achieving moderate risk – 100 to 200 year, continuing ongoing maintenance and promoting preferred risk food insurance.

Mr. Buck noted that the causes of Sacramento's high flood risk include location, age and agricultural origin of levees, stability, seepage, under-seepage, freeboard, erosion, and changes in storm size and frequency. **Mr. Buck** also shared information on levee improvements in various Sacramento areas.

4. **Update on Commercial/Industrial Stormwater Compliance Program and Recycled Water Program**

Vice Chair Siebal called upon **Chief Jensen** who introduced **Jose R. Ramirez**, Sr. Civil Engineer, Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD). **Mr. Ramirez** noted that the SRCSD was formed in 1973, is governed by a 16-member Board and serves approximately 1.3 million people. **Mr. Ramirez** provided information on the development of SRCSD's recycling program and discussed their Water Recycling Master Plan. He also shared information on several projects and noted that approximately three out of the eighteen projects have a potential for implementation.

Chief Jensen noted that the California Water Code allows the State Department of Health Services to delegate all or part of their duties in connection with recycled water use to local agencies. As the delegated authority, the Environmental Management Department (EMD) is to provide regulatory oversight of recycled water at the place of use. EMD's role in the process is to: (1) Review landscape irrigation plans; (2) Review user reclamation plans—which are required by permit; (3) Field test cross-connections, check overspray, runoff, and ponding; (4) Prepare a letter approving URP; (5) Perform a 4-year shut down test; (6) Review training materials, procedures, etc., and (6) Provide outreach.

Chief Jensen also presented an overview of the Department's Commercial and Industrial Stormwater Compliance Program and noted that the Department is on track to complete all mandatory inspections by the June 30, 2007 compliance date.

5. **Sacramento County Environmental Management Department Director's Report** – In the absence of Director Knight, **Chief Jensen** shared information on activities related to Food Safety Enhancements. She noted that an update on the Food Safety Enhancements would be provided at the October 30 SEC meeting. Members were advised that approximately 600 "Awards of Excellence in Food Safety" were distributed on September 12; 10 recipients received their Award at the Board of Supervisors meeting held on the same date.

Members were provided with draft copies of the proposed Green Yellow Red Placards which will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on October 24. **Chief Jensen** noted that Field Trials for the color-coded placarding program are being conducted and that EMD has entered into a partnership with the Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC) to provide continued outreach for both mainstream and ethnic facilities. She also noted that 5,500 flyers have been distributed on "How To Get A Green Placard" Training Classes.

6. **2005 Environmental Health Report – Environmental Indicators** – **Vice Chair Siebal** called upon **Commissioner Clark** who noted that the process involved in publishing the Report has required more time than she has available. She advised that there has been little change over the last five years and suggested that

production of the Report be postponed for five years and expressed the opinion that a 10-year report might be more beneficial.

It was the consensus of the members present to add the item to the October 30, 2006 meeting Agenda for additional discussion.

7. **Environmental News Review** – **Vice Chair Siebal** reviewed a news articles on “Garbage: What You Need To Know”. In addition, the members discussed a recent article regarding a sewage leak in Walnut Grove.
8. **2006 and 2007 Meeting Topics/Teams** – **Vice Chair Siebal** reviewed topics for the upcoming October and November meetings of the Commission. **Vice Chair Siebal** requested that **Executive Secretary Nelson** check with **Commissioner Tornatore** relative to the November Agenda item pertaining to students at Luther Burbank High School. **Vice Chair Siebal** will speak with **Chair Fallon** relative to 2007 Meeting Topics.

Members then discussed the recent resignation of Commissioner Sharon Merker. Staff was directed to secure a plaque in recognition of Commissioner Merker’s participation on the Commission.

9. **Correspondence** – **Administrative Services Officer Jimenez** noted that no correspondence had been received.

Commissioner Gibson shared information on an upcoming surgery and requested that he be granted a temporary leave of absence from the Commission. Ms. Jimenez noted that staff will check the Bylaws and will also request guidance from the County (as the members appointing authority) to allow the requested leave of absence.

10. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next meeting of the SEC will be held October 30, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sacramento County Board Chambers, 700 H Street, Sacramento, California.