

**Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)  
Minutes – October 30, 2006**

**Commission Members Present:** Robert Bailey, Krista Clark, Mike Fallon, Shane Jiang, Marjorie Namba, and Frederick Tornatore.

**Commission Members Absent:** William Gibson.

**Commission Staff:** Val Siebal, Director, Environmental Management Department (EMD), Karen Nelson, SEC Executive Secretary.

**Other Guests:** Mel Knight, EMD; Dennis Green, Chief Hazardous Materials Division, EMD; Desmond Parrington, Associate Planner, City of Sacramento; Karl Palmer, State Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC); Mark Rappaport, Sacramento County Department of Waste Management and Recycling; Pat Quinn, Sacramento County Waste Management & Recycling; and Sharon Merker.

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

1. **Public Comment - Chair Fallon** read a statement regarding 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 Clark, seconded Namba** and **carried** to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2006 meeting as presented.
3. **Presentation to Sharon Merker, Departing Commissioner** - **Chair Fallon** called upon **Mel Knight**, recently retired **Director** of **EMD** to present an award to **Sharon Merker**. He also presented an award to **Director Siebal** who recently retired from the Commission.

He expressed his appreciation to **Ms. Merker** and **Director Siebal** for their time and contributions to the Commission. **Mr. Knight** congratulated **Director Siebal** on his appointment on October 24 as Director of EMD. **Ms. Merker and Director Siebal** both thanked the Commission for the privilege of serving with the SEC.

**Mr. Knight** thanked the Commission for all their support over the years.

4. **City of Sacramento Leadership Workshop - Desmond Parrington, Associate Planner, City of Sacramento, Substituting for Remi Mendoza** - **Chair Fallon** called upon **Desmond Parrington** who invited Commission members to participate in helping to update the City of Sacramento's General Plan. The goal of the City is to involve the residents in identifying the common areas of concern for the City and building consensus for a vision for the City's future.
5. **Universal Waste** - **Chair Fallon** introduced **Dennis Green, Chief Hazardous Materials Division**, who presented a brief overview of Universal Waste (common products that we use in our daily lives that contain potentially hazardous ingredients), and introduced **Karl Palmer**, State Department of Toxic Substances

Control. **Mr. Palmer** shared information on the history of the Universal Waste Rule (UWR). The California Environmental Protection Agency proposed the UWR in 1993. Over the past 13 years the rules have been changed and revised.

Universal wastes are hazardous wastes that are generated by a wide variety of people. Universal waste rules allow common, low hazardous waste to be managed under less stringent requirements than other hazardous wastes. California's Universal Waste Rule became effective on February 8, 2002. Until this time conditionally exempt generators could continue to dispose of their universal waste batteries, universal waste electronic devices, and universal waste florescent lamps in the trash.

The final and emergency Ewaste regulations will be finalized in early 2007. Emergency regulations for Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) provisions and to add portable DVD players to the list of covered Electronic Devices (CEDs) will be adopted by the end of 2006.

**Chief Green** introduced **Mark Rappaport** from the Department of Waste Management & Recycling, who shared information on the universal waste recycling opportunities in Sacramento County. Rather than put hazardous waste in the trash take it to an authorized drop off facility.

For information on the location of drop off facilities try these web sites:

- [www.sacgreenteam.com](http://www.sacgreenteam.com)
- <http://california.earth911.org/usa>
- <http://www.rbrc.org/call2recycle>
- [http://www.cityofsacramento.org/utilities/SolidWaste/waste\\_pages/residential\\_battery.html](http://www.cityofsacramento.org/utilities/SolidWaste/waste_pages/residential_battery.html)
- <http://www.folsom.ca.us/depts/utilities/hazmat/default.asp>

6. **Food Safety Enhancements Update - Chair Fallon** called upon retired **Director Mel Knight**, who updated the Commission on the Food Safety Enhancements program. A private consulting firm was hired to help guide the department on placard design, and how best to educate the public on the food safety program. "How to Get a Green" training classes are currently scheduled and will continue to be given at multiple locations. The classes are 90 minutes and are also provided on DVD and on EMD's website, [www.emd.saccounty.net](http://www.emd.saccounty.net). January 2, 2007 placard posting will begin.

<b>Action Item:</b> Staff to e-mail Commission members latest Green/Yellow/Red placards.
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7. **Appointment of 2006 Environmental Excellence Awards Chair - Chair Fallon** asked **Commissioner Namba** to continue as the awards chair; he also volunteered to continue working with her.

8. **Sacramento County Environmental Management Department Director's Report**  
– Retired **Director Mel Knight** shared information on: (1) Over 500 Awards of Excellence in food safety were presented at the Board of Supervisors meeting; (2) Update on Green/Yellow/Red Placard outreach and training; and EMD passes milestone of 15,000 inspections completed year to date.
9. **2005 Environmental Health Report Discussion** - After discussion it was decided to shelve the report for now because environmental conditions have not changed that much in the last 5 years. Indicators might need to be deleted and others added. **Commissioner Clark** will send **Secretary Nelson** the file she has been maintaining.
10. **Environmental News Review** - **Commissioner Clark** discussed new drinking water standards which regulate amounts of perchlorates in California drinking water; **Director Siebal** shared information on a bill the Governor signed into law on environmental monitoring; and **Chair Fallon** suggested adding wetlands (also known as vernal pools) to the meeting topics list.
11. **2006 Meeting Topics/Teams** - **Chair Fallon** and the members of the Commission decided the November meeting would be a strategic planning session where discussion would include the direction and future of the Commission and a review of the mission statement.
12. **Correspondence** - **Secretary Nelson** noted that no correspondence had been received.
13. **Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m. The next SEC meeting will be held November 27, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Environmental Management Department, 8475 Jackson Road, Suite 204, Sacramento, California.