

**Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)
Minutes – March 26, 2007**

Commission members present: Bob Bailey, Panama Bartholomy, Krista Clark, Mike Fallon, Shane Jiang, Marjorie Namba, and Mark White.

Commission members absent: Frederick Tornatore.

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

Other Guests: Dennis Green, Chief, Hazardous Materials Division, EMD; Mrs. Gluckmann, Erika Ayala, Soua Moua and Anita Vue, Leng Moua and Sou Vue, Luther Burbank High School High School.

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

1. **Public Comment** - **Chair Fallon** read a statement relative to audiotaping of the meeting and posting of agendas. He then opened the meeting to members of the audience.
2. **Introduction of New SEC Appointees Shane Jiang and Mark White** - **Director Siebal** welcomed **Shane Jiang**, formerly a City of Sacramento appointee, and **Mark White** to the Commission. **Commissioner White** informed the members of the Commission that he owns a solid waste consultant business and is an engineer by background. He worked for CIWMB and the State DHS Toxics as a regulator earlier in his career.
3. **Consent Item** - **Minutes** - It was **moved Clark, seconded Namba** and **carried** to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2007 meeting as presented.
4. **Commercial Recycling Ordinance/Sacramento Regional Solid Waste Authority (SWA)** - **Dennis Green, Chief**, Hazardous Materials Division noted that the Sacramento Regional Solid Waste Authority (SWA), a Joint Powers Authority (JPA), consisting of the City of Sacramento, the City of Citrus Heights, and the unincorporated area of Sacramento, regulates commercial solid waste collection through its franchised haulers by ordinances. The SWA Board adopted on April 8, 2007 a business recycling ordinance, SWA Ordinance 17, establishing recycling requirements for commercial businesses. EMD and SWA signed a Memorandum of Understanding to have EMD implement the ordinance for the SWA. **Chief Green** also noted that because EMD already inspects many of the businesses impacted by this ordinance, implementing Ordinance 17 is a natural fit for both departments. Program funding is through franchise fees charged by SWA.

Chief Green reported on how EMD will implement the ordinance for the SWA. Implementation will begin with developing and refining a database of commercial businesses, education and outreach, and eventual site inspections. To assist with this new project new staff will be hired and trained by late May.

Commission members were concerned about the lack of space for recycling bins in already crowded downtown alleyways. **Chief Green** stated that facilities would be exempt in cases where there is no space for bins. Members brought up the idea of recycling co-ops, rather than exempt the business right off, and encourage several buildings to join together to recycle by using a common bin.

5. **Results of Research Conducted at Magpie Creek on Water and Soil** - **Chair Fallon** introduced Ema Gluckmann. She introduced the group from Luther Burbank High School and explained that the students were asked to investigate a real-life situation, Magpie Creek, and analyze a water sample from the creek to see if the water is contaminated.

The students talked about the leaching of organic and inorganic materials from nearby farms and McClellan Air Force Base into Magpie Creek. They determined the water to be contaminated. The students would like to help clean-up Magpie Creek.

6. **Environmental Excellence Awards (Update)** - **Commissioner Namba** announced the winners of the 2006 Environmental Excellence Awards:
- Granite Construction
 - Hines
 - Jesuit High School
 - Kikkoman Foods, Inc.
 - Los Rios Community College District
 - Sacramento County Airport System

The awards will be presented at the SEC April 30th televised meeting. A second presentation will be made before the various City Councils and the County Board of Supervisors. Commission members are encouraged to attend the presentation ceremonies.

7. **Election of 2007 SEC Chair** - **Chair Fallon** opened the floor for nominations for the position of 2007 SEC Chair. It was **moved (Clark)**, seconded (**Jiang**), and carried to reappoint **Chair Fallon** as the 2007 Commission Chair.
8. **Strategic Planning** - **Chair Fallon**
Members discussed the SEC draft Mission statement and concluded it needed further work. Members were asked to review the document and send their final comments to Mike by Friday, March 30, 2007. The subcommittee and **Director Siebal** will meet to further discuss the Mission statement and report back to the Commission.

Commission members asked if they could accept industry donations to re-distribute to worthy school projects that deal with science or environmental projects. **Director Siebal** will check with county council.

9. **Sacramento County Environmental Management Department Director's Report** - Members received a copy of the March *EMD Update*. **Director Siebal** reported that over 2,600 food facilities have been inspected this year and EMD is on target to have 6,000 inspections completed by July.
10. **Environmental News Review** - **Director Siebal** distributed copies and reviewed the following news articles: (1) "Stanislaus bucks trend toward fewer wood-burning bans"; (2) "County rejects growth change"; (3) and "Local businesses could soon be required to recycle waste". **Vice Chair Clark** will begin sending news articles for the meetings.
11. **2007 Meeting Topics/Teams** - **Chair Fallon** and the members of the Commission undertook a discussion of potential meeting topics for the remainder of 2007.
12. **Correspondence** - **Secretary Nelson** noted correspondence from Terry Maxwell had been received. Ms. Maxwell suggested several topics for upcoming meetings: Pollinators: their decline and the importance of maintaining beneficial insects, bats, butterflies, moths, birds, etc. throughout the county, and the effects of artificial night lighting. She also sent an article from *Earth Policy News*, "Farming in the City". Another correspondence titled, "Loss of curbside green waste pickup = long term loss of Sacramento's urban forests" was received.

During a discussion of the Maxwell correspondence it was decided to add pollinators and the effects of artificial night light to a future meeting's agenda.
13. **Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The next SEC meeting will be held April 30, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. at the Board of Supervisors' Chambers, 700 H Street, Room 1450, Sacramento, California.