
SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Robert Bailey, Chair
Mark White, Vice Chair
Panama Bartholomy
Kristin Garcia
Shane Jiang
Matthew Jones
George "Buzz" Link
Marjorie Namba
Rachael Phillips

A JOINT COMMISSION APPOINTED BY

County of Sacramento
City of Sacramento
City of Folsom
City of Isleton
City of Galt

SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

MONDAY, January 26, 2009
6:00 p.m.

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
8475 JACKSON ROAD, SUITE 200
SACRAMENTO, CA 95826

ITEM

1. Call to Order – Chair Bailey
Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.
2. Roll Call – Linda Jimenez, Acting Secretary
Commission members present: Robert Bailey, Panama Bartholomy, Kristin Garcia, Shane Jiang, Buzz Link, Marjorie Namba, Mark White and Rachael Phillips
Commission members absent: Matthew Jones
Commission staff: Val Siebal, Director and Linda Jimenez, Acting Secretary
Guests: Larry Greene, Air Pollution Control Officer, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD); Erik de Kok, Associate Planner, City of Sacramento; David Ghirardelli, Solid Waste Planner, Sacramento County Department of Waste Management and Recycling; Chris Byers.
3. Public Comments – Chair Bailey
Chair Bailey introduced Kristin Garcia and welcomed her to membership on the Commission.
Administrative Announcement – Sandra Leahy, Administrative Services Officer III, Environmental Management Department, announced that 2008 W-2 Forms have recently been mailed. Ms. Leahy noted that California Form 700 – Conflict of Interest Statements for 2009 are due to be mailed and questioned if Commission members wished to receive the form electronically. It was the consensus of the Commission to receive the Form electronically.
4. Consent Item – Approval of November 24, 2008 Meeting Minutes
Commission member Buzz Link suggested that paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 of Item 8 of the November 24, 2008 meeting minutes be changed to more thoroughly summarize information contained in the presentation by Paul Fujitani, Chief of Water Operations for the Central Valley Project of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. If approved, the new wording for the paragraphs listed above would read:
The reservoirs of the Central Valley Project extend from Trinity Dam in the north to Friant Dam in the south, and are managed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The project's main purposes are to provide flood control, water supply, fish and wildlife protection, power and recreation.

The American River Division of the project includes the American River and Folsom Dam. Peak storage for Folsom Dam was 650,000 acre-feet last year, which is below the desired end-of-May storage of 700,000 necessary to maintain suitable downstream water temperatures for salmonids. The maximum American River summer releases were 4,000 cfs, down from an average of 5,000 cfs.

Despite 2007 and 2008 being dry years, 1977 was the driest year ever, with storage at Folsom Dam falling to only 150,000 acre-feet. Currently, the American River below Folsom is low because of the depleted storage and minimal inflow to Folsom Dam. Since the highest regional precipitation occurs December – April, it remains to be seen whether next year will be dry.

Motion made by Member White, seconded by Member Namba to approve the minutes of the November 24, 2008 meeting as corrected.

Ayes: Robert Bailey, Panama Bartholomy, Kristin Garcia, Shane Jiang, Buzz Link, Marjorie Namba, Rachael Phillips, and Mark White

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Matthew Jones

5. Air District Wood Smoke Reduction Program – Larry Greene, Air Pollution Control Officer, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

Director Siebal introduced Larry Greene, Air Pollution Control Officer, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD). Mr. Green presented a slideshow and provided hard copies of his presentation “Rule 421 – Mandatory Episodic Curtailment of Wood and Other Solid Fuel Burning”.

During his presentation, Mr. Greene noted that SMAQMD has a three prong approach to wood burning efforts—incentive programs to clean up dirty fireplaces and wood stoves; Rule 417 which specifies that all new installation must be clean; and Rule 421 which curtails burning on poor air quality day. Thus far, 1,700 devices have been replaced as part SMAQMD’s Wood Stove/Fireplace Voucher Program and a 10-20mg reduction in pollution has been achieved. A question and answer session followed Mr. Greene’s presentation.

Q: Why is there such a big jump in complaints?

A. There is more knowledge of the program and penalties are being enforced.

Q: How many fireplaces are there in Sacramento County?

A. Approximately 150 – 200,000 fireplaces are located in Sacramento County.

Q. How many SMAQMD staff provide enforcement?

A. Two staff members provide enforcement per day. Staff investigates complaints within 24 hours and responds to complainants within 48 hours. Staff patrols areas and disperses citations are needed. Fines and penalties are set by the SMAQMD and the program is not designed to recover costs.

Q. Are penalties cumulative over the course of several years?

A. Yes.

Motion made by Member White, seconded by Member Bartholomy to forward a letter of support for the program to the SMAQMD Board.

Ayes: Robert Bailey, Panama Bartholomy, Kristin Garcia, Shane Jiang, Buzz Link, Marjorie Namba, Rachael Phillips, and Mark White

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Matthew Jones

Chair Bailey agreed to draft the letter of support.

6. County Overview of Construction and Demolition Recycling Ordinance – David Ghirardelli, Solid Waste Planner, Sacramento County Department of Waste Management and Recycling

Director Siebal introduced David Ghirardelli, Solid Waste Planner, Sacramento County Department of Waste Management and Recycling. Mr. Ghirardelli shared information on the three Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D) Programs; i.e. the Solid Waste Authority

(SWA) certification program for construction and demolition sorting facilities; the City of Sacramento Ordinance for builders; and the County of Sacramento Ordinance for builders. Mr. Ghirardelli noted that City and County rules require that builders recycle certain materials. The builder can source separate or use SWA certified facilities for mixed construction and demolition debris. There is currently not much waste being generated by the construction industry.

A question and answer session followed Mr. Ghirardelli's presentation.

Q. What percent of c & d waste is generated in the County?

A. Less than in the past which was upwards of 20-25% of waste from construction

Q. How many C & D Facilities have been certified thus far?

A. None

Q. When will the programs go into effect?

A. The City program will go into effect March 1. The County was scheduled to hear the item on February 10, but the item has been postponed to a later date so that the County Board of Supervisors can discuss budget issues.

Q. What is required to be recycled?

A. Clean wood waste, pallets, inerts, scrap metal, and corrugated cardboard are specific materials which are required to be recycled. One hundred percent of waste materials are required to be recycled.

Q. Are there any materials that are not currently regulated to be recycled?

A. Wallboard.

Q. Do any other jurisdictions have ordinances such as these?

A. No, other jurisdictions are currently watching this program.

Motion made Member Bartholomy, seconded by Kristin Garcia to forward a letter in support of the Construction and Demolition Debris Program to the County Board of Supervisors.

Ayes: Robert Bailey, Panama Bartholomy, Kristin Garcia, Shane Jiang, Buzz Link, Marjorie Namba, Rachael Phillips, and Mark White

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Matthew Jones

Vice Chair White agreed to draft the letter of support.

7. City of Sacramento General Plan/Sustainability Plan – Erik de Kok, Associate Planner, Planning Department, City of Sacramento

Director Siebal introduced Erik de Kok, Solid Waste Planner, Sacramento County Department of Waste Management and Recycling. Mr. de Kok presented a slide show and provided hard copies of his presentation relating to the 2030 Sacramento General Plan.

Mr. de Kok shared information on the General Plan process and common values/themes contained within the General Plan and noted that two-thirds of the growth has been within City limits. He then shared a map detailing the areas with the most growth opportunities and provided information on SB 375 stating that the goal is to reduce greenhouse gases (GHG) through regional transportation and land use planning. He noted that SB 375 sets regional GHG targets for cars/light trucks and aligns regional plans for transportation, land use and housing with a new sustainable communities strategy designed to meet GHG targets.

Members were advised that the City should receive a draft baseline inventory from their consultants for countywide GHG emissions for all the cities within Sacramento County in early February. The Master Plan is scheduled for final adoption on March 3, 2009 with implementation to begin in Spring 2009. The next update to the Master Plan is scheduled for 2014.

A question and answer session ensued following Mr. de Kok's presentation.

Q. Does the Master Plan assume an increase in light rail usage?

A. Yes

- Q. *How do you define transit?*
A. *Any existing or future light rail line within ½ mile or a bus line with a minimum of a 15-minute headway.*
- Q. *If I want to build a new development would I have to have a transit extension?*
A. *We would hope, but it is not mandatory.*
- Q. *What would be an example of lower carbon fuels?*
A. *Mr. de Kok advised members to contact Keith Roberts, Energy Manager, for an answer to this question.*
- Q. *What kind of modeling system are the consultants using?*
A. *Jones & Stokes has a software system which is used by environmental houses.*
- Q. *Have you received any messages from the new Mayor of the City of Sacramento?*
A. *We have been asked to prepare a briefing paper on all things green, but no word back yet.*
8. Update on 2008 Environmental Excellence Awards – Awards Chair Namba
Chair Bailey called upon Awards Chair Namba who reviewed the Awards timeline and advised that the due date for nominations is February 16. Awards Chair Namba noted that the Awards Committee will meet prior to the February 23, 2009 SEC meeting.
Members serving on the Awards Committee include Margie Namba, Shane Jiang, Matt Jones, and Mark White.
9. Sacramento County Environmental Management Department Director’s Report – Director Siebal
Director Siebal noted that EMD’s Water Protection and Hazardous Materials Divisions were recently merged into a new Environmental Compliance Division. The merge was initiated because of a drop in inventory, key managers accepting new positions and synergy of programs.
Director Siebal also noted that EMD’s Stormwater Program had been presented with the US EPA Clean Water Act Award.
In answer to a question regarding EMD’s new building, Director Siebal noted that the Department may be moving to its new building in April.
10. Environmental News Review – Vice Chair White
Vice Chair White reviewed the following three articles which were contained in member packets: (1) Editorial: A half-million on spin, not science; (2) City weighs making it legal to scavenge in recycling bins; and (3) Sacramento region recyclables pile up as resale market crashes.
11. 2009 Meeting Topics Review – Chair Bailey
Chair Bailey revisited the suggestion of holding televised bimonthly SEC meetings in the Sacramento County Board of Supervisor Chambers.
It was the consensus of the Commission that beginning in January 2010 the location for meetings of the Commission will rotate between the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors Chambers and the Environmental Management Department.
Members also agreed to move the Drought Information issue to the April 20, 2009 meeting of the Commission and discussed the possibility of adding the Plastic Bag Container issue to the September 28, 2009 meeting Agenda.
12. Correspondence
Linda Jimenez, Acting Secretary, noted that a letter had been received from Senator Darrell Steinberg thanking the Commission for its correspondence in support of Extended Producer Responsibility Sharps Disposal.
Ms. Jimenez also noted that Commission members had received a copy of the SEC letter which was sent to the President of Raley’s encouraging continuing support for the City of Folsom program for the disposal of home-generated hypodermic needles.
Member White noted that he had received correspondence regarding banning the use of plastic bags and asked if the Commission could discuss new legislation to add additional CRV containers.
13. Commissioner Comments

No Commissioner comments were received.

14. Adjournment – Next Meeting, February 23, 2009

Meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.