

## **Hazardous Materials Commission**

### **Draft Minutes**

Planning and Policy Development Committee

February 15, 2023

#### **Members and Alternates:**

**Present:** Jonathan Bash Mark Hughes, George Smith, Edi Birsan (alternate)

Amy McTigue (alternate), Madeline Kronenberg (alternate)

**Absent** Jim Payne, Business Seat # 3 (vacant), City Seat #3 (vacant), Mark Ross (represented by alternate)

**Staff:** Michael Kent, Karine Abramians, Nicole Heath, Adam Springer

**Public:** Drew Graham, Jan Warren

#### **1) Call to Order, Announcements:**

Commissioner Hughes called the meeting to order at 4:03

Michael Kent announced:

- The annual Commission meeting with Supervisor Andersen was earlier in the day, and went very well.
- The next Board of Supervisors Sustainability committee meeting will be on February 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.
- The next Board of Supervisors ISO/CWS meeting will be on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am.
- The Martinez City Council is holding a special study session on the November MRC catalyst release this evening at 5:30 pm.
- The deadline for applying for the Environmental Justice Alternate seat is March 1<sup>st</sup>

Commissioner Hughes announced that the Industrial Association will be hosting a luncheon with the Board of Supervisors on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 at Zeo Fraedo's in Pleasant Hill.

#### **2) Public Comments:** None

#### **3) Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes from the October 19, 2022 meeting were moved by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Birsan and approved 4-0.

#### **4) Old Business:** None

**5) New Business:**

**a) Elect committee chair and vice chair**

Commissioner Smith made a motion to nominate Commissioner Hughes to be committee chair. Commissioner Bash seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 – 0 with Commissioner Birsan not voting.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to nominate Commissioner Bash to be committee vice-chair. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 – 0 with Commissioner Birsan not voting.

**b) Presentation on the County Hazardous Waste Management program**

Karine Abramians gave the presentation (attached). She covered the overall regulatory structure governing the management of hazardous waste, the make-up of the Contra Costa program, the type of hazardous waste generators in the County, the inspection program conducted by hazmat, and the enforcement program.

Commissioner Hughes asked what the penalty is for non-District Attorney enforcement. Ms Abramians said that when a violation is found at a facility, they are given 30 days to correct the violation. If the violation isn't corrected in the time-frame, the DA is then given the choice to enforce the notice of violation. If the DA decides not to take on the case, it is referred back to the Hazardous Materials Program. If they are challenged, then an Administrative Law judge will adjudicate the case.

Commissioner Birsan asked how important labeling is. Ms Abramians said that if they can read a label on a container of hazardous waste, or if the container is mis-labeled, then it is considered a violation.

The committee decided that the issue of enforcement should be explored more and would like more information on the nature and distribution of violations at facilities in the County. They asked Ms. Abramians if she or others in the Hazardous Materials Programs could attend the March meeting to discuss this issue, and she agreed.

Commissioner Graham suggested that marijuana waste might also be a topic to look into more.

Commissioner Hughes then thanked her for what he said was an excellent presentation.

**6) Reports from Commissioners on matters of Commission interest: None**

**7) Plan Next Agenda:** The committee asked to continue the discussion on hazardous waste management enforcement.

**8) Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 5:30.