

Hazardous Materials Commission

Draft Minutes **Operations Committee**

January 9, 2015

Members and Alternates

Present: Rick Alcaraz, Henry Clark, Fred Glueck, Ralph Sattler, Leslie Stewart, Don Tatzin,

Absent: Staff: Michael Kent

Members of the Public: None

- 1) **Call to order, announcements:** Commissioner Stewart called the meeting to order at 10:15.

Michael Kent announced:

- Commissioner DeLaney will have a new alternate starting in February. Wade Harper, the Mayor of Antioch was appointed by the Mayors Conference.
- DTSC sent out a notice about Cleanup activities at the BNSF site in Pittsburg

Commissioner Sattler announced that the Shell CAP is having a speaker on their GHG reduction project at their next meeting. He is asking Shell if members of the Commission can attend.

2) Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the September 12, 2014 meeting and the November 14, 2014 meeting were moved by Commissioner Alcaraz, seconded by Commissioner Glueck and approved 6 – 0.

3) Public Comments: None

4) Old Business:

a) Update on the pharmaceutical disposal Issue

The legality of the Alameda County Ordinance is now being appealed to the US Supreme Court by the pharmaceutical industry after the Federal Appeals Court upheld it earlier in 2014. There is no timeline for determining when they will decide to hear the case or not.

Representatives of the Household Hazardous Waste collection programs, the Environmental Health Division, and Supervisor Piepho's office are meeting next week with Heidi Sanborn of the California Products Stewardship Council to discuss how to coordinate pharmaceutical collection at pharmacies at the County. Delta Diablo Sanitation District received a grant to purchase collection bins for pharmacies that can now legally collect controlled and uncontrolled

unused pharmaceuticals from the public due to recently passed DEA regulations. They want to see if there is a way to develop a coordinated program county-wide.

Central Contra Costa Sanitation District has completed Spanish-language versions of the pharmaceutical disposal education poster developed for Contra Costa County. These will be placed at the County Hospital and clinics, and at medical clinics and pharmacies with high percentages of Spanish speaking customers.

b) Update on implementation of the County's Environmental Justice Policy by County Departments.

Staff sent a letter to the heads of the Health Public Works, Planning and Agriculture Departments in early January asking them to respond to the series of questions the committee developed at their last meeting. Follow-up calls will be made next week to see if they have any questions about the request.

5) New Business:

a) Election of committee chairperson

Commissioner Glueck nominated Commissioner Stewart and one co-chair of the committee and Commissioner Tatzin nominated Commissioner Clark as a second co-chair. Commissioner Sattler seconded the nominations. The motion carried 6-0.

b) Develop workplan for 2025.

The committee reviewed the notes from the December 2013 retreat to begin a discussion of what they want to work on this year.

They agreed they would continue to work on the pharmaceutical disposal issue and County implementation of the Environmental Justice issue.

New ideas proposed for consideration included:

- Addressing the need to assess the aging pipeline infrastructure in the County, including the reuse of old pipelines by projects like WesPac, (Commissioner Stewart)
- Looking at the rules for what type of chemicals people could put on their lawn (Commissioner Tatzin)
- Understanding the vulnerability of industrial facilities to chemical accidents or releases due to hacking of their computer systems. (Commissioner Clark)
- Educating the public about how to understand and interpret fenceline monitoring data (Michael Kent)

The committee decided they wanted to investigate the topics of computer vulnerability and fenceline monitoring in addition to the topics on which they are already working.

6) Reports from Commissioners on Matters of Commission Interest: None

7) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:00.