

Hazardous Materials Commission

Draft Minutes

Planning and Policy Development Committee

March 18, 2015

Members and Alternates:

Present: Rick Alcaraz, Don Bristol, Frank Gordon, Ralph Sattler, George Smith, Ed Morales (alternate)

Absent: Matt Buell Lara DeLaney Jim Payne, Steve Linsley

Members of the Public: Paul Adler, Phillips 66

1. Call to order, introductions and announcements

Commissioner Smith called the meeting to order at 4:06

Announcements:

Michael Kent announced:

- DTSC issued facts sheets on sites on Appian Way and at Electroforming in Richmond
- The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is holding a meeting tonight in Martinez City Hall on new proposed refinery emission rules.
- The Alamo Improvement Association workshops on pipeline safety have been set for June 3 in Alamo and June 6 in Martinez.
- Several Commissioners met with Supervisor Gioia yesterday and had a good meeting.

Commissioner Smith announced that Shell refinery is now moving forward with their GHG reduction project and the plans have been submitted to the County. The project is expected to be completed in 2016.

2. Public Comments: None

3. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the February 18, 2015 meeting were moved by Commissioner Bristol, seconded by Commissioner Gordon and approved 3-0- with Commissioners Bristol, Smith and Gordon voting aye.

4. Old Business:

a) Update on Crude by rail issue

Michael Kent said that in their meeting yesterday, Supervisor Gioia expressed interest in the Hazardous Materials Commission weighing in on the proposed rail car safety regulations currently being considered by the Federal Government.

Commissioner Gordon said he was interested in looking at the ordinance the City of Richmond drafted concerning the shipment of tankers containing crude delivered by rail. He said he also heard that the City of Martinez was considering taking a position on this issue. He also heard that the WestPac proposal might be modified to remove the rail component.

There was some more discussion of the different aspects of the proposed regulations, but there was no consensus on whether the Commission should take a position on these regulations. The committee decided that it should be discussed at the full Commission.

b) Update on the Northern Waterfront Revitalization effort

Michael Kent reported that since the last meeting he has not had any communication with the City of Pittsburg about the application of the ISO land use process. The Department of Conservation and Development has found two people to be co-chairs for the the Quality of Life committee, but they have not held any meetings yet.

Commissioner Gordon brought up a concern he has about development in the City Pittsburg. He cited the case of Marine Express Terminal where City staff put requirements on them to accommodate more business than they were planning on doing, which resulted in the Planning Commission initially turning down the project before the City Council changed the project back to what the applicant wanted. He felt this case calls into question the City staff's commitment to the goals of the Northern Shoreline Revitalization effort of helping business get established in Pittsburg.

Commissioner Smith felt that proposed new legislation, AB 350 which would cut gasoline consumption in California, might work against the vitality of the refining industry in the County.

5. New Business:

a) Review Brownfield cleanup materials and prepare for Brownfield presentation at March 26, 2015 Commission meeting

The committee reviewed the materials and discussed the upcoming presentation of Amy Wilson from TRC concerning brownfield cleanup.

Commissioner Smith thought that insurance money for doing remediations had dried up and this was changing the way cleanups are getting financed.

Commissioner Morales said that the brownfield market collapsed in 2010 and wondered if there could be a market for them now. He said that a lot of new people are getting involved in cleanup activities, and so maybe new innovative strategies will be developed. He said that cities are still struggling with the loss of redevelopment money, the issues in terms of what needs to happen at sites hasn't changed. The Concord Naval Weapons Station is a good example of getting a cleanup done. He said that insurance is still a key part of mitigation liability, but the stop loss market collapsed. He thinks two companies are getting back into the market.

6. Items of Interest: None

7. Plan Next Agenda – continue tracking the development of the crude by rail issue and the Northern Waterfront Initiative process

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