

## **Hazardous Materials Commission**

### **Draft Minutes**

Planning and Policy Development Committee

July 15, 2015

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

**Present:** Frank Gordon, Steve Linsley, Jim Payne, George Smith, Ralph Sattler

**Absent:** Don Bristol, Matt Buell, Lara DeLaney,

**Members of the Public:** Mike Smith, United Steel Workers

#### **1. Call to order, introductions and announcements**

Commissioner Payne called the meeting to order at 4:10

#### **Announcements:**

Michael Kent announced:

- The next State Refinery Safety Task Force Public Forum will be July 26<sup>th</sup> at Richmond City Hall
- The City of Pittsburg is holding a scoping meeting for the WestPac revised EIR on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00.
- Commissioner Safrood is going to have to resign his business alternate seat because he is moving out of the area for his work. Commissioner Dragovich is switching his affiliation to Sustainable Contra Costa.

Commissioner Gordon announced that several community groups are also planning on holding a community meeting to discuss the WestPac project in the near future.

Commissioner Smith announced that Tesoro has a hearing at BCDC tomorrow on proposed modifications to their wharf to export finished products.

#### **2. Public Comments: None**

#### **3. Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes from the May 20, 2015 meeting were moved by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Gordon and approved 4-0.

#### **4. Old Business: None**

## **5. New Business**

### **a) Discuss and consider recommendations concerning proposed changes to the County Industrial Safety Ordinance**

Several Commissioners had attended the ISO working group meeting on June 17, 2015 and reported back on their impression of the issues discussed at that meeting (minutes provided in packet).

Commissioner Smith felt that the key issue under consideration is the Safety Culture Assessments. The points being discussed most were who would be on the assessment oversight committee and what questions would be asked.

Commissioner Gordon added that each refinery has done this differently in the past, and they would like to see this type of flexibility in the future. He also agreed that finding the right balance between having the right people on the committee and making sure the right questions get asked. He thinks the Chemical Safety Board needs to be clearer about what their priorities were in their recommendations.

Commissioner Sattler said that transparency was also an important issue that was discussed and that there was disagreement with how much information should be made public.

Commissioner Payne observed that there is a differing degree of commitment to these concepts at the different facilities depending upon who is on their management teams.

Mike Smith from the United Steel Workers said that he is not sure if there will be an agreement between labor and the refineries. He didn't feel there has been enough transparency. He didn't think that the status quo was working and that there needs to be more transparency and implementation mechanisms.

All the commissioners agreed that there is still not general agreement on how to proceed, and that the process still has work to do and is evolving. There was also general agreement that it was too early for the Commission to take a position on any of the issues under consideration.

## **6. Items of Interest: None**

## **7. Plan Next Agenda**

No items were identified for the next agenda.

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