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# SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

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Margie Namba  
Mark White  
Robert Bailey  
Dana Curran, Vice-Chair  
George "Buzz" Link, Chair  
Dr. Anthony DeRiggi  
Secret Charles-Ford  
Mark Barry  
Richard Hunn

A JOINT COMMISSION APPOINTED BY:

County of Sacramento  
City of Sacramento  
City of Isleton  
City of Folsom  
City of Galt  
City of Elk Grove

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2015 6:00 P.M.**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**10590 ARMSTRONG AVE., MATHER, CA 95655**

### ITEM

1. **Call to Order – Vice Chair Curran**

*The meeting of the Sacramento Environmental Commission was called to order at 6:04 p.m.*

2. **Roll Call – Staff Secretary**

*Commissioners present: Secret Charles-Ford, Richard Hunn, Dana Curran, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi, Mark Barry, Margie Namba, Mark White*

3. **Introduction of Commissioners – Vice Chair Curran**

*The Commissioners each took a turn introducing themselves.*

4. **Public Comment – Vice Chair Curran**

*There was no public comment.*

5. **CONSENT ITEMS – Approval of January 2015**

*A motion to approve the January 2015 minutes was made by Richard Hunn and seconded by Anthony DeRiggi.*

*Ayes: Secret Charles-Ford, Richard Hunn, Dana Curran, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi, Mark Barry, Margie Namba, Mark White*

*Noes: None*

*Abstain: None*

*The February list of link additions to the webpage was pulled for discussion. The Commissioners discussed including a statement on the webpage that we do not endorse any/all links that are listed on the website; they are for informational purposes only. A motion to approve the list pending deletion of several links was made by Mark White and seconded by Richard Hunn.*

*Ayes: Secret Charles-Ford, Richard Hunn, Dana Curran, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi, Mark Barry, Margie Namba, Mark White*

*Noes: None*

*Abstentions: None*

**6. Shipping Oil via Railway- Ernie Sirotek, Department of Transportation**

*Cancelled by presenter.*

**7. Fee Ordinance Outreach- Val Siebal, Director of the Environmental Management Department and John Rogers, Chief of Environmental Health**

*The Environmental Management Department (EMD) is a special fund department that is 100% fee supported and has not increased its fees since 2010. EMD's Consumer Protection Programs, food, stormwater, and hazardous material programs, have been nationally recognized and are critical to Public Health in Sacramento County.*

*MGT consultants is in the process of finalizing a fee study for EMD which will affect change to many of the current fees, some categories showing a decrease in fees while others are increased. There have been a limited number of new fee categories created, such as food closets not involving food preparation and swimming pools that are opened year round.*

*Chief Rogers presented a graph comparing Campylobacteriosis and Salmonellosis rates for both the State of California and the County of Sacramento. The County rates for these two food borne illnesses fall below the State rates overall, since the inception of Sacramento County's Green Yellow Red placarding system in 2007. Norovirus was discussed by the commission and Director Siebal explained that the disease is spread in various ways such as lack of hand washing and ice distribution. Several notable cases of foodborne illness deaths across the nation were discussed, noting that Sacramento County has not experienced any foodborne illness related deaths on record. Chief Rogers explained how the sources of foodborne illness are identified during an investigation, sometimes originating from a food source, other times a result of human transmission.*

*A factor that causes a restaurant to get a yellow placard is often times due to the major violation of refrigeration that does not keep the food at proper temperatures. Commissioner De Riggi mentioned the risk of undercooked ground beef carrying E.coli which can cause death. Mr. Rogers explained that inspectors take the temperature of the cooked beef item when they are doing their inspections.*

*Approximately 93-94% of Sacramento County restaurants receive a green placard after inspection. EMD food program fees not only cover salary expenses, investigations, public food*

training and enforcement but also allocated costs such as IT and leasing.

The Environmental Health Division of EMD also performs public pool and spa inspections which includes spray grounds. Danger of disease transmission exists because the water is recycled and reused, and cryptosporidium is not easily killed by chlorine. Many pools are installing UV disinfection processes now to kill cryptosporidium.

Current and proposed fees were presented to the Commissioners with charts comparing Sacramento County fees to comparable counties throughout California. Sacramento County fees fall in the intermediate range even after the rate increases are applied. The category that will see the largest percentage of increase is pool/spa inspections and body art facility inspections as data over the last few years has been compiled and inspection times analyzed.

Commissioner Namba stated that the program is commendable and suggested a letter be written in support of the program and the fee increase.

**Action:** Commissioner DeRiggi agreed to draft the letter and have Chair Link review.  
Action completed 3/5/15

A motion made by Mark White and seconded by Margie Namba.

Ayes: Secret Charles-Ford, Richard Hunn, Dana Curran, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi, Mark Barry, Margie Namba, Mark White

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

8. Review of SEC Letter of Support for the Single Use Plastic Bag Ban

The letter of support of the plastic bag ban was reviewed. Mark White asked if there was any data on trash reduction numbers for a large city near Sacramento but Commissioner Hunn had only found information about Solano County. Commissioner Charles Ford brought up the charge for the single use plastic bag at the grocery store.

A motion was made by Mark White to send the letter after changes were made and seconded by Secret Charles Ford. **Action:** Mail bag ban letter to local governing authorities. Completed 3/4/15 by Secretary Koehn; bag ban support letters mailed.

Ayes: Secret Charles-Ford, Richard Hunn, Dana Curran, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi, Mark Barry, Margie Namba, Mark White

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

9. Discussion Regarding Highway 16 Lighting

The discussion regarding lighting on Highway 16 will be carried over to the March 16th meeting.

Commissioner Barry made contact with a Caltrans staff member in Marysville who would be available to brief the commission on the issue of stop lights on Highway 16.

*Action:* Secretary Koehn to get contact information from Commissioner Barry. Carried over to the March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

10. Updating the SEC vision statement

*The document will be converted to word and circulated to the commissioners who will begin editing and tracking their changes.*

11. Sacramento County Environmental Management Department ( EMD) Directors Report

12. Environmental News Review- Vice Chair Curran

*Vice Chair Curran chose both printed articles and a podcast for review this month. The podcast that was sent to the commissioners to preview before the meeting was approximately 30 minutes in length and it was discussed that future podcasts should be shorter in length.*

13. Commissioner Comments:

*Solid Waste Legislation and Compliance:*

*Commissioner White discussed the solid waste requirements coming into effect and had written a draft letter with talking points for Paul Philleo Solid Waste Manager at Sacramento County. He stated that food waste compliance is not difficult to achieve, the issue is the cost of recycling the waste versus disposing of it in a landfill. Commissioner White advocated a price increase in the cost of garbage disposal pick up and emphasized a long range view of waste disposal over short term solution. Commissioner Hunn asked that the letter be edited to include more detail about options for increasing the rate of diversion of food waste. Commissioner White was going to edit the letter, adding more specifics and ask the Director to discuss the letter with Paul Philleo to get his feedback.*

*A Caltrans Public workshop in Natomas was announced by Commissioner Barry:*

*Tuesday, March 10, 2015  
4pm–7pm  
North Natomas Library  
4660 Via Ingoglia, Sacramento, CA*

- 14 Adjournment- Adjourned at 8:01 p.m. Next Meeting March 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., 10590 Armstrong Ave., Mather, CA 95814