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# **SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

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Mark Barry  
Richard Hunn  
Diane Kindermann  
Paulina Kolic  
Thomas Malson  
Laura Nickerson  
Eric Rivero-Montes, Vice-Chair  
Josh Rosa  
Mark White, Chair

A JOINT COMMISSION APPOINTED BY:  
County of Sacramento  
City of Sacramento  
City of Isleton  
City of Folsom  
City of Galt  
City of Elk Grove

## **Minutes**

**Wednesday, January 15, 2020**  
**700 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95814**  
**6:30 p.m.**

### **ITEM**

- 1 Call to Order – Commissioner White
- 2 Roll Call – Staff Secretary  
Commissioners present: Mark Barry, Ricard Hunn, Diane Kindermann, Paulina Kolic, Tom Malson, Laura Nickerson, Eric Rivero Montes, Mark White
- 3 Introduction of Commissioners
- 4 Public Comment  
No public comment was made.
- 5 Wildfires-Clean Up and Environmental Impacts- Steve Cantelme, Sacramento County Office of Emergency Services

Sacramento County Office of Emergency Services (OES) has 8 full time employees and 1-3 contractors who may write plans and work on special projects. Besides managing emergencies OES has the responsibility to manage some homeland security grants. Funds come down through FEMA to OES who then makes sure the money flows to the appropriate jurisdictions in the County: reclamation districts, law enforcement, fire departments and public health. The EOC is also responsible for the Medical Reserve Corps which is comprised of volunteer medical personnel which may be deployed during disasters or even non disaster local events.

The EOC at McClellan Park is a state of the art facility that was built approximately 12 years ago using grant funds. It's used for training purposes as well as a disaster operations center so it's always active, Sacramento Country is in a low to medium fire risk area but there are some pockets of high risk along the American River Parkway and south county. El Verta and Rio Linda are also in high fire risk areas. South county contains large amounts of light, flashy fuel and is prone to wind driven fires. The primary focus of fighting fires in south county is structure

protection using strike teams. Metro Fire has a helicopter that can quickly respond to fires in south county. The State will respond with resources when fires enter the State response zone in south county. Fences pose a challenge for fire personnel when attempting to contain the head of moving fires. They are delayed by having to stop and cut fences in order to proceed.

OES supports the first responders during emergencies. Mutual aid requests come from both within the county and outside the county. Sacramento has a history of being able to respond to mutual aid requests from other counties, such as deploying approximately 100 people to the CAMP Fire including animal control, the Environmental Management Department, emergency responders, and emergency managers to the operations center.

OES works with Cal OES and FEMA in the disaster recovery process. They assist with damage assessments and ensuring the accuracy of reimbursement requests from responders. Reimbursement submissions can be delayed or denied if the request isn't accurate.

The American River Parkway is a high fire zone containing dense fuel loads, with difficult access and egress. Wind driven fires in this area start spot fires in neighboring communities such as Fair Oaks which typically have wood constructed houses with shake roofs situated on the bluffs. Water supply in Fair Oaks isn't great, with wharf hydrants only providing 150 gpm for one hose line. Lay lines from distant hydrants are needed to get adequate water supply to fight a fire.

The Latrobe fire that took place in the 1960's was one of the largest Sacramento County fires and although there was no loss of life or houses, the fields were littered with dead cows. Steve Cantelme worked for the fire department at that time and was the second person to respond. The fire was in a low depression area and topped the ridge and was beyond sight within minutes. Steve saw firsthand how quickly flashy fuel fires could spread.

## 6 SMUD Wildfire Mitigation Plan- Joy Mastache, Senior Attorney and Lora Anguay, Director of Transmission and Distribution Maintenance and Planning

SMUD is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest publicly owned utility in the nation, serving 900 square miles and 600,00 customers in Sacramento County and Placer, Solano and El Dorado Counties. SMUD's fire risk factors are lower than other utilities because they have very few miles of distribution line that fall within the designated high fire area. Most of their high fire miles run through El Dorado County.

SMUD has a Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) which is reviewed by a third party reviewer. The plan includes objectives, responsibilities, preventative strategies, metric and notification and communication plans. The plan is a comprehensive assessment of key risk drivers and the impacts of wildfire related to SMUD's electric facilities. SMUD's priority is delivering safe, reliable, environmentally sustainable and affordable power. The WMP embraces safety, prevention, mitigation and recovery as priorities. Expanded mitigation activities include increased scope of vegetation management in high fire threat areas, system improvements and capital projects, increased situational awareness and pilot projects. They are installing non-expulsion devices and arresters with arc protection and identifying projects to replace bare 4kV

wire. Hyper spectral imagery is being using to patrol vegetation and line inspection areas along with fire monitoring camera on UARP transmission corridors.

There are several factors taken into account when determining a de-energization is necessary in a weather event including wind, air temperature, moisture and population centers and they communicate with lineman in the field who are observing real time conditions. Severe wind conditions, which can contribute to a de-energization, usually take place in the rainy season in SMUD's service area. SMUD takes all existing risk seriously and prioritizes activities in high fire zones within its service territory, which is a very limited number of miles. They may also de-energize at the request of first responders or if an active wildfire or extreme risk is near a power line.

7 Environmental Management Department Proposed Five Year Fee Schedule- Environmental Management Department, Kelly McCoy, Chief of Environmental Health and Michael Meyer, Chief of Environmental Compliance

Kelly McCoy, Chief of Environmental Health and Michael Meyer, Chief of Environmental Compliance, presented the Environmental Management's Department (EMD) proposed 5 year fee schedule that was drafted as a result of a third party fee consultant performing a fee study. EMD is a fee and grant supported department that conducts approximately 29,462 inspections for 34 environmental programs. Fee determinations were made utilizing analysis of salaries, benefits, time study, supporting department's services minimum professional standards and regulatory requirements.

Certain hazardous materials programs in Environmental Compliance have been operating in a deficit and relying on enforcement revenue collected in prior years. These programs, including liquid waste and wells, will experience the highest percentage of increase with a 5 year phase-in. In the Environmental Health Division, plan review land use fees will be increasing significantly. Retail food inspections, body art and stormwater inspection fees have less significant increases. EMD fees total 6% of overall project service fees when broken down.

EMD has been providing outreach to all stakeholders since October, 2019, by mail, email, website, Board presentations and one on one meetings at stakeholder offices.

A motion to draft a letter of support for EMD's Proposed 5 Year Fee Schedule was made by Richard Hunn and seconded by Laura Nickerson.

Ayes: Mark Barry, Ricard Hunn, Diane Kindermann, Paulina Kolic, Tom Malson, Laura Nickerson, Eric Rivero Montes, Mark White

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

8 Approve November 2019 Minutes

Motion to approve made by Tom Malson, seconded by Paulina Kolic.

Ayes: Mark Barry, Ricard Hunn, Paulina Kolic, Tom Malson, Laura Nickerson, Eric Rivero Montes, Mark White

Abstentions: Diane Kindermann

Noes: None

- 9 Sacramento County Environmental Management Department Director's Report- Marie Woodin, Director Environmental Management Department
- 10 Commissioner Comments
- 11 Adjournment 8:15 p.m. Next Meeting February 24, 6 p.m., EMD, 10590 Armstrong Ave., Mather, CA 95655

*This meeting is being audiotaped/videotaped in its entirety and will be available at the Environmental Management Department office. Agendas are posted in the offices of the City of Sacramento, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, Elk Grove, and the County of Sacramento and also on the EMD Website at: [emd.saccounty.net](http://emd.saccounty.net). Agendas are also forwarded to interested parties upon request.*