
SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Stephanie Holstege, Chair
Christine Casey, Vice Chair
Dr. Anthony DeRiggi
Richard Hunn
Eugene Lee
Gage Marchini
Jacqueline Todak
Mark White

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

Monday, February 24, 2025
11080 White Rock Road, Suite 200, Rancho Cordova, Ca 95670
6 pm

Join ZoomGov Meeting

<https://saccounty-net.zoomgov.com/j/1618310397?pwd=Sb2Jzvr0xbTrhVsDNmKYQZspZWJ1w0.1>

Meeting ID: 161 831 0397

Passcode: 990275

ITEM

1 Call to Order

2 Roll Call – Staff Secretary

Present: Stephanie Holstege, Christine Casey, Richard Hunn, Eugene Lee, Jacqueline Todak, Gage Marchini, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi

Absent: Mark White

3 Introduction of Commissioners

4 Public Comment

*Members of the public have two minutes to comment on each separate item including any matter not on the posted agenda.

Correspondence received and filed regarding Sailor Bar reopening gravel roads to vehicles.

5 Waste Water Surveillance- Stephanie Bertsch-Merbach, Program Manager, California Department of Public Health Cal-SuWers Program.

Wastewater Surveillance is a public health tool implemented in 2020 to better understand SARS-CoV-2 community transmission. Wastewater is collected and submitted by partnering treatment plants to approved testing labs for analysis.

There is a portal for state, tribal, local and territorial health departments to submit

testing results into a national database. Testing was expanded to multiple pathogens including influenza, RSV and mpox.

In January 2021, 6 wastewater treatment plants first submitted data to the CDC. The Cal SuWers Network now collaborates with 80 test sites, encompassing 23 million people, which is 60% of California's population. Greater Sacramento has 13 utilities participating. This participation is a huge factor in the success of the Wastewater surveillance program.

Public Health uses of wastewater surveillance data include messaging, resource allocation, healthcare system preparation and public health decision making. When Covid test reporting declined due to home tests becoming available, wastewater was a leading indicator of where Covid hot spots. When monkey pox emerged in May of 2022, wastewater testing alerted counties and hospitals to the presence of monkey pox in communities which guided messaging and resource allocation. Norovirus is a particularly challenging food borne illness to track since only outbreaks are reported, not individual cases that test positive. Wastewater testing has proved helpful in highlighting spiking norovirus concentrations when large numbers of people have fallen ill with flu-like symptoms.

Bird flu was first detected in birds in January 2022 and has heavily impacted the poultry industry and dairy cow farmers. The Wastewater Surveillance program began monitoring this virus in May 2024 and provided rapid adaptability in monitoring this emerging threat. Data assisted with identifying potential sources, provided early warning signs in states and local regions and could provide important information should human-to-human transmission occur.

The California Department of Public Health has biweekly calls with participating partners to discuss testing reports, has an online Forum, and provides consultations and site visits. There is a public dashboard where residents can view trends for monitored diseases.

6 Sacramento County Sustainability Update- John Lundgren, Sustainability Manager

The Sustainability dashboard is being updated including a 41 page document of CAP measures and sub actions that measures activity and progress toward CAP measures.

7 Approve Draft Minutes January 27, 2025

Motion to approve made by Christine Casey, seconded by Jacqueline Todak
Ayes: Stephanie Holstege, Christine Casey, Richard Hunn, Eugene Lee, Gage Marchini, Jacqueline Todak
Abstentions: None
Noes: None

*Commissioner DeRiggi had to leave the meeting before this item so is not included in the vote.

8 EMD Director's Report

The Sidewalk Vending ordinance becomes effective March 6th, 2025, and the impacted Departments will begin extensive outreach to regional jurisdictions, local organizations and communities. Outreach will be provided in multiple languages. There are also free classes being provided to regulated hazardous material storers and generators, funded by enforcement funds collected. This is intended to increase compliance and education in the regulated community.

9 Report Back on SEC Commissioner Monitoring of Environmental Issues and Agencies

Christine Casey- City of Sacramento- Funding is being shifted to quick build programs to increase safety of pedestrians and bikers.

10 SEC Subcommittee Updates

Richard Hunn reported on the Outreach Subcommittee.

Actions: Update the 1 page summary defining the SEC, identify contacts within the County the SEC could meet with to be of assistance, create flyer

11 Commissioner Comments

12 Next Meeting- February 24, 6 pm, at EMD, 11080 White Rock Road, Suite 200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Agendas are posted in the offices of the City of Sacramento, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, Elk Grove, and the County of Sacramento and on the EMD Website at: emd.saccounty.gov. Agendas are also forwarded to interested parties upon request.