
SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

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

MEETING MINUTES

**MONDAY APRIL 21ST, 2014 6:30 PM
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO**

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS
700 H STREET SACRAMENTO, CA 95814**

ITEM

1. Call to Order – Chair Link

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

2. Roll Call – Staff Secretary

Commission members present: Marjorie Namba, Mark White, Mark Barry, Robert Bailey, Dana Curran, George Buzz Link, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi, Secret Charles-Ford, Richard Hunn

Commission members absent: None

Staff members present: Val Siebal, Jill Koehn

3. Introduction of Commissioners – Chair Link

The Commission members introduced themselves.

4. Public Comment – Chair Link

There was no public comment regarding the following announcements:

Chair Link advised the commissioners that the SEC had been invited to a public appreciation barbeque given by Fluid Tech on March 28th. He announced that the Safer Consumer Products Public Workshops will be held May 7th at California EPA Headquarters, May 28th at the Elihu Harris Building in Oakland and June 4th at the LA Chamber of Commerce in Los Angeles. Chair Link's final announcement was that Cedar Kehoe from the city of Elk Grove had expressed interest in Elk Grove obtaining representation on the commission and that communication regarding that process had occurred.

5. **CONSENT ITEMS** – Approval of March 2014 Minutes

A motion was made by Robert Bailey and seconded by Dana Curran to approve the March 2014 minutes.

Ayes: Robert Bailey, Dana Curran, George Buzz Link, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi, Secret Charles-Ford, Richard Hunn

Noes: None

Abstentions: Marjorie Namba, Mark White, Mark Barry

6. West Nile Virus Update, Gary Goodman, Manager of the Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito Vector Control District

The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito Vector Control District encompasses both Sacramento County and Yolo County, each county containing environmental factors that lend themselves to mosquito breeding such as rice fields, pastures, wetlands, and certain birds species that act as hosts. It is imperative to control the breeding of mosquitos in order to control the spread of West Nile Virus.

Only female mosquitos bite to obtain blood for nourishment to reproduce. There are 28 species of mosquitos and not all transmit disease. The focus of the Control District is to kill mosquitos in the aquatic stage, before the eggs hatch. The Control District works with land managers to reduce mosquito breeding on land sources. A large urban source of mosquito breeding is foreclosed homes with unmaintained, or green, pools. If a pool is green it acts as a breeding ground for mosquitos, which can affect the entire neighborhood. There are over 58,000 known swimming pools in Yolo and Sacramento Counties. If an untended pool is reported, the District will come out and plant mosquito fish in it, an environmentally friendly way to take care of mosquitos. Once the fish are added to the pool, chlorine cannot be added to the pool or it kills the fish. Buckets left outside in yards are also a breeding ground for mosquitos, so it's important to make sure they are netted on top so mosquitos can't land. Make sure to empty any pet dishes and clean up any green waste that attracts mosquitos. The District employs many methods to find and identify urban water sources that are potential breeding grounds, such as green pools, by using aerial observation, google earth and county records of pool permits. Storm drain catch basins can also act as a breeding grounds, especially in urban Sacramento.

Water management is essential in the prevention of mosquito breeding. Algaecide products are sold at hardware stores that can be added to water features so that they do not become green. Certain birds and squirrels tend to be reservoirs for West Nile Virus, so dead animals are picked up and tested by the Control District on a regular basis.

There are a series of integrated mosquito management protocols in place at the Control District. The use of aerial dispensing of pesticides is a last resort in reducing the mosquito population. This method of control is controversial because it affects citrus fruit and people don't want to breathe in the particulates.

In order to prevent mosquito bites, the use of mosquito repellent is advised. Deet is still the best protection on the market to prevent mosquito bites. Other alternatives are Picaridin, IR 3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

West Nile Virus presents itself with flu like symptoms. It can be neuro invasive and linger for a long time. In 2013, there were 17 deaths in Sacramento county, 37 total deaths in California, due to West Nile Virus. Other vectors of concern, not native to California, are non-native mosquitos that arrived in lucky bamboo, and people traveling into California bringing in mosquitos. It is believed that West Nile virus is under reported because it looks so similar to the flu virus.

See Fitethebite.net for more information.

7. Presentation of the 2013 Environmental Awards- See Attachment 1.

8. Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD) Director's Report – Val Siebal

Director Val Siebal updated the commission on recent activities at EMD as highlighted in the monthly EMD Update Newsletter.

9. Environmental News Review – Vice Chair Dana Curran

Vice Chair Dana Curran reviewed two articles of environmental interest.

11. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Mark White suggested that the Sacramento – Yolo Mosquito Vector Control District make a West Nile Virus presentation every April during the televised meeting.

Commissioner Namba thanked Dana Curran for the awards committee's fine work in evaluating the 2013 nominations and selecting this year's award winners.

Commissioner Charles-Ford asked for an update on the SEC webpage design and it was agreed that the webpage committee plan their next design meeting in May.

Commissioner Namba requested a presentation from April's meeting be sent to her, regarding Sacramento County bridge reviews and transportation projects.

12. Adjournment at 8.02 pm. – Next Meeting, May 19th, 2014 at 6:00 pm, at EMD offices, 10590 Armstrong Ave., Mather, California 95655

This meeting is being audiotaped 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, Rancho Cordova, Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, and the County of Sacramento and also on the EMD Website at: emd.saccounty.net. Agendas are also forwarded to interested parties upon request.

Approved 5-19-14