
SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Robert Bailey
Mark Barry
Dr. Anthony DeRiggi
Richard Hunn, Chair
Diane Kindermann
George "Buzz" Link
Margie Namba
Laura Nickerson
Eric Rivero-Montes, Vice-Chair
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, June 18, 2018

EMD Offices, 10590 Armstrong Ave.

Mather, CA 95655

6:00 p.m.

ITEM

- 1** Call to Order – Chair Hunn
- 2** Roll Call – Staff Secretary

Commissioners present: Richard Hunn, Eric- Rivero-Montes, George "Buzz" Link, Robert Bailey, Mark Barry, Diane Kindermann, Laura Nickerson, Mark White

- 3** Introduction of Commissioners

- 4** Public Comment

There was no public comment.

- 5** Water Quality Sampling For Constituents Related To Illness Risk At Public Access Waterways- Alisha Wenzel, State Water Resources Control Board, Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program

The mission of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is to preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water. This involves 20 programs, most of which are regulatory. Ms. Wenzel spoke about the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) which samples local water bodies and collects data in order to provide decision makers and the public with timely, high quality information to evaluate the condition of California waters. The statewide SWAMP monitoring programs encompass four primary pillars: bioaccumulation, bio-assessment, freshwater HABS and stream pollution trends.

Mercury has been a long term pollutant in lakes and rivers. Monitoring studies of fish were implemented in 2007 to assess bio accumulation and a long term, 10 year plan to monitor mercury in bass lakes was started in 2015. One hundred ninety lakes are being monitored on

a 10 year cycle. The Water Board maintains a “safe to eat” webpage where the public can look at the most recent data for mercury concentration levels in largemouth bass in specific waterways and read the cautionary legend that tells consumers whether eating the fish once or twice a week or not at all is recommended. These advisories are issued by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) which sets the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) levels for concentrations of contaminants.

The Regional Water Boards in California maintain a 303d List of Impaired Water Bodies that is reported to the State Water Board each year. This list tracks contaminant levels and any recommendations to delist water bodies or add water bodies to the list.

SWAMP works closely with California Cyanobacteria Harmful Algal Network (CCHAB). They maintain a HABS portal that charts incidents of HABs in specific water bodies. There is a “date” feature on the portal so the information can be sorted to reflect past and current advisories. It should be noted that not all blooms produce neurotoxins that are dangerous to humans and animals, but they have the potential to produce these toxins.

SWAMP also assesses whether local recreational beneficial uses of waterways are protected. They identified a data gap in information at public access swimming holes and beaches so they began sampling water at these points for health indicators of E.coli., primarily during the summer months. Their testing lab is in house which streamlines receiving timely results. Sampling results have shown elevated levels of E.coli along the American River at four sites in particular; Discovery Park, North 10th Street, Tiscornia Beach and Camp Pollack. Sampling results of E.coli levels can vary weekly at each site. The source of E.coli cannot be determined using DNA trackers so it remains undetermined whether the E.coli is due to humans, geese, dogs, or any other warm-blooded animal. SWAMP has also begun a summer recreation water sampling project in the Sacramento River.

The Regional Water Board will be meeting with the San Francisco Estuaries Institute to discuss a collaborative sanitation survey that could potentially pinpoint sources of E.coli using DNA markers.

The Water Board has prioritized improving communication with local health authorities and providing public access to data. They are implementing new notification protocols for staff reviewing sampling data on when and how to notify local Environmental Health Directors and how to disperse information to ensure the public is notified of potential health risks. Currently, there is no guidance for freshwater beach postings when E.coli levels exceed EPA standards at public access areas.

The public can access monitoring data results at the following links:

www.sacparks.net/healthyswimming

www.ceden.org

www.mywaterquality.ca.gov

- 6 Sacramento Environmental Commission 2018 Initiatives Discussion
- 7 Approval of May 2018 Minutes

A motion to approve the May 2018 minutes was made by Robert Bailey and seconded by Eric Rivero Montes.

Ayes: Richard Hunn, Eric- Rivero-Montes, George “Buzz” Link, Robert Bailey, Mark Barry, Diane Kindermann, Laura Nickerson, Mark White

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

- 8 Sacramento County Environmental Management Director’s Report
- 9 Commissioner Comments

The Commission recognized Commissioner Robert Bailey for his years of service on the Sacramento Environmental Commission. Commissioner Bailey has represented Folsom, Isleton and Galt on the SEC since 2005 in many capacities including Chair and Vice Chair. He expressed the importance of continuing to encourage Rancho Cordova and Citrus Heights to create an ordinance that would allow them to appoint a commissioner to represent them on the SEC.

- 10 Adjournment 7:23 p.m.– Next Meeting: Monday, July 16, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., Board of Supervisors Chambers, 700 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

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, Rancho Cordova, 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.