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# SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

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*Marjorie Namba, Chair*  
*Diana Parker, Vice Chair*  
*Mark White*  
*Andrea Leisy*  
*Robert Bailey*  
*Dana Curran*  
*George "Buzz" Link*  
*Jason McCoy*  
*Anthony DeRiggi*

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

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2013, 6:30P.M.**  
**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO**  
**SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD CHAMBERS**  
**700 H STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825**

### **ITEM**

1. Call to Order – Chair Namba

*The meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m. by Chair Namba.*

***SPECIAL EVENT: Commissioner Parker asked that the Commissioners and the audience observe a moment of silence in honor of the victims of the Boston Marathon bombing which occurred earlier in the day. This was done.***

2. Roll Call – Secretary Kloock

*Commission Members Present: Marjorie Namba, Diana Parker, Mark White, Andrea Leisy, Robert Bailey, Dana Curran, George "Buzz" Link, Jason McCoy, and Anthony DeRiggi.*

*Staff Members Present: Val F. Siebal and Vicki M. Kloock.*

3. Introduction of Commissioners – Chair Namba

*Each of the Commissioners made a brief introduction of themselves.*

4. Public Comments – Chair Namba

*None made.*

5. **CONSENT ITEMS** – Approval of March 2013 Meeting Minutes

**A motion was made by Mark White and seconded by Jason McCoy to approve the minutes of the March 2013 meeting with the correction added that it was decided at that meeting that the Commission should send a letter of thanks to the members of the Awards Committee.**

**Ayes: Marjorie Namba, Diana Parker, Mark White, Andrea Leisy, Robert Bailey, Dana Curran, George "Buzz" Link, and Jason McCoy.**

**Noes: None**

**Abstain: Anthony DeRiggi**

6. Presentation of the 2012 Environmental Recognition Awards – Award Committee Chair White  
*Awards were made to the winners of the SEC's 2012 Environmental Recognition Awards. See Attachment A.*
7. 2013 Bike Month and the Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates (SABA) – Mr. Jim Brown, Executive Director, SABA  
*Chair Namba introduced Mr. Jim Brown, the Executive Director of the Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates. Mr. Brown made a PPT presentation to the Commissioners about SABA's goals and 2013 Bike Month. Mr. Brown advised that, as cars are a significant generator of greenhouse gases (GHG), that they are hoping to get people to use bikes more often. This will require a "mode-shift" from one mode of transportation to another. 40% of trips in the U.S. are 2 miles or less. They would like to see people use their bikes for these. At present, men (ages 25-64) account for 75% of all those making trips on bicycles. As a comparison, the Netherlands, women make up 55%. At significant bright spot at the moment is the direction that youth are taking. Autos purchased by people ages 18-30 has dropped 30% and only 31% of 16 year-olds have their drivers licenses. In a recent survey of 18-34 year olds, 40% of them stated that, given the choice between internet access or owning a car, they would choose internet access. 16% of them say they purposely drive less to help protect the environment. Most bicycle growth is in the central cities. 60% of people are interested in doing more trips by bicycles, but have concerns. These are created by aggressive bicyclists and obstacles such as on- and off-ramps. They are starting to learn more about the conditions under which people are willing to ride bicycles. It is not as simply as easy as adding a 'bike lane'. Bicyclists still find the streets scary. They prefer low traffic streets. They also prefer 2-way streets to 1-way streets as 1-way streets have higher speeds. Some of the ways other cities have helped make bicyclists feel safer are "buffered" bikes lanes, actual curbs between car and bike lanes, and "bike boxes" where bicycles are put at the head of the line at a stop sign or signal making them more visible. Bicycle ridership goes way up when the stressors are down. They are presently working with the City of Sacramento on their Bicycle Master Plan. West Sacramento already has a tremendous Bicycle Master Plan which they are starting to put into operation. Sacramento State University is working on making the campus more bike friendly. The highest rate of bicycle accidents occur at Stockton & Fruitridge. Rancho Cordova is also working with SABA to become more bike friendly. They even use them for bicycle valet parking at large events. Commissioner White asked if a letter of support to the Old Sacramento Association would be useful in getting them to connect the two bike paths. Mr. Brown advised that 'yes', but that it will be needed sometime in the future. He will advise.*
8. Annual West Nile Update – Mr. Dave Brown, Manager, Sac-Yolo Mosquito Control & Vector District (SYMVCVD)  
*Chair Namba introduced Mr. Dave Brown, the Manager of the Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District who made a PPT presentation to the Commissioners. Mr. Brown advised that the SYMVCD covers all which is over 2,000 square miles and encompasses 1.8 million people. This area has over 20 species of mosquitos. Some of them lay their eggs on dry ground waiting for the rains and some lay on permanent water. They have only a 7 day cycle. There are an extensive variety of aquatic sits available to them in the area including agricultural, natural, and urban sources. There are a great number of swimming pools in this District. The rule for whether or not a pool is clean of mosquitos is whether or not you are willing to swim in it. If you are, then it's safe. A well-maintained pool will not produce mosquitos. For pools that are not being properly maintained in empty, abandoned, and foreclosed on homes, the SYMVCD produces 10,000 lbs. of mosquito fish a year and they provide them for free. They do need public input as to where these are needed however. There is always water in Sacramento. Our reservoirs are always full. We are, however, not very water-wise and we tend to overwater our lawns which creates small puddles perfect for laying mosquito eggs. Controlling mosquitos boils down to a water management technique. Use the seven day rule – disrupt any sitting water at least every 7 days. Mosquitos have to have stagnant water. Managed water = no mosquitos. Only irrigate your lawn, not the sidewalk or gutter. Check your yard once a week. Empty pet containers and recycle fountains. When you are out, protect yourself. The only repellents rated to keep mosquitos at bay are DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, and IR 3535. West Nile activity has gone up in Sacramento the last 3 years from 111 cases (2010) to 479 cases (2012). It was introduced into the U.S. in 1999. It started on the Eastern seaboard and Plan which has 5 levels: 1) Maintenance, 2) Evidence of virus activity, 3) Increased virus detections, 4) Human infections, and 5) Widespread human infections. At this point, adult mosquito control intervention is launched, but they don't like to do this unless they have to. They can't rely on just one treatment chemical because the mosquitoes develop a tolerance to them so they switch them around. They have a large staff to monitor all these involving 80 individuals of which 65 are constantly out in the field.*
9. Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD) Director's Report – Val Siebal, Director, EMD  
Chair Namba introduced Director Siebal who referred the Commissioners to EMD's attached newsletter.
10. Environmental News Review – Vice Chair Parker  
Chair Namba introduced Vice Chair Parker who reviewed recent news items of import to the Commission.

11. Commissioner Comments

*None made.*

12. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35p.m.

Approved 5-20-13