
SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

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Richard Hunn, Chair
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A JOINT COMMISSION APPOINTED BY:
County of Sacramento
City of Sacramento
City of Isleton
City of Folsom
City of Galt
City of Elk Grove

MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 23, 2017
10590 Armstrong Ave. Mather, CA 95655
6:00 p.m.

ITEM

- 1** Call to Order – Chair Hunn
- 2** Roll Call – Staff Secretary
- 3** Introduction of Commissioners – Chair Hunn
- 4** Public Comment – Chair Hunn
- 5** Approval of July 2016 Minutes
Carried forward to February 2017
- 6** Approval of October Minutes
Carried Forward to February 2017
- 7** Water Conservation Programs- Peter Brostrom, Section Chief, Department of Water Resources

Mr. Bergstrom reported that reservoir levels were at record highs with snow packs at 158 % of average for this time of year. Folsom Reservoir has released water several times to maintain safe flood control values. It is a flashy reservoir that fills up quickly due to the rise in elevation over a short distance. Shasta and Oroville reservoirs do not fill as fast. The Southern Sierra also has a high percentage of snow pack which was not the case last year.

California is highly variable in climate as compared to the rest of the country, which necessitates having more dams to hold water in dry years. The California Urban Conservation Council was established during the drought years beginning in 1988 and they created 14 best management practices for water suppliers in order to permanently transition to water conservation methodology. Drought years led to the use of low flow water toilets, reducing

each flush from 3.5 gallons to 1.6 gallons and precipitated drought wise landscaping ordinances.

From 2007-2009, water suppliers were required to set water usage targets for their customers on a per capita basis with a statewide goal of reducing urban per capita water use by 20% by 2020. With the 2013-2016 drought, the State Water Resources Control Board put emergency mandatory water usage reductions in place. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) reduced the area of turf allowed in new developments. State agencies had to prepare long term water contingency plans. In May 2016, Executive Order B-37-16 was signed, directing five state agencies to develop recommendations for long term water use efficiency and a drought planning framework. These recommendations were to focus on four primary objectives: water use targets, water waste prohibitions, water shortage contingency planning, and agricultural water management planning recommendations.

Recommendations for developing water use targets for retail water suppliers requires purveyors to know their landscape area density, household numbers and terrain and use that information to establish a per capita usage goal. Some water suppliers have already begun working with their customers to reduce water usage significantly. Water suppliers will begin reporting to the State Water Resources Control Board on residential water use beginning 2019 and on all sectors in 2021. As of yet there is no volumetric budgets required on the commercial side.

Standard indoor residential usage ranges from 55-58 gallons per capita per day. DWR will look to see if this should be lower. A standard for outdoor usage targets will also be established.

SWRCB will go through rulemaking to establish permanent waste prohibitions including no hosing of sidewalks and no sprinklers running 48 hours after a rain event of 1/10 inch. Recommendations for water shortage contingency planning will include annual water supply and demand reports, drought risk assessments, and drought planning as part of hazard mitigation plans. Agricultural water management plans recommendations will include water budget and water use fraction quantifications in ag water management plans and annual reporting requirements. Many recommendations will require legislation to implement. Building water storage in California may be one way to increase storage capacity of conserved water.

8 Review of Action Items From Past Meetings

9 2016 Annual Report Review/Discussion

Chair Hunn asked the commissioners for final comments on the SEC 2016 Annual Report to be submitted by 1/25/17. **Action:** Chair Hunn to finalize report and Secretary Koehn to send out the Annual Report to all commissioners before the end of January.

10 Discussion of Progress on Cyanobacteria Position Paper. Volunteers Authoring the Sections Report Back. **Action:** Volunteers authoring sections of Cyanobacteria research need to submit their findings before the February 27th meeting.

- 11 Sacramento County Environmental Management Director's Report- Val Siebal
- 12 Agency Monitoring Report Back- Commissioners
- 13 Commissioner Comments
Action: Update website with 2017 meeting schedule.
Action: Chair Hunn would like to schedule meet and greets with Supervisor Frost and Mayor Steinberg.
- 14 Adjournment 7:38 p.m. – Next Meeting Monday, February 27, 2017 EMD Offices, 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, 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.