

Hazardous Materials Commission

Final Minutes Operations Committee

April 14, 2006

Members and Alternates

Present: Jimmy Rodgers, Don Grant, Sharon Fuller, Henry Clark, Leslie Stewart

(alternate) Howard Adams (alternate)

Absent: Pam Aguilar, Mike Shimansky,

Staff: Michael Kent

Members of the Public: Igor Skaredoff, Ben Bush

1. **Call to order, announcements:** The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Clark at 10:10
 - Michael Kent announced a public comment period is open until April 25, 2006 on the environmental review of the proposed Miraflores housing development in Richmond.
 - Michael Kent announced the West County Household Hazardous Waste collection facility is conducting home pickups on request for senior citizens while funding lasts.
 - Igor Skaredoff announced that there will be a free e-waste collection event at the Concord Pavilion from April 22 – 23.
 - Commissioner Clark announced that he is helping to organize a health summit at Verde Elementary School on June 10th from 9:30 till 4:00.
 - Commissioner Adams announced that there will be an emergency preparedness workshop in Crockett on Monday April 17 at 7:00 pm.
 - Commissioner Adams announced that Mark Hughes is the new public relations manager at ConocoPhillips refinery.

2. **Public Comments:** None.

3. **Approval of Minutes:** The March 10 minutes were approved with the correction that Commissioner Adams noted, during the discussion on possibly holding alternate meetings in Martinez, that he couldn't recall North Richmond residents having attended any Operations Committee meetings.

4. Old Business:

None

5. New Business:

- a) Presentation from the Office of Emergency Services concerning emergency response to isolated low-income communities following catastrophic incidents involving hazardous materials.**

The presenter was sick, so the presentation was rescheduled for the following meeting.

- b) Discussion of recruitment for vacant Environmental Alternate Seat, and attendance.**

Michael Kent explained that at the Internal Operations Committee of the Board of Supervisors meeting on April 3, 2006 Supervisor Uilkema expressed concern about Commission attendance, based on complaints she had received from Commission members. She said she was not going to move forward with the request from the Commission to vacate Commissioner Fuller's General Public seat, appoint her to the vacant Environmental seat, appoint Frank Gordon to the General Public seat and appoint Igor Skaerdoff to the vacant Environmental alternate seat until she had received a report from the Commission on this issue. She requested that the Commission provide a summary of the attendance for the last year at the next Internal Operations Committee meeting, May 1, 2006, and a response to a range of options including disbanding the Commission, meeting on an on-call basis, and strengthening the Commission by-law concerning absenteeism.

Michael Kent provided the committee a chart he prepared of Commission attendance for 2005 and the first three months of 2006. The chart reflected that the Commission has had a quorum at the last 14 Commission meeting, with an average of 9.2 members per meeting; a quorum, and an average of 5.4 members, at the last 11 Planning and Policy meetings; and a quorum at 10 of 12, and an average of 3 members, of the last 12 Operation meetings.

Commissioner Rodgers said he felt that the review of the Commission's attendance showed that the attendance hasn't been that bad. He noted that the Operations committee has been working on improving attendance. He also expressed his belief that the Commission has been working on valuable issues.

The rest of the committee agreed with this assessment, and agreed to recommend to the full Commission that no changes to the Commission structure be recommended. Commissioner Clark added that he thought we should begin to consistently enforce the

Commission guideline that letters be sent to member's sponsoring bodies when members miss 3 out of 6 meetings.

The committee then discussed the idea of holding alternate meetings in Martinez as a means of improving attendance. Commissioner Fuller said that holding alternate meetings in Martinez would be acceptable to her, but if the Commission wants the public to attend we need to make sure to work on issues that concern the public (maybe brownfields). Commissioner Adams suggested that the Commission see how successful our future efforts at outreach are before moving alternate meetings to Martinez, and review the issue again in about four months. Commissioner Grant noted that he was the one that brought up the idea in the first place, but that he was ok with keeping the meeting in North Richmond for the sake of making it more accessible to the community. The Committee agreed to keep the meeting at its current location, and to review the issue in about four months.

On the issue of filling the open Environmental alternate for Commissioner Linsley, Commissioner Adams recommended asking Ralph Sattler if he would be interested. Michael Kent said he would contact him. Commissioner Clark recommended talking to the Restoration Advisory Boards for the Zeneca, Concord Naval Weapons Station and Pt. Molate sites for possible candidates. It was also recommended that we put notices in the Sierra Club and League of Women Voters newsletters.

6. **Items of interest to the Committee:** The committee ran out of time to discuss a summary of the meeting with Supervisor Gioia, but will do so at the next meeting.

7. **Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 12:00.