



Meeting Minutes - Final

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Hazardous Materials Commission

Thursday, August 28, 2025

4:00 PM

**777 Arnold Dr., Martinez, CA 94553 -
Paramount Room**

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/93502466349>

Phone: 1 (669) 900-6833

Meeting ID: 935 0246 6349

Chair: Mark Hughes

Vice Chair: Fred Glueck

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Commissioners Present: Fred Glueck, Mark Hughes, Andrew Graham, Ron Chinn, Maureen Brennan, Jamin Pursell, Lou Flores, Lisa Martell, Jim Payne, Marielle Boortz

Commissioners Present Online: Madeline Kronenberg

Staff Present: Adam Springer, Nicole Heath, Breanna Lingenfelter, Lisa Rodelo

Public Present: Carol Mescali, Andrea Bailey, George Carter, Jan Warren

2. CONSIDER approval of the July 24, 2025 Hazardous Materials Commission meeting minutes.

The commissioners present voted to approve the July 24, 2025 Hazardous Materials Commission meeting minutes.

Motion: Jim Payne

Second: Marielle Boortz

3. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

Commissioner Brennan made a comment as a member of the public and expressed concerns regarding SB 684 and AB 1243 which seek to create the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025. She thinks it is really important for the county to consider this and provided resolutions from Los Angeles and San Francisco on these bills. She would like the county to make a similar resolution and proposed adding this to the next Planning and Policy Committee meeting.

4. RECEIVE a report from the Operations Committee.

Commissioner Boortz provided an update on the Operations Committee. In their last meeting they focused on finalizing the details for the September 11th public forum which is discussed further during agenda item #7. The Operations Ad Hoc Committee met to work on forum preparations and created an updated forum planning document which is also attached to item #7.

5. RECEIVE a report from the Hazardous Materials Programs.

Director Nicole Heath provided an update on Hazardous Materials Programs. The public notice periods for the toxicologist report and root cause analysis incident investigation for Martinez Refining Company ended July 21st, 2025. We are looking at bringing the final reports to the next Industrial Safety Ordinance Ad Hoc Committee meeting which is scheduled for September 29th. There was recently a public notice period for Marathon's management systems full facility audit, a final presentation will be brought to a future Industrial Safety Ordinance Ad Hoc Committee meeting, but will most likely not be ready for the September meeting. There was an Oversight Committee meeting yesterday where our consultants Eastern Research Group (ERG) gave a presentation on the full facility audit they will be doing as a result of the February 1st fire. If you were not able to attend, it is available at our dedicated webpage: cchealth.org/hazmat/mrc. We are in the process of recruiting for one accidental release prevention engineer and two hazardous materials specialists. Once we have completed that recruitment, we would be happy to bring them to a meeting to introduce them to the commission.

6. RECEIVE a presentation from Deputy Health Officer and Hazardous Materials Ombudsperson, Lisa Rodelo.

There was some discussion on when it is appropriate to contact the Ombudsperson versus when to contact emergency services. The Ombudsperson will facilitate questions from the community and help come to an eventual resolution, however, if there are actual emergencies (flaring, fire) that threaten the community you should contact emergency response first. The Ombudsperson can help facilitate long term investigations for concerns about potential impacts to your health.

After hours and emergency line for Contra Costa Health Hazmat Team 925-655-3232

Toll-Free: 1-877-662-8376 (1-877-Ombudsman)

Email: hazmat.ombudsman@cchealth.org

OLD BUSINESS

7. REVIEW the September 11, 2025 Hazardous Materials Commission Public Forum planning draft documents and PROVIDE direction to staff as needed.

<https://www.nfpa.org/education-and-research/home-fire-safety/lithium-ion-batteries>

The Operations Committee and the Operations Ad Hoc Committee have finalized the attached documents in preparation for the September 11th public forum. They found a helpful webpage resource from nfpa on lithium ion battery safety which features a video on e-bikes and e-scooters. The commission has requested for this link to be added to the Hazardous Materials Commission webpage under resources. The presentation on lithium ion battery safety from Con Fire has also been added to the webpage. To determine if a device is UL certified, you can check the box or it should be stamped on the battery itself. The commissioners present discussed making a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding non-UL certified rechargeable batteries. The commissioners present reviewed the layout and proposed timeline for the forum as well as assigned roles and tasks for the day of. Staff and commissioners have collected relevant resources and infographics to display at the event - printed copies will also be available for the public to take with them. Commissioner Kronenberg shared that the Board of Supervisors began using a program called Wordly to offer AI translations for their meetings in 50+ languages and asked if this could be used for our meetings. Staff will look into if this.

8. DISCUSS the meeting schedule and potential agenda items for the remainder of the year.

Three commission seats will expire on 12/31/2025 so interviews and a vote to approve the candidates will need to take place before the end of the year. If all goes as planned, candidates will be interviewed during the November Operations Committee meeting and voted on during the December full commission meeting.

Meetings with the Board of Supervisors will be pushed to early 2026.

The commissioners present discussed the meeting schedule for the remainder of the year and have tentatively decided on the following:

September: NO Operations Committee meeting, Planning & Policy meeting on September 17th, and full commission meeting on September 25th

October: Operations Committee on October 10th, NO Planning & Policy meeting, full commission meeting on October 23rd

November: Operations Committee on November 14th, Planning & Policy on November 19th, and NO full commission meeting (Thanksgiving)

December: NO Operations Committee, NO Planning & Policy Committee, and full commission meeting to be held early on December 11th due to the holiday season.

9. Announcements from commissioners on items of commission interest

There were not any announcements made by commissioners.

10. Plan next meeting agenda.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for September 25, 2025 at 4:00 PM.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 PM.

For Additional Information Contact: Adam Springer at 925-655-3216

Full meeting recording can be found here: <https://contra-costa.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>