Meeting Minutes - Draft

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Hazardous Materials Commission

Friday, April 11, 2025 **10:00 AM** **777 Arnold Dr., Martinez, CA 94553 - Paramount Room**
https://zoom.us/j/94027485383
Call-in: 1 (646) 900-6833
Access Code: 940 2748 5383

Operations Committee

Chair: Marielle Boortz
Vice Chair: Jamin Pursell

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM.

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: Marielle Boortz, Maureen Brennan, Jamin Pursell, Fred Glueck, Louis Flores, Tim Bancroft
Commissioners Online: Madeline Kronenberg
Staff Present: Adam Springer
Public Present: Cheryl Sudduth

2. The commissioners present voted to approve the February 14, 2025 Hazardous Materials Commission Operations Committee meeting minutes.
   Motion: Fred Glueck
   Second: Jamin Pursell

3. The commissioners present voted to approve the March 14, 2025 Hazardous Materials Commission Operations Committee meeting minutes with revisions.
   Motion: Jamin Pursell
   Second: Maureen Brennan

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

Commissioner Flores and Brennan shared their experience while attending an event for Communities for a Better Environment (Richmond) for soil testing as members of the public. The public was able to bring soil samples to be tested and learn about different materials found in their soil (cadmium, mercury, cobalt, etc.) as well as the pH levels. They stated that this technology could be very useful. Most people had low testing numbers in their soil and they felt that knowing could be a great confidence builder for the public, specifically those in close proximity to refineries.

5. The Hazardous Materials Programs did not have any new updates on current hydrogen projects. Commissioner Glueck - renewable hydrogen project in Richmond (Raven Project) still in motion with permitting

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6. The commissioners present discussed the Hazardous Materials Commission 2025 Priorities assigned to the Operations Committee and discussed potential guest speakers.
   Key points:
   Transportation corridors - suggested someone from Richmond, "Pathway to Clean Air" SB 6.17, specific suggestions about corridors (sea level rise); any new data on hazardous materials transported throughout the county? (railroads, roads, etc.); any new data/projections about the amount of sea level rise or remediation strategies?; potential guest speaker Anita Hill from Cal - sea level rise & ground water intrusion (Zeneca site); presentation from Cheryl Sudduth West County wastewater - PPIC
   Batteries - new fire code being worked on to address increased risks around EV and other lithium battery products (est July 2026); sodium batteries have a long way to go, extremely volatile when wet; CCCFPD battery fire presentation should be added to HMC webpage and referenced in the public forum - no regulation for manufacturers or retailers distributing batteries - raise public awareness

7. The commissioners present discussed the logistics of holding a public forum and continued developing a plan of action.
   Key points:
   Working on securing a location for the September 11, 2025 public forum (concerns around limited parking spaces); working on coordinating CCTV; considered budget & ability to print resources (100 copies), provide food/beverages ($500), QR code options, "hands on" demonstration options to maintain engagement (hazmat emergency response equipment display), table displays (different fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, testing kits); various panelists discuss their roles for about 30 minutes, 20 minute Q&A (submit question on index cards), remaining time will be spent mingling & viewing tables/resources; suggest student interns advertise the forum to their schools; have panelists/agencies bring outreach materials;

8. Announcements from commissioners on items of commission interest.

Commissioner Flores shared information regarding an upcoming air monitoring workshop in Pittsburg on April 15th and a clean up on Marsh Creek.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for May 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

Adjourn

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The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 AM.

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