



Meeting Minutes - Draft

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Hazardous Materials Commission

Friday, January 9, 2026

10:00 AM

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

<https://cchealth.zoom.us/j/98031936341>

Meeting ID: 980 3193 6341

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, Jamin Pursell, Lou Flores, Maureen Brennan, Aaron Winer

Staff Present: Adam Springer

2. CONSIDER approval of the November 14, 2025 Hazardous Materials Commission Operations Committee meeting minutes.

The commissioners present voted to approve the November 14, 2025 Hazardous Materials Commission Operations Committee meeting minutes.

Motion: Jamin Pursell

Second: Maureen Brennan

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

There were not any comments made by members of the public.

4. DISCUSS committee chair elections and CONSIDER approving a chair and vice chair for 2026.

The commissioners present discussed chair elections for 2026 and the general consensus was that they would like Marielle Boortz to continue serving as the committee chair and for Jamin Pursell to also continue serving as the committee vice chair. Commissioner Boortz stated that she was willing to serve another term as committee chair, but expressed that she did not feel she could commit to the additional responsibility of serving as a full commission chair due to family obligations.

Chair: Marielle Boortz

Motion: Maureen Brennan

Second: Aaron Winer

Vice Chair: Jamin Pursell

Motion: Maureen Brennan

Vice Chair: Aaron Winer

5. DISCUSS commission priorities for 2026 and potential guest speakers.

The commissioners present reviewed the priorities for 2026 and discussed what topics the Operations Committee would like to focus on as well as suggestions for priority revisions. The Operations Committee would like to focus on PFAs and bioremediation strategies in 2026 with Dr. Danielle (Commissioner Brennan contact) as a potential guest speaker. The committee would also like to move battery waste management to the general priorities section as the topic was covered extensively in 2025, but continues to be a topic of interest for the full commission. Commissioner Brennan agreed with moving carbon capture technologies and PFAs from the general priorities to the Operations Committee priorities. Commissioner Flores referenced an article discussing growing concerns around PFAs and AI data centers, the commissioners discussed a potential data center in Pittsburg and felt that these facilities should be included alongside PFAs for their priorities for 2026. The commissioners shared suggestions for future guest speakers for each of the priorities as well as potentially having these topics highlighted at the next public forum. The commissioners briefly discussed concerns around thermographic ink used in receipts and felt this topic should be removed as a priority as digital receipts are becoming more common. The commissioners agreed that signage for hazardous sites could be removed from the priorities list as this was covered during their recommendations for brownfield sites. The commissioners also suggested moving transportation corridors and sea level rise to the general priorities as well as their impacts such as soil and water contamination. Commissioner Brennan suggested a presentation from the Department of Transportation regarding these topics.

6. DISCUSS public forum topics, locations, and logistics.

The commissioners present discussed logistics for a future public forum. They had previously discussed using the IBEW hall as a venue, noting they will need to lock in a date before securing a reservation. Commissioner Flores suggested using venues at Los Medanos College or Diablo Valley College. The commissioners briefly discussed food options such as barbeque for the forum. Potential dates were considered, factoring in elections taking place in November, with September seeming like a good option as long as it is not on the 11th. The commissioners agreed that a Thursday would be a good day of the week for the forum, noting that September 17th from 6pm-8pm may be a good option. Staff will connect with our contacts at IBEW to see if this date is available.

7. REVIEW the Hazardous Materials Commission bylaws and identify aspects that need clarification.

The commissioners present reviewed the current Hazardous Materials Commission bylaws and expressed a lack of clarity regarding the scope of the commission as well as what options are available to address issues with quorum. The commissioners discussed the responsibilities stated in the bylaws and agreed that some of these items were already addressed and therefore seem to be completed (all of section A and 1, 2, and 3 of section B). Responsibilities 4, 5, and 6 under section B are currently ongoing. Section C of the commission's responsibilities gives the impression that they can only work on topics that are referred to them by the Board of Supervisors, however, the commission has worked on topics brought forward by its members. Commissioner Boortz suggested revising the current bylaws to add a section D under responsibilities that would reflect the commission identifying topics of interest regarding hazardous materials and working on making recommendations or increasing public awareness. Commissioner Brennan expressed concerns around changes made regarding recommendations to the Board of Supervisors by the Sustainability Commission. She shared that they can no longer make recommendations to the Board's legislative committee, but instead must send a document that is written and presented by staff. Adam Springer advised that these changes came from the county administrator's office advising that county procedure had changed and that recommendations on legislation can no longer come from commissions. The commissioners also discussed concerns regarding lack of quorum and minimal references on how to deal with commissioners that are not participating. The commissioners noted that the recruitment process is not explicitly stated in the bylaws which leads to a lack of clarity around procedures. The commissioners suggested developing a document that describes all of the current policies and procedures that are not described in the bylaws; Commissioner Brennan proposed creating an ad hoc committee to work specifically on this task. Commissioner Pursell suggested each member reviewing and marking up the bylaws and bringing each edited copy back to the next meeting for review as a whole committee.

8. Announcements from commissioners on items of commission interest.

There were not any announcements made by commissioners.

9. Plan next meeting agenda.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for February 13, 2026 at 10:00 AM.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 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>