



## Meeting Minutes - Draft

### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Hazardous Materials Commission

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Thursday, April 23, 2026

4:00 PM

777 Arnold Dr., Martinez, CA 94553 -  
Paramount Room  
<https://cchealth.zoom.us/j/98031936341>  
Meeting ID: 980 3193 6341

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**Chair: Mark Hughes**

**Vice Chair: Aaron Winer**

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: Aaron Winer, Mark Hughes, Drew Graham, Ron Chinn, Maile Chinn, Maureen Brennan, Jamin Pursell, Lou Flores, Lisa Martell, Tim Bancroft, Nick Plurkowski, Marielle Boortz

Commissioners Present Online: Madeline Kronenberg

Public Present: Isabel Penman, Amanda McKay, Jan Warren, Erika Siao, Jennifer Quallick, Valerie Ventre-Hutton, Shoshana Wechsler, Charles Davidson

2. CONSIDER approval of the March 26, 2026 Hazardous Materials Commission meeting minutes.

The commissioners present voted to approve the March 26, 2026 Hazardous Materials Commission meeting minutes with minor revisions.

Motion: Lisa Martell

Second: Nick Plurkowski

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. RECEIVE a report from the Operations Committee.

During their last meeting, the Operations Committee discussed public forum planning including drafting a letter to reserve the IBEW union hall for the event. The committee also started to work on documenting procedures and processes that the Operations Committee handles. They nearly did not have a quorum so they discussed issues with attendance and considered declaring two of their seats as vacant; they felt that lack of attendance typically comes from seats that are appointed versus those that are interviewed.

5. RECEIVE a report from the Planning and Policy Committee.

During their last meeting, the committee members reviewed and discussed updates to legislation noted in the March CUPA legislative report as well as priorities for 2026. The committee was unable to discuss the agenda item pertaining to a Zoom meeting - Toxic Loopholes because none of the members present were able to attend and share an update on it. They decided that their next meeting in June will be dedicated to reviewing the HMC bylaws line by line to determine where modifications can be made or where rules can be enforced.

6. RECEIVE a report from the Hazardous Materials Programs.

Staff shared that the Industrial Safety Ordinance/Community Warning System Ad Hoc Committee will have their next meeting on April 30th from 9-11 AM. The agenda is anticipated to be published the following day with the Zoom details.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

7. RECEIVE a presentation on Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) in Contra Costa County from Isabel Penman of Food & Water Watch and Amanda McKay from Pipeline Safety Trust.

The meeting focused primarily on this presentation by Isabel Penman from Food and Water Watch and Amanda McKay from Pipeline Safety Trust regarding the proposed Montezuma Carbon Sequestration Hub project, which would involve a 45-mile underwater CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline transporting captured carbon dioxide from industrial facilities in Contra Costa and Solano counties to an injection site near Collinsville. The presenters outlined significant safety concerns including the pipeline's underwater location through the San Francisco Bay Delta region, lack of federal CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline safety regulations, and the energy-intensive nature of carbon capture technology. The discussion generated extensive debate among commission members about the risks versus potential benefits of carbon sequestration technology, with concerns raised about unproven technology, potential leaks creating dead zones, and increased local pollutants from refineries.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

8. DISCUSS any updates to the priorities for 2026 and potential guest speakers.

There were not any changes made to the list of priorities during this meeting and there are not currently any future guest speakers officially scheduled, but staff and commissioners will continue working toward inviting guests to come and present.

9. DISCUSS the March CUPA legislative report.

The March CUPA legislative report was discussed in-depth at the Planning and Policy Committee meeting and was included on this agenda so that all commissioners had access to it, but there were no major updates to share. There were a few legislative items that were noted items of interest that the P&P Committee will keep an eye on.

10. DISCUSS any other upcoming legislative issues.

Commissioner Plurkowski felt that the P&P Committee should also track SB 966 and Commissioner Flores noted that San Francisco is proposing legislation to put a ban on uncertified lithium batteries but that a bill has not yet been introduced.

11. Announcements from commissioners on items of commission interest.

Commissioner Boortz shared that at the last League of Women Voters Diablo Valley Committee meeting they had a guest speaker from the Contra Costa Water District to discuss their capital project of conveying water by canals. Commissioner Boortz asked the speaker about PFAs and if those have been an issue and the speaker shared that they treat their water with carbonated water GAT and are seeking an exemption from liability because they dispose of it in a landfill.

12. Plan next meeting agenda.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for May 28, 2026 at 4:00 PM.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:49 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>*