Hazardous Materials Commission

Draft Minutes
Planning and Policy Development Committee
September 20, 2017

Members and Alternates:

Present: Rick Alcaraz, George Smith, Frank Gordon, Don Bristol, Jim Payne, Jack Bean (alternate), Peter Dragovich (alternate), Rich Kinney (alternate)
Absent: Matt Buell (represented by alternate), Mark Ross (represented by Alternate), Usha Vedagiri (represented by alternate)
Members of the Public: Phyllis Gordon, Randy Sawyer, Hazmat

1. Call to order, introductions and announcements

Commissioner Payne called the meeting to order at 4:08.

Announcements:

Michael Kent announced:

- The next CAER Safety Summit will be on September 21 at 8:00 at the Shell Clubhouse
- The next annual meetings with County Supervisors are as follows:
  o Mitchoff – October 12, 2:30
  o Anderson – November 2, 2:30
  o Glover – November 6, 2:00

Commissioner Bean announced the next Industrial Association meeting on is on September 21st and will have the Air District coming to talk about their new regulations.

Commissioner Kinney announced that the North Richmond Shoreline Festival is October 14th.

Commissioner Kinney also announced that there is a Shelter in Place going on right now in Richmond due to a gas pipe leak near Kaiser Hospital. They didn’t sound the sirens, but they did put out a message over the phone system.

Randy Sawyer announced that at the last ISO working group meeting they came up with language for reviewing the Safety Culture Assessments which they sent to the Board of Supervisors for review. They are still waiting for a response.

2. Public Comments:

None
3. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from the August 16th, 2017 meeting were moved by Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved 5-0-1 with Commissioner Dragovich abstaining.

4. Old Business:

a) Review of new information about Jack Rabbit Chlorine testing and earlier testimony of Fred Millar.

The committee reviewed the materials provided that summarized Fred Millar’s and the Washington Fire Chief Association’s concerns with the testing protocol and the dispersion model being promoted by the Chlorine Institute in their Pamphlet 74. Staff updated the committee on the status of the testing protocol, the results from the last round of testing now being partially released by DHS.

Randy Sawyer discussed the fact that a facility in Stockton has used the dispersion model in Pamphlet 74 in their RMP. He said that while they can do that for the Federal RMP, at the state level, for CalARP they would have to work with his program to determine the best dispersion model to use, and he would discourage the use of that model.

The committee discussed whether they should make any recommendations to the Board of Supervisors at this time about this issue, and decided that since nobody locally is using the new dispersion modeling, they should wait until the final results of the tests are published before doing anything. They agreed to review the issue again when the final results are published.

5) New Business:

a) Continue review of the County’s Legislative Platform

The committee reviewed several items that were flagged at the last meeting for further review.

Item 47 pertaining to ordinance enforcement was found to not be currently relevant, so the committee decided not to make a recommendation on this item.

The Committee reviewed items 199, 200 and 201 pertaining to pipeline safety and determined that items 199 and 200 should be combined and the language updated, and that item 201 should be eliminated as it seems redundant. They will review exact language at the next meeting.

Staff recommended that the Center for Creative Land Use Recycling should be consulted to see if they feel there are legislative opportunities to help get brownfield sites cleaned up more efficiently. The committee directed staff to contact them and report back at the next meeting.

Randy Sawyer told the committee that the CUPA Forum Board is looking at proposing to take risk into consideration to determine inspection frequency for Business Plans, hazardous waste
generators and underground tank programs. This would take legislative changes and so he will bring the proposal to the next meeting for the committee to consider.

6) Items of Interest:

Commissioner Gordon noted that a chemical plant in near Huston had a chemical fire and release due the flooding during hurricane Harvey, and thought the Commission should consider the implications of potential flooding for facilities in Contra Costa County.

7) Plan Next Agenda: Continue review of County Legislative Platform

8) Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 5:10.