



County of Santa Cruz

COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT

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MINUTES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Board of Supervisors Chambers – 701 Ocean Street

Time: 5:00 p.m.

I. ROLL/CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Johnson at 5:02 p.m.

Present: Virginia Johnson, Len Beyea, Dan Haifley; Sharon Sarris, Laura Kasa, Ken Adelman, Tom Rosewall, Robert Stokes, Alan Schlenger and Betsy Herbert.

Absent: n/a

Staff: Nancy Gordon, Deputy Director, General Services Department

II. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Agenda item on Discovery Process deleted (lack of presentation).

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Review minutes of January 28, 2009. Corrections noted in spelling. Stokes moved, Sarris seconded, to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2009 meeting. Approved, with Haifley abstaining (Beyea, Kasa and Herbert arrived after vote).

IV. PUBLIC INPUT/ORAL COMMUNICATION

Jack Nelson complimented Commission on 2/24/09 study session and suggested update of web page. Cove Britton, Architect complimented Commission on presentation and the need for open discussion on green building and alternative energy (e.g. residential wind turbines).

V. BUSINESS MATTERS

A. Correspondence - Johnson referenced email from Cove Britton and press release on state water bond freeze.

B. Review of Board of Supervisors Study Session (February 24, 2009).

A discussion ensued among members on presentation. Discussion carried over to March meeting.

C. 2009 work plan – discussion occurred under VB.

D. Committee reports

1. Legislative Committee. Committee members posed question on to value of tracking legislation, given the number of environmental issues and in view of timing, workload and other available resources engaged in similar efforts. Commissioners agreed by consensus that legislation will remain a standing agenda item; specific items will be tracked through available resources, with

recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to be made in concert with County's annual legislative agenda effort (planning starts in August) or, depending upon timing, upon decision by Commission.

2. Green Building Task Force – Johnson provided background on creation of task force. Next meeting is March 13, 2009.

- E. Set March 25th Agenda. Proposed items:
Staff report from General Services Department on internal GHG reduction efforts
Presentation by Sam Farr or his designee on stimulus package
Continued discussion on February 24 Study Session and integration with 2009 work plan
Presentation by Beyea on what can be done to reduce GHG with existing private sector buildings
Green Building Task Force update
Pending legislation

- F. Roundtable/announcements
Rosewall – announced new business venture related to GHG data formation for policymakers.
Sarris – IBEW is sponsoring a renewable energy conference on March 13 from 11am to 2 pm at the Monterey Conference Center.
Herbert – will be participating as a panelist at a Los Angeles Conference on climate change and water resources.
Johnson/Rosewall – reported that CARB would be issuing regional GHG reduction goals through AMBAG next year. CARB will be receiving information in September 2009 from Recommended Target Advisory Committee, with CARB scheduled to give target goals to MPOs in early June 2010.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned by consensus at 6:25 p.m. Next meeting is March 25, 2009.