

MINUTES
**SIERRA MADRE ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT
& NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION**
WEDNESDAY

January 20, 2016 7:00PM
City Hall – Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting began at 7:00pm. Analyst Carlson called roll. All Commissioners were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Cossutta led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda:

Shuster

Second:

Cossutta

Vote:

Unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2015 meeting with correction:

Shuster

Second:

Dasher

Vote:

Unanimous

**STAFF AND COMMISSION MEMBER
REPORTS**

Analyst Carlson reviewed the Public Works Department report. He pointed out that the tree reviews were current, as arborist visits had been completed before the report went out.

Analyst Carlson also highlighted a portion of the report that indicated that the Commission will be receiving an award for their sustainable practice efforts. The reception will be on February 17th from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. That is also the day of February's next Commission meeting.

Director Inman provided the Commission with an update on the City's water conservation efforts. He also provided the Commission with an update on how the efforts to spread the imported water in our City basins was progressing. He indicated that there is now much less hydrant flushing and there have been almost no reports of discolored water with the new program. Recent rains are also contributing to a slightly better conservation rate as there is less need for outdoor watering.

Staff has been contacting the 30 highest consumers, and on one occasion, the installation of an AMI meter provided indication

that there was a significant leak at one of the highest consumption accounts. The customer quickly found and corrected the leak.

PUBLIC COMMENT
(Items not on the agenda)

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. DISCUSSION - WALKING SCHOOL BUS PROGRAM:** The Commission shall receive and discuss an update from Commissioner Cossutta on a potential outreach program to promote health and safety to community school children.

Commissioner Cossutta provided an update to the Commission on her efforts to create a "Walking School bus Program" for local schools. She indicated that she has been in contact with school officials as well as Pasadena School District Member Torres. She has additional meetings scheduled, but was also advised that working with the representative PTAs may be a good way to proceed. Commissioner Cossutta indicated that there are still details to be worked out.

Chair Blanchard indicated that she believes that other schools in the district may have similar programs. Analyst Carlson indicated that there is a national "Walk/Bike to School Day" that may also be helpful in launching the program. The date of this year's event is May 4, 2016.

- 2. DISCUSSION – WILD & SCENIC FILM EVENT:** The Commission shall receive and discuss an update from Commissioner Dasher on a prospective Wild & Scenic Film event scheduled for March 12, 2016.

Commissioner Dasher provided the Commission with an update on the March 12th Wild & Scenic Film event. She indicated that she had recently been in Northern California to view the films at a similar event. There are many good topics and the event will be split into a 2:00pm viewing for kids, and then a viewing later in the evening for adults. She is still working out some of the final details.

The Commission provided a number of ideas for future topics, which will most likely be considered more closely if this event works well.

- 3. PUBLIC OUTREACH:** The Commission may discuss public outreach ideas and efforts, including recognition programs

Commissioner Butler informed the Commission that she was interviewed by an Eagle Scout candidate on her role as a Commissioner in Sierra Madre. The Commission continued to discuss ideas of public outreach directed at the youth.

- 4. NEW BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:** The commission members may request staff to agendize items for future Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Commission meetings.

Commissioner Cossutta indicated that she would like to agendize a discussion for a future meeting to discuss the use of two-stroke engines, particularly by city contractors. The topic of leaf blowers and their regulations could also be included with the discussion.

The Commission also reviewed the following items for future agendas:

Walking School Bus Program

Bee City USA

Plastic Bag Ban (and Styrofoam)

Commission name change

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn:

Dasher

Second

Kelley

Vote:

Unanimous