



County of Santa Cruz
Health Services Agency Environmental Health



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**Santa Cruz County
Hazardous Materials Advisory Commission
2020-2021 Biennial Report**

ROLE OF THE COMMISSION

The Hazardous Materials Advisory Commission (HMAC) was established under the authority of government Code Section 31000.1, in compliance with Section 2.38.060 of the Santa Cruz County Code. Pursuant to Section 2.92.050, the HMAC is empowered to advise the Board of Supervisors on the initial and continuous implementation of the County's Hazardous Materials Ordinance. This includes effective methods of providing the public with information on all other matters pertaining to the use, transportation, handling and storage of toxic materials in the County. Additionally, in August 2010, the Board of Supervisors repealed Chapter 2.112, thereby abolishing the Hazardous Materials Appeals Commission, and amended Chapter 7.100 to establish the HMAC as the body responsible for hearing and deciding permit appeals related to suspended or revoked Hazardous Materials permits.

MEETING DATES, TIME AND LOCATION

HMAC meetings are typically held every fourth Wednesday (except the November meeting which is held on the third Wednesday) on a bi-monthly schedule (January, March, May, July, September, November). The meetings prior to COVID had been held at 9:30 a.m. at the Capitola Community Room, located at 420 Capitola Avenue in Santa Cruz. As described below, the disasters and leadership changes to the Hazardous Materials Team leader meant that there were only three meetings held in the past three years. January 22, 2020, May 26, 2021, and July 28, 2021.

The mailing address for the HMAC is in care of the Health Services Agency, Environmental Health Division at 701 Ocean Street, Room 312, Santa Cruz, CA.

MEETING TOPICS

The Commission met three times in the past two years. The lack of meetings was primarily related to the impact of two disasters that the Hazardous Materials Team were responding to, the CZU Lightning Complex Fires and the COVID Pandemic. In addition to these two disasters, the Hazardous Materials Team leadership has been in flux. Rebecca Supplee retired in August 2020. Patricia Atkins took the position starting in November 2020 but then resigned effective early September 2021.

The Commission continued to closely follow several topics related to the goals of the Commission, including new statewide legislation that may have potential impacts to the hazardous materials program; the cultivation and manufacturing of cannabis products in the County; and operations of the County's household hazardous waste collection facilities.

COMMISSION STRUCTURE

The HMAC consists of 11 Commissioners, all residents of Santa Cruz County who are appointed by the Board of Supervisors. There is currently one vacant position on the Commission. The Hazardous Materials Team Leader is responsible for staffing the commission. Currently that position is vacant. Commissioner Delemus served as Chair of the Commission and the Vice Chair was vacant in 2019.

INCUMBENT/APPOINTEE:	APPOINTMENT DATE:	TERM EXPIRATION DATE:
Nicholas Lorig-Roach – Community Representative	April 23, 2019	April 1, 2025
Ashley Ryder – Community Representative	4/13/2021	April 1, 2023
Will Forest - Labor	January 23, 2018	April 1, 2025
Justin Delemus - Chemist	March 14, 2017	April 1, 2023
Jean Anne Logan – Environmental Interest	April, 2019	April 1, 2023
Scott Glucs – Industry Reps	September 12, 2017	April 1, 2025
Nicholas Brown – City of Capitola	March 26, 2019	April 1, 2023
Rob Young – City of Santa Cruz	October 22, 2019	April 1, 2023
Chief Ron Whittle – City of Scotts Valley	April, 2017	April 1, 2025
Tom Avila – City of Watsonville	October 10, 2019	April 1, 2023
VACANCY – Fire Protection		April 1, 2023

ATTENDANCE

See Attachments A & B

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF COMMISSION

1. Continued to monitor hazardous materials and environmental issues related to legislative changes to assess their impact on Santa Cruz County local programs.
2. Continued to monitor and follow activities related to the County’s Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Program, including a review of the program annual reports.
3. Filled the At Large Community Representative position.
4. Identified some important future meetings goals and topics:
 - a. City of Santa Cruz Needle Exchange/Needle Pickup program.
 - b. 1997 Santa Cruz County BOS Resolution # 65-97: No Containment Zones, and discuss updating this resolution to include all hazardous materials, and not just oil contamination.
 - c. County Recycling Program, Treated Wood Waste disposal, and status of single stream recycling.
 - d. Hot Wash/ Lessons Learned on Santa Cruz County CZU Fire Recovery process.

2018 Goals of the Commission

1. Ensure the continued use and the ongoing implementation of the required electronic reporting requirements on the California Reporting System (CERS) following the January 1, 2013 deadline for businesses to begin reporting hazardous materials information via CERS. Ensure that Fire Agencies have access to the hazardous materials information on CERS.
2. Monitor Universal Waste recycling and disposal efforts with an emphasis on residential waste streams.
3. Monitor the following pesticide and agricultural chemical related issues:
 - Stormwater runoff issues including potential impacts to marine life and the local watershed.
 - Issues related to local watershed monitoring programs.
 - Ongoing efforts to control or eliminate legacy organochlorine pesticides such as PCB, chlordane and others in the environment.
4. Monitor hazardous materials and environmental issues related to legislative changes to assess their impact on Santa Cruz County.
5. Review the existing Chapter 7.100 of the Santa Cruz County Code regulating Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste and Underground Storage Tanks and make recommendations for necessary updates or additions as needed.
6. Track efforts by the State Assembly to enact legislation to regulate hydraulic fracturing or “fracking” as an oil production technology in California.
7. Monitor potential environmental concerns due to proposed changes in use of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line after the recent purchase of the line by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission.
8. Track proposed changes to State drinking water standards and treatment technologies, including the proposed development of a new standard for chromium-6 (hexavalent chromium) by the California Department of Public Health.
9. Track the implementation of the new county ordinance chapter 7.95 regarding the safe collection and disposal of pharmaceutical and sharps wastes within Santa Cruz County.
10. Track the use of hazardous materials associated with cannabis cultivators, distributors, and manufactures in Santa Cruz County as the County develops and implements new cannabis ordinance and licensing requirements.
11. Consider options for coordinating and/or promoting public outreach efforts regarding hazardous materials and related environmental issues that may impact county residents.

ATTACHMENT A

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ADVISORY COMMISSION

ATTENDANCE ROSTER - 2020

MEMBERS	J A N	F E B	M A R	A P R	M A Y	J U N	J U L	A U G	S E P	O C T	N O V	D E C
TOM AVILA	A											
NICHOLAS BROWN	P											
JUSTIN DELEMUS	P											
WILL FOREST	P											
SCOTT GLUCS	P											
JEANNIE LOGAN	P											
NOCHOLAS LORIG-ROACH	P											
RON WHITTLE	P											
ROBERT YOUNG	P											

* The May and September meetings were cancelled in 2018 because there was not a quorum.

P = PRESENT

E = EXCUSED

A = ABSENT

R = RESIGNED

ATTACHMENT B

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ADVISORY COMMISSION

ATTENDANCE ROSTER - 2021

MEMBERS	J A N	F E B	M A R	A P R	M A Y	J U N	J U L	A U G	S E P	O C T	N O V	D E C
TOM AVILA					P		A					
NICHOLAS BROWN					P		P					
JUSTIN DELEMUS					P		P					
WILL FOREST					P		P					
SCOTT GLUCS					P		P					
JEANNIE LOGAN					P		P					
NOCHOLAS LORIG-ROACH					A		P					
ASHLEY RYDER					P		P					
RON WHITTLE					P		P					
ROBERT YOUNG					P		P					

* There was not a quorum for the January, March nor July meetings and the meetings were canceled. A meeting was held in November, but there was not a quorum.

P = PRESENT

E = EXCUSED

A = ABSENT

N = NOT YET APPOINTED TO THE COMMISSION