

**SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CITY AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Thursday, March 6, 2014, 3:00 p.m.**

Knollwood Country Club, 12024 Balboa Boulevard, Granada Hills, CA 91344

Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee Members: Maria Armoudian, Ken Ashford, Becky Bendikson (Chair), Jeanette Capaldi, Gale Gundersen, Wayde Hunter (Vice Chair and TAC Representative), Josh Jordahl (Treasurer) and Joe Vitti (TAC Alternate).

**A. Call to Order, Roll Call and Approval of January 9, 2014 Minutes.**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Becky Bendikson at 3:00 p.m. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. SCL-CAC Members present: Becky Bendikson, Jeanette Capaldi, Gale Gundersen, Wayde Hunter, Josh Jordahl and Joe Vitti. Absent: Maria Armoudian and Ken Ashford. A quorum of at least five Committee Members was present.

Landfill and government representatives present: Republic/BFI Services: Michael Stewart; SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District): Larry Israel, David Jones, John Anderson, Jean Ospital; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency): David Thompson, Gerry Villalobos, Cindy Chen; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: none; L.A. County Supervisor Mike Antonovich's Office: Jarrod DeGonia; L.A. City Council District 12 Office: Nicole Bernson; L.A. City Planning Dept.: Nicholas Hendricks; LAUSD District 3: none. Also attending: 15 residents and guests.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Vitti): The Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its January 9, 2014 Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote with no objection.

**B. Old Business. Discussion and possible action:**

• **Outstanding administrative matters** (Chair).

Ms. Bendikson asked everyone to sign in, though members of the public may remain anonymous. Mr. Hunter distributed to Committee Members an information packet that included a Balance Sheet, Reconciliation Detail and other related Landfill documents, and copies were made available to the public. (See <http://SCL-CAC.org>.)

• **Treasurer's Report** (Treasurer).

Mr. Jordahl reviewed balances. The total balance is \$116,984.45. Ms. Bendikson indicated that the Treasurer's Report is "accepted."

- **Conduct election of CAC Officer for Secretary.**

Mr. Hunter nominated Ms. Gundersen to be the SCL-CAC Secretary; she accepted the nomination. Ms. Gundersen notified that she may have to miss the next two Meetings. The Committee voted by a voice vote without any objection to elect Gale Gundersen as the SCL-CAC Secretary.

**C. New Business. Discussion and possible Board Motions & action to address the following:**

**1. Browning-Ferris Industries/Republic Services Inc. (BFI/Republic) report on Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) activities and operations.**

Michael Stewart, Republic/BFI Area Environmental Manager, reported regarding the sewer project that they “hope to have that project start” by “next week . . . we’re looking at a five-week construction period.” They have “installed approximately 3,000 feet of gas extraction wells.” He said “we’re complying with most of the abatement measures.” They “terminated Brown and Caldwell” Environmental Monitors. He reported that in January there were 32 odor complaints; in February, 37, a 63% reduction from 2013. Mr. Stewart said “we’re still not satisfied . . . we’re . . . doing a lot of cleanup” from the recent rainstorms. Discharge due to the rains was “primarily silt.” The sandbags washed away; there was “six inches of rain in 32 hours . . . the Water Board and the LEA” were notified. They are planning “to continue installing wells” to mitigate odors. Resident Skye Michaels said “we don’t want mitigation, we want elimination.” Mr. Stewart later added that Dave Hauser is still the Interim General Manager.

**2. South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) report on SCL odor complaints received including charts of year-to-date including, any other matters within their purview. Board Motion: [see below].**

Larry Israel, SCAQMD Compliance Inspector ([www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)), reported that he personally responded to “four odor complaints” on January 25 and 26, and February 15 and 16 “in the late evening hours.” Odors were detected then and yesterday at Van Gogh Elementary School, “in the vicinity of Canyon Ridge and Mission Sierra and Timber Ridge. His “backup Inspector, John Anderson” and he “have not detected any leaks” from any flares. He stated that “I have smelled landfill gas . . . not any trash odors.” They try to “zero the nose” by going into a different environment or smelling something else to avoid “olfactory fatigue” which would make it difficult to smell odors. He added that he did not attend the SCL-CAC January 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting; Mr. Hunter will correct the Minutes.

Mr. Stewart said BFI/Republic is “installing pumps” in all wells that “may be impacted by water” until the well is “de-watered,” which may take “days” to “months.” There is around one pump for every 10 wells. The pumps are rotated among the 63 current wells. The inspection schedule varies according to the need. The extracted water is not checked by chemical analysis. They plan to have the wells “for a minimum of 30 years” after the Landfill is closed.

David Jones, SCAQMD Senior Supervisor for Compliance ([www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)), reported that January's 32 complaints were the lowest since 2009 and "no odors were detected 78% of the time." A Stakeholder indicated that neighbors "have stopped complaining," causing lower complaint numbers. Mr. Hunter noted that there has been no measurement of how weather conditions may have affected or be affecting odor complaints; he indicated that many more people smell the odors than complain. He explained the Order of Abatement and that January 9<sup>th</sup> the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council passed a Motion "protesting the AQMD allowing the Order of Abatement to expire and requesting" a new Order.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Ms. Gundersen): The Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee requests that the SCAQMD open proceedings for a new Order of Abatement.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Stewart believed that there have been less complaints because of successful mitigation efforts.

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote with no objection; Ms. Bendikson abstained.

Mr. Hunter requested that the AQMD include the current month name on their complaint charts.

3. **Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA)** to report on SCL inspections carried out, and other matters within their purview. David Thompson, SCL-LEA Program Supervisor, reported that one Notice of Violation (NOV) was issued in January; "there was some issue with ponding on site . . . below the Landfill area . . . the ponding is being pumped out right now." There will be a Sunshine Canyon Board of Directors meeting "sometime in April." He added that "Wayne Tsuda [SCL-LEA Program Manager] will be leaving City Services as of April 18<sup>th</sup>" and "we have been in contact with the Water Board" about the storms. Mr. Stewart acknowledged that BFI/Republic did not cover the Landfill and said it was due to a "miscommunication" with the LEA. Mr. Thompson said storm runoff was "running off the slopes . . . not from the trash area." Eugene Tseng reported that the Waste Characterization study was updated; he will "be incorporating the new State requirements . . . by the end of next week." He reported that the State is considering banning all organics from landfills by 2016; this would "have a huge impact" on landfills.
4. **City and County Planning Departments** report on SCL matters within their purview. An attendee said that L.A. City Planner "Nick Hendricks was here but he had to leave."
5. **Other persons representing the City, County or State** who wish to report any additional information or subject matter relating to SCL that is within their purview

that has not been agendized for this meeting. If necessary, discussion and action will be agendized for another meeting.  
No other representative spoke.

**D. Public comment on items Not on the Agenda.**

Resident Ralph Kroy noted that the 4.0 earthquake last weekend under the Landfill and “just to the west of the intersection of the 5 and the 14” [Freeways] was generally measured as 2.8. Mr. Stewart said it apparently did not affect the Landfill. Mr. Israel noted that Republic/BFI is monitoring monthly though they only are required to monitor quarterly.

**E. Set next meeting date ([originally scheduled for] May 1, 2014).**

After discussion, Mr. Hunter announced that the next Meeting will be here May 8, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. to accommodate Mr. Jones request to be able to provide more complaints information. Mr. Hunter reported that the latest BFI/Republic check to the SCL-CAC was received.

Ms. Bendikson declared the Meeting ADJOURNED at 4:42 p.m. with item F not having any budget, banking and financial matters noted for discussion.

**F. Special Overtime Discussion of Budget, Banking and Financial Matters.**

It was agreed that this was not needed at this time.

Minutes by David Levin, Note Taker.

**Approved May 8, 2014 Meeting**