

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

**Thursday, January 11, 2018, 3:00 p.m.**

Knollwood Country Club, 12024 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91344

Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee Members: Ken Ashford, Jeanette Capaldi (Vice-Chair), Steven Freedman (TAC Rep.), Gale Gundersen, Wayde Hunter (Chair), Laine Caspi (Secretary), Debbie Pietraszko and Joe Vitti (TAC Alternate).

**A. Call to Order, Roll Call and Approval of November 9, 2017 Minutes (Chair).**

This meeting of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:09 p.m. on January 11, 2018 in Granada Hills, California by Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. Seven of the eight Committee Members were present: Ken Ashford, Jeanette Capaldi, Laine Caspi, Gale Gundersen, Wayde Hunter, Debbie Pietraszko and Joe Vitti. Steven Freedman was absent. Mr. Hunter announced that Josh Jordahl resigned. A quorum of at least five Committee Members was present. Landfill and government representatives present: BFI/Republic Services: Rob Sherman and Chris Coyle; SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District): Jeff Lloyd; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency): Maurice Pantoja, Dee Hanson-Lugo and Eugene Tseng; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: Eugene Loi; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: Tim Stapleton; L.A. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger's Office: Jarrod DeGonia; L.A. City Councilman Mitch Englander's Office: Jessie Strobel; L.A. City Planning Dept.: Nicholas Hendricks; LAUSD District 3: Bill Piazza. Also attended: approximately 13 residents and other guests.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Capaldi, seconded by Ms. Caspi): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its November 9, 2017 Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**B. Old Business: Discussion and Board motions & possible action:**

- Outstanding administrative matters (Chair/Vice-Chair).

Mr. Hunter asked everyone to sign in, though members of the public may remain anonymous. He distributed to Committee Members an information packet that included a Balance Sheet, Reconciliation Detail and other related Landfill documents, and copies were available to the public. (See <http://SCL-CAC.org>.) Mr. Hunter noted that Mr. Jordahl had resigned as Treasurer and Committee Member effective immediately and had submitted all Treasurer files/documents to him, including the checkbook.

- Treasurer's Report (Treasurer).

Mr. Hunter reviewed finances. Income was \$19,713.92. The total balance was \$102,958.09.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Gundersen, seconded by Ms. Capaldi): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the January 11, 2018 Treasurer's Report as presented.

**MOTION PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

- Conduct election of CAC Officers for Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, TAC Rep & TAC Alt (Vice-Chair/Chair).

**MOTION** (by Ms. Capaldi, seconded by Ms. Pietraszko): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee elects Committee Member Wayde Hunter as its Chair.

**MOTION PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Pietraszko): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee elects Committee Member Jeanette Capaldi as its Vice-Chair.

**MOTION PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Hunter noted, during nominations for Treasurer, that Mr. Jordahl had suggested hiring a bookkeeper, and because no Committee Member volunteered to be Treasurer, that the Committee consider hiring a consultant to do the financials. Mr. Hunter clarified that Committee funds are under the Committee's control. The Committee agreed to review any RFQs at the next meeting.

Mr. Hunter noted, during nominations for Secretary, that Ms. Gundersen had been requesting for some time to be replaced as Secretary. During discussions, Mr. Ashford asked whether the Secretary and Treasurer positions could be combined; that idea was declined.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Capaldi): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee elects Committee Member Laine Caspi as its Secretary.

**MOTION PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Hunter noted during nominations for the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Technical Advisory Committee Representative (SCL-TAC Rep), and for the Alternate (SCL-TAC Rep. Alt.), that he had been told that members could not serve more than one year in each position. He noted while that does not seem to apply to other City and County members of TAC, that we have complied, and that switching out the current positions between the current members would meet that requirement.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Ashford, seconded by Ms. Pietraszko): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee elects Committee Member Steven Freedman as its Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Representative and Joe Vitti as the TAC Alternate.

**MOTION PASSED;** zero opposed; zero abstained.

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

- 1. Browning-Ferris Industries/Republic Services Inc. (BFI/Republic)** to report on Sunshine Canyon Landfill activities and operations, including efforts to abate odors using Alternative Daily Cover (ADC), Intermediate Cover Project (ICE), and compliance with the SCAQMD's Stipulated Order of Abatement for Odors.

New BFI/Republic General Manager Chris Coyle [24-hour Landfill hotline 818-779-9170; main 818-362-2124; Info@SunshineCanyonLandfill.com; <http://SunshineCanyonLandfill.com>] described his background in the industry, including 17 years with Republic and "extensive landfill operating experience." He said, "I believe the number one priority is being a good neighbor." Rob Sherman, outgoing General Manager, distributed copies of a "Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Update," "Odor Complaints by Month" chart and "Sunshine Canyon 2017 Action Plan." He said "the site held up very, very well" in recent rains. Republic "finalized the application of top soil to the designated areas to receive vegetative cover and hydro-seeded the 50 plus acres with the approved seed mix." They soon "will begin installation of approximately 25 new and replacement gas wells. . . The LEA has approved continued use of the EnviroCover ADC product. We have not yet received the review results from Public Works." Mr. Sherman also said, "our scorecard is complaints" and "the next Abatement Order Status Hearing is scheduled for June 26, 2018." He explained that they withdrew a recent modification request due to requests by agencies for more information and community input.

Mr. Sherman believed that odors are from landfill gas, not trash and described different procedures used during windy or rainy conditions. In response to a question from Ms. Provenzale regarding whether the Landfill did anything different during the rains, the answer was "no," although there was the usual review of procedures, the use of the wet weather deck, and stopping smaller trash vehicles due to safety concerns. It was windy in December and tipper trucks were stopped from dumping on a number of occasions. Mr. Coyle and Mr. Sherman noted that "well water depth has dropped 30 feet," indicating "we're getting water out of the wells," and that odor neutralizers are being used at the transfer stations. Also, some recent "mud flow debris" being brought in by the County, was rejected because it was not in compliance with what Republic can accept. Some of the material was from the Devil's Gate Reservoir near Pasadena, and some from the May Sediment Placement Site above Sylmar. In response to Mr. Beck, Mr. Coyle observed that Landfill gas collection had gone from 10,000 scf/m to 18,000 scf/m, "almost doubling" Landfill gas collection in the last year and had contributed to the reduction in odor complaints. Mr. Hunter noted that material from Devil's Gate

should not be going to Sunshine Canyon as it was not included in the Final EIR, and that the Committee had opposed it; he subsequently noted that the County had suddenly designated the “whole area” as a dumping ground for sediment as a way to get around that.

- 2. South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)** to report on odor complaints received and NOVs issued including any year-to-date charts, and/or any other matters within their purview.

Jeff Lloyd, Supervising Air Quality Inspector for Compliance and Enforcement, [909-396-3752; JLloyd@aqmd.gov; www.aqmd.gov], acting in Inspector Larry Israel's absence (for the last 3 or 4 weeks) reported that, in November, there were 22 odor complaints (zero were verified); in December, 18 complaints (two were verified; no Notices of Violation (NOVs) were issued, which are prompted by three or more complaints within the same hour). Total complaints for 2017 were 1,028 and 20 NOVs. The Landfill passed a methane inspection (surface monitoring, integrated sampling every three seconds over six grids with all passing below 25 ppm limit) on October 18, 2017. Ms. Provenzale said that after calling in an odor report it was indicated to her that Inspectors would not have been available even if there had been the required three calls, to which Mr. Lloyd replied that “regular and after-hours Inspectors were available.”

Mr. Hunter said that he does not always call in reports of odors or dust but described a recent very strong “chemical” smell on the southbound off-ramp from the I-5 to Balboa Boulevard, which he reported to the SCAQMD. He said he also told the LEA's Eugene Tseng about it and asked him to let the Landfill know that it was the first time he smelled a smell so strong, which he knew to be methane, and it scared him. Mr. Hunter noted that the SCAQMD did not acknowledge his call until days later. Mr. Coyle from Republic encouraged contacting “appropriate agencies” and the Landfill at the same time so that they could immediately find out what the problem was. He offered his card and said to call 24/7 if this happened again.

- 3. Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)** to report on LAUSD's efforts to address odor complaints at Van Gogh Charter School; to respond to comments received by SCL-CAC regarding the PM10 and Black Carbon testing data collected and summarized by Sonoma Technologies Inc., (STI) in their Annual Reports, and to the SCAQMD response to a request for Health Risk Assessment.

Bill Piazza, LAUSD Ofc. of Environmental Health & Safety (OHS) Environmental Assessment Coordinator [213.241.3926; Bill.Piazza@lausd.net], asked, and Mr. Hunter confirmed, that neither the City or the County has responded to the Committee's letter requesting Sonoma Technologies Inc. to provide a Landfill impacts assessment. In regard to the SCL-CAC request to the AQMD for a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) for Sunshine Canyon Landfill, Mr. Piazza noted that smaller Landfills have been required to do HRAs while Sunshine Canyon has not, and he was bewildered by their response. He then reviewed the statements made in the CACs original letter and the AQMD subsequent response. Mr. Hunter noted

that the AQMD's December 21, 2017 response letter to which Mr. Piazza was referring was in the Committee package (copies also provided to public). Mr. Piazza observed that while at least three chemicals are an order of magnitude greater than other landfills, the AQMD indicated that "proximity is not an issue." He asked if the Committee wanted him to respond to the AQMD. Mr. Piazza gave a long technical response to a question by Mr. Sherman regarding the reference in the AQMD response to Sonoma Technologies Inc. (STI)'s reporting at the Van Gogh Charter School (VGCS), saying he wanted more information regarding air quality at and near VGCS and was concerned that AQMD statistics "don't give any indication" of "short-term" air quality at and near VGCS.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Ms. Pietraszko): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee requests that the LAUSD's, Bill Piazza, draft a response to the SCAQMD's latest response to the SCL-CACs October 30, 2017 letter regarding information on a Health Risk Assessment, and bring it back to you (the Committee) at the next meeting.

**MOTION PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Piazza agreed to provide a draft and get it to Mr. Hunter before the next SCL-CAC meeting. Mr. Piazza agreed with Mr. Hendriks that a crude oil field nearby "could" affect local air quality. Mr. Hunter said that would be DCOR, LLC. Mr. Piazza, responding to a request from Mr. Kroy, said he will work with VGCS Principal Pamela Merloni on having monitoring equipment installed at the School.

**4. Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA)** to report on any inspections carried out, and other matters within their purview.

Maurice Pantoja, Environmental Health Services Manager [626-430-5595; MPantoja@ph.LACounty.gov; www.PublicHealth.LACounty.gov], introduced Dee Hanson-Lugo [626-430-5540; DLugo@ph.LACounty.gov] as the new contact person. She reported that no Notices of Violation (NOVs) were issued since the last Committee Meeting. Mr. Hunter noted that, on October 11, 2017, the LEA approved the Landfill's Alternative Daily Cover but did not notify the CAC Committee. Mr. Hunter stated that he also took the unusual step of including copies of comments of that approval, including one from the North Valley Coalition (of which he is President), and one from Mike Mohajer because he wanted the CAC Committee to know that community members considered the report (on ADC as submitted to the LEA by Republic) as insufficient.

**5. County Regional Planning Department & County Public Works** to report on SCL matters within their purview.

L.A. County Regional Zoning Enforcement Planner Tim Stapleton [213-974-6453; TStapleton@planning.LACounty.gov; http://planning.co.la.ca.us] reported that there will be an Appeal Hearing downtown at the Hall of Records on January 16th regarding a November 14, 2017 enforcement action regarding a Landfill gas fee "underpayment" of \$542,120.70 owed by BFI/Republic to the County. Mr.

Sherman indicated that the money was paid to the City rather than the County and this is being discussed. Mr. Stapleton will email information to Mr. Hunter about this; it also is available on the County's website. Mr. Hendriks commented that there is also going to be a SCL-TAC meeting on January 17th (#6 on the Agenda) at which the letters sent by the SCL-CAC to City and County Regional Planning regarding air (the STI contract) had been forwarded to County Public Health and that they would be addressing it there. In response to a question by Ms. Provenzale, Mr. Stapleton responded that the 3% vs 10% difference was discovered as a routine compliance audit. Mr. Sherman stated that Republic was not withholding money but that monies were paid; it was a disagreement over the calculation of payments. Mr. Hunter requested an email notification of the Hearing.

- 6. County Public Health Department** to report on SCL matters within their purview, including an update as to whether they have received any more information on recent illegally disposed of asbestos contaminated material may have reached Republic's Transfer/MRFs and SCL.

Eugene Loi, Nurse, L.A. County Public Health [213-738-3220; EuLoi@ph.LACounty.gov], reported that the new name of the section in which he works is Toxicology and Environmental Assessment Branch. He said that John Kaddis, who the Committee previously had asked to provide them an update, had indicated to him that a Cease and Desist order had been sent to AIS in Long Beach, and that it is in effect until January 31, 2018. However, he said that there is no evidence that the facility has been taking any hazardous material to "any" landfill. County Public Health received documentation saying that the material had been sent to a hazardous waste facility in Yuma, Arizona, so that no material has come to SCL. Mr. Loi sent an email to Mr. Hunter addressing the CACs letter on STI (Eighth) Annual Report. Mr. Loi said that he had recently met with the Regional Planning Department (Tim Stapleton and Maria Masis) and that, due to the release of the ninth Annual Report and the Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) Report in November, they analyzed both these reports, and County Public Health are going to make our comments at the upcoming SCL-TAC meeting on January 17th.

- 7. City Planning Department** to report on SCL matters within their purview.

L.A. City Planner Nicholas Hendricks (818-374-5046; Nick.Hendricks@LACity.org; www.planning.LACity.org), noted the January 17<sup>th</sup> SCL-TAC Meeting.

- 8. 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.

There were no other reports at this time.

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

There were no public comments at this time.

**E. Set next meeting date** (March 8, 2018), & adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Hunter announced that the next Meeting will be here March 8, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

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

- Potential budget items FY 2018.

Mr. Hunter indicated that there was no more discussion.

Mr. Hunter declared, and the Committee agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Levin, Note Taker (Minutes Writer). Edited by SCL-CAC. *The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda.* Minutes are available at <http://scl-cac.org/agendas-minutes>.

**Approved March 8, 2018 Meeting**