

**SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
MINUTES OF MEETING, Thursday, May 11, 2023**

Van Gogh Charter School Auditorium, 17160 Van Gogh St., Granada Hills, CA 91344
DRAFT Minutes [to be replaced by “Approved _[Month]_ _[date]_, 202_[year]_”]

Members: Jeanette Capaldi (Vice-Chair), Laine Caspi (Secretary), Richard Fisk, Larry Fleck (Treasurer), Wayde Hunter (Chair & TAC Rep), Debbie Pietraszko (Parliamentarian) and Keren Waters.

A. Call to Order, Roll Call by Notetaker, and Approval of March 9, 2023 Minutes (Chair).

This meeting of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee (SCL-CAC) was called to order at 3:03 p.m. on May 11, 2023, by Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken by Mr. Hunter. Only four of the seven Committee Members were present, which is not a quorum: Jeanette Capaldi, Wayde Hunter, Debbie Pietraszko and Keren Waters. Richard Fisk arrived later. Absent: Laine Caspi and Larry Fleck. A quorum of at least five (there were four) Committee Members was not present, so at this time the Board could only take public comments, could not have any official discussions, and could not make any Motions or take any votes. Two Committee Member openings were available. Landfill and government representatives present : BFI/Republic Services: Michael Stewart; SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District): Larry Israel; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency): Dave Thompson; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: none; L.A. County Public Works Dept.: Michael Harmon; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: Edgar De La Torre; L.A. County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath’s Office: Sophia Souvani; L.A. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger’s Office: none; L.A. City Councilman John Lee’s Office: Sharon Bronson; L.A. City Planning Dept.: none; and LAUSD District 3: Andrew Modugno. Also attended: approximately 30 residents and other guests. A Balance Sheet, Reconciliation Detail and other related SCL-CAC and Landfill documents were available at www.scl-cac.org.

[*The following Minutes approval was addressed after the Item #B Treasurer’s Report review.*] No corrections or amendments were made to the Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Fisk, seconded by Ms. Waters): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its March 9, 2023 Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote of the five eligible voters present with all five in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Capaldi, Fisk, Hunter, Pietraszko and Waters); zero opposed; zero abstained.

B. Old Business: Discussion and Committee motions & possible action:

- Outstanding administrative matters (Chair/Vice Chair).

There were none.

- Treasurer's Report, March 2023 – April 2023 (Treasurer).
Mr. Hunter reviewed finances. The "Business Checking Account (for Expenses) 1234" beginning balance was \$6,531.14. Two checks were written on that account: \$220 for November 2022 Minutes and \$260 for January 2023 Minutes. Total deductions were \$480; the ending balance was \$6,051.14. The "Business Savings Account (for Consultants) 1582" beginning balance was \$61,452.12; \$2.03 in interest was accrued; the ending balance was \$61,454.15. The "Business Checking Account (for Consultants) 9514" beginning balance was \$10,696.98; a \$26,000 check was received from BFI/Republic for the 2023 yearly assessment, the ending balance was \$36,696.98. There was \$100 in Petty Cash. There were no Other Assets. The total beginning balance for all accounts as of March 1, 2023 was \$6,531.14; debits were \$400 and deposits were \$26,002.03; the total ending balance for all accounts was \$104,302.27 as of April 30, 2023 per Mr. Fleck and Mr. Hunter.

[The next Agenda Item addressed was the Item #A Minutes approval. The following vote was taken after Item #C. 1.]

MOTION (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Ms. Pietraszko): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the March 2023 – April 2023 Treasurer's Report as presented.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote of the five eligible voters present with all five in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Capaldi, Fisk, Hunter, Pietraszko and Waters); zero opposed; zero abstained.

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

- 1. Browning-Ferris Industries/Republic Services Inc. (BFI/Republic)** to report on any and all Sunshine Canyon Landfill daily activities, state of infrastructure/gas collection system, notable events including NOVs, current and future disposal operations, including continuing efforts to abate odors.

Committee Member Richard Fisk arrived at this time (3:14), making five Committee Members present (the SCL-CAC quorum is five). Now the Committee could take binding votes on Agendized Items.

Michael Stewart, General Manager, BFI/Republic [24-hour Landfill hotline 818-779-9170; main 818-362-2124; Info@SunshineCanyonLandfill.com; <http://SunshineCanyonLandfill.com>] gave an SCL "Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Update" as follows:

“Operations

- There have been no major changes to our disposal operation or location, and we continue to utilize cell CC-4-P4A/B/C and our Wet Weather Deck in CC-4P 2 & 3 as needed.
- The site has experienced heavy rains and has utilized the wet weather deck frequently over the first quarter and into April.
- We continue to use the Enviro-Cover for ADC and monitor its performance daily.
- During the month of March, and the first Saturday of April, ADC was used for cover on Saturdays, due to the heavily saturated material due to the rain events, making application of soil unsafe. All other Saturdays in the month of April had a full soil cover. All trash was covered with either ADC or soil on all days (i.e. no trash was left exposed at any time)

Construction

- Season to date, the site has received over 57 inches of rainfall
- We continue to monitor weather events and have enhanced the on-site BMPs to manage subsequent storms if experienced over the summer, including additional cover soil placement, grading and channel and basin cleanouts.
- We have received our grading permits for Phase 1 & 2 of the Toe Berm project. We are still in the review process for Phases 3, 4 & 5 with the City and expect approvals in Q2 of 2023
- This is an important project to enhance our odor controls on site as well as reduce the visual impact of looking up the canyon, and to ensure stability for the continued development of the landfill. Most Phases 1 and 2 Construction have been complete – one small section of the Phase 2 subgrade work still remains and will be complete within the next 3-4 weeks, weather permitting.
- Phase 3 of the project will begin after issuance of the final City approvals; construction of the entirety of the project estimated to be complete in mid-2025.
- No cell construction is planned for 2023; disposal operations will continue in the existing remaining constructed airspace for the remainder of this year. The next planned cell will be constructed in 2024.
- We continue to move through the permitting process for the installation of Flare 12 with an expected install completion target of 2024, pending approvals.

Odor update:

- March was slightly better than Jan and Feb until the atmospheric river returned in late March making April look more like January in terms of odor
- March 14th had 3.89 inches rain in 1 day followed by 2.29 inches of rain, at this point we start to see the gas system’s pumping/dewatering components start to struggle .. This were we proactively made decision to move our 2023 Landfill gas expansion up from the scheduled July/Aug timeframe to be able to hit the ground running once the landfill has dried up enough to begin drilling wells. The drilling started in April.

Here is the plan we have been following to fix it the situation and get the landfill back to normal operation

- The landfill cover storm damage has been completely addressed all the erosion rills and exposed waste within those rills have been completely covered. This was the 4th round of repairs since December and with the break in the severe weather this repair has remained. April was the first month the LEA did not issue the site an NOV or AOC for erosion since last December.
- Our Odor Patrol Team is fully staffed, and the patrols are rolling smoothly. The Team is in the neighborhood during the early hours of operations and then moves to spot patrols throughout the day. As they notice odors, they relay that information back to the site and we adjust the operations based on their feedback. This is our most effective line of defense when get highly odoriferous at the working face
- We are continually modifying the pilot stationary wet and dry vapor odor neutralizer delivery system on site. We have established a partnership with a consultant developing site-specific neutralizer product and delivery systems, and we continue working with them to improve the on-site systems and tailor the product to our waste stream.
- As I stated earlier the 2023 Gas Expansion Construction activities been accelerated by 4 months and has begun. To date, we have installed 17 vertical gas wells, with plans to install at least 20 more. Additionally, installation of approximately 5,500 feet of horizontal gas collectors is underway. We are starting to see the positive impacts of the construction already, the liquid levels in wells continue to go down. The landfill gas flows are increasing as additional perforations are exposed and gas extraction from the new well commence. We understand the severity situation we are in and working very hard to get the landfill back its proper operating condition.”

Mr. Hunter described the CAC’s effort to add the previously required (upwind) station. He will again contact City Planning “to get a status on the third station.” Mr. Stewart explained the Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) and its use. He said that 50% - 60% of wells are nonfunctional. A resident said trucks “spewing dirt” become “a dust storm on the road.” He said dirt is brought in “as early as six a.m.” Another resident said “I have never seen this many trucks come into the dump before.” Mr. Stewart said that dirt haulers are tested “all the time” and records are publicly available, and that “all landfills are struggling with the same issues we have.” He acknowledged that Sunshine Canyon is having more odor problems than other County landfills.

[At this time Item the #B, Treasurer’s Report was returned to for the vote.]

2. South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) to report on SCL odor complaints received and NOVs issued including any year-to-date charts, frequency of Inspector response to reports, and any other matters within their purview (20 mins). Motion: To send a letter to the County Board of Supervisors and County Public Health requesting assistance in getting the AQMD to request an Odor Abatement Hearing.

Larry Israel, Compliance Supervisor, SCAQMD [909-396-2370; LIsrael@aqmd.gov; www.aqmd.gov], reported that, since January 2023, there've been 775 complaints; he stated that "that's more than the most number of complaints we've received in an entire year since 2017." In March, 74 of 146 complaints were verified; five NOVs (Notices of Violation) were issued. In April, 112 of 185 complaints were verified; 11 NOVs were issued. In May, Van Gogh Charter School "faculty, parents and teachers were affected." He listed and described some of the odor events; they included landfill gas and sour trash odors that were detected from early morning to night. So far in May, six of 14 complaints were verified. He noted that Chiquita Canyon Landfill received less than half as much rain and that no other County landfill received near as much rain as Sunshine Canyon. He described possible reasons for the odors, saying "it's the most intense that have been detected in quite a while." He described how the California Home and Safety Code, adopted in 1976, applies to nuisances. He described the determination and tracking of "fugitive dust . . . the focus is more on tracking out . . . we're not receiving complaints for visible emissions past the truck lane." Resident Adrienne "counted 42 trucks" going to the landfill on a recent day. Mr. Hunter noted that the ECORP report was publicly distributed. Resident Ralph Kroy said that "many, many years ago . . . [an] interim health study" was done. Mr. Hunter explained that it "was only a 100-sample study" done by the County and by a married couple who also worked for the tobacco industry; they attributed residents (health) complaints to "hysterical women." Mr. Stewart said that a chemicals list is available. Mr. Israel said that a long-term solution is "in the works." Mr. Hunter reminded residents that "the SCL-CAC doesn't have any power." He described possible AQMD enforcement actions.

MOTION (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Ms. Waters): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee will send a letter to the County Board of Supervisors and County Public Health requesting assistance in getting the AQMD to request an Odor Abatement Hearing.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote of the five eligible voters present with all five in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Capaldi, Fisk, Hunter, Pietraszko and Waters); zero opposed; zero abstained.

3. Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA) to report on any SCL matters within their purview.

Dave Thompson, SCL-LEA Program Manager [213-252-3932; David.Thompson@lacity.org; www.SCLLEA.org], explained that "our responsibility is to enforce" the laws and that "substantial rain . . . caused some damage" to the Landfill; "the LEA issued violations for this . . . all repairs have been done; they are back in compliance." They (LEA) are assisting regarding odor control and are consulting "with legal counsel." The LEA will have a May 18th hybrid Board

meeting; the Agenda was posted. He described the LEA's violation-issuing process.

4. Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to report on any SCL matters within their purview.

Andrew Modugno, Environmental Assessment Coordinator, LAUSD Ofc. of Environmental Health & Safety (OHS) [213-241-3926; Andrew.Modugno@lausd.net], reported that "we're almost done" installing another monitoring station at Van Gogh School. They'll request two more stations.

5. County Public Works to report on any SCL matters within their purview.

Michael Harmon, Sr. Civil Engineering Asst., L.A. County Dept. of Public Works [626-458.6986; MHarmon@dpw.LACounty.gov; www.dpw.LACounty.gov], reported that a letter was sent requesting "additional corrective measures . . . [and] a detailed report" regarding "drainage and erosion issues." The Landfill's May 4th response is "being reviewed." Tonnage exceedance was referred for "enforcement action" and CPW will continue to monitor it.

6. County Regional Planning Department to report on any SCL matters within their purview.

Edgar De La Torre, Zoning Enforcement Planner, L.A. County Regional Planning Dept. [213-974-6453; EDeLaTorre@planning.LACounty.gov; <http://planning.LACounty.gov>], reported that they "will continue to monitor" exceedances. They issued an NOV on May 2nd; he will get a copy to Mr. Hunter. Mr. De La Torre indicated that residents can contact him to get on an email list to receive copies.

7. County Public Health Department to report on any SCL matters within their purview.

No representative was present; there was no report.

8. City Planning Department to report on any SCL matters within their purview.

No representative was present; there was no report.

9. 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.

Sophia Souvani, Field Deputy for L.A. County District Three Supervisor Lindsey Horvath [office 213-974-3333; SSouvani@bos.LACounty.gov];

ThirdDistrict@bos.lacounty.gov; <https://lacounty.gov/government/board-of-supervisors/lindsey-p-horvath>], introduced herself.

Mr. Kroy said that L.A. County owns Knollwood Country Club, which is “asking a fantastic amount of money” to rent a meeting room, and since this is a City/County committee, he had raised the issue of a meeting place with City Councilmember Lee’s office. Mr. Hunter explained that the SCL-CAC had paid \$400 per meeting; now Knollwood is asking for \$3,000 per meeting, and that he had requested help from Supervisors Lindsey Horvath and Kathryn Barger, but “they said they couldn’t help us.” He described the extensive work that he had to do in order to secure this meeting location.

D. Committee Member and Public comments on items NOT on the Agenda. *Note: Under the Brown Act, the Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that has not been agendized; however, it may become the subject of a future meeting. Comments are limited to 2 minutes per speaker unless adjusted by the presiding officer.

Sharon Bronson, a Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman John Lee (818-882-1212; Sharon.Bronson@LACity.org; www.CD12.org), introduced herself.

E. Set next meeting date (July 13, 2023). Adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Hunter announced that the next Meeting will be at a different location on July 13, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. as the school is not available.

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

Mr. Hunter indicated that there was no more discussion.

Mr. Hunter declared and the Committee agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 4:57 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.* The SCL-CAC Meeting Minutes page is <http://scl-cac.org/agendas-minutes>.