

**Natural Resources Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**January 25, 2010**

**Commissioners:**

Present: Herman Boschken (arrived 6:37), Charles Ehrlich (arrived 6:42),  
Doug Fetterly, Jennifer Holman (Chair), Adrienne Kandel,  
Kris Kordana (Planning Commission Liaison), Mark Lubell (Alternate)

Absent: Brook Gale (excused), Dean Newberry (V-Chair) (unexcused)

Staff: Sue Gedestad, Assistant PW Director  
Richard Tsai, Sr. Utility Resource Specialist  
Linda Cano, Administrative Aide  
Bob Clarke, Interim PW Director

Council Liaison: Stephen Souza

---

**1. Roll Call**

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Agenda was approved by consensus.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of **November 30, 2009** were approved by consensus with the clarification of Commissioner Kandel's comment on Item 7D. Sentence to read: She would like the City Council to be sure of power availability before approving any new development along the electricity distribution lines in front of the Frontier Fertilizer site.

**4. Commission and Staff Announcements:**

Commissioner Fetterly inquired as to status of the "leaf blower" issue. He would like to be sure that it is included in the long range agenda.

Additionally, Commissioner Fetterly inquired as to the progress on the wood burning issue. He noticed an issue in Village Homes one day last week and will email staff with the date and time of the occurrence.

**5. Council Liaison Comments: None**

**6. Public Communications:**

Alan Pryor, Yolo Clean Air, expressed his belief that the NRC needs a call to action on sustainability issues. There is much more work to be done on issues such as: IPM, water and wastewater conservation, reduction of carbon footprint, wood burning, plastic bags and disposable take-out containers. The NRC could take the lead and bring issues to the City Council.

Carolyn Henshaw, Davis Sierra Club, would like to see a ban on single use plastic bags. She mentioned that the city of Berkley is banning plastic bags and charging a .25 fee on paper bags. This fee encourages people to bring their own bag. She also mentioned [www.greencitiescalifornia.org](http://www.greencitiescalifornia.org), a website where “easily accessible, ground breaking environmental policies, or Best Practices, can immediately be downloaded and modified for each jurisdiction”.

Ms. Henshaw will email the Commissioners links to Berkley staff and information on what Berkley is doing. Additionally, Ms. Henshaw offered any assistance she could provide the Commission.

## Regular Calendar

**6. Elect Commission Officers**

Jennifer Holman nominated Dean Newberry for Chair, seconded by Charles Ehrlich. Mark Lubell nominated Doug Fetterly for Vice-Chair which was seconded by Charles Ehrlich. Nominations approved by consensus.

**8. Change NRC Meeting Frequency**

No action taken on this item. Commission agreed to revisit this item next month after putting together a comprehensive long range calendar and discussing other ways of lightening the load on staff.

**9. Utility Rates**

1.) Variable Can Rate

After much discussion, the Commission agreed to support staff’s recommendation to maintain the current rate methodology. Additionally, they would like to put waste reduction on the long range calendar for a more in-depth look.

2.) FY 2010/2011 Utility Rate Review

After a lengthy discussion, the Commission accepted staff’s recommendations by a split vote: 3 ayes (Mark Lubell, Herman Boschken, Adrienne Kandel), 2 opposed (Doug Fetterly and Charles Ehrlich) and 1 abstain (Jennifer Holman).

Discussion hinged on concerns that not enough emphasis is being put on conservation and the costs and repercussions of the surface water project.

**Adjourn: 9:37 pm**