Natural Resources Commission Minutes
September 25, 2017; 6:30 p.m.

Present: Mark Braly, John Johnston, Alan Pryor, Patrick Henderson, Evan Schmidt, Anya McCann
Absent: Steven Westhoff
Staff: Mitch Sears, Sustainability Program Manager

Council Liaison: Rochelle Swanson

1. Approval of Agenda – Approved unanimously.

2. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons – Staff informed the Commission that Michelle Millet has resigned and Anya McCann is now a regular member. The Commissioners were encouraged to forward the press release information to potential applicants to the NRC and other Commissions. City staff changes include the retirement of City Manager Dirk Brazil in January 2017 and Integrated Pest Management Coordinator Martin Guerena as of last week.


4. Consent Calendar – (approval 6-0; moved by Pryor, seconded by McCann).
   (A) September 25, 2017 minutes.
   (B) Draft Water Rate Study Update and Recommendations

5. Regular Items

   A. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) – Update of IPM Policy and Procedures

      A motion on Commission review and recommendations of the IPM Policy, made by Pryor, seconded by McCann, was passed (5-1 Pryor, McCann, Braly, Henderson, Schmidt in favor; Johnston opposed) as follows: “The Commission moves to table the discussion of the IPM Policy document, ‘Updated City of Davis Integrated Pest Management Policy and Procedures’, in order to send to City Council for input and guidance. The Council item shall include presentation by one or more Natural Resources Commission Hazardous Materials Subcommittee members.”

      In discussion of the motion, Commissioners noted that the IPM Policy provides unclear direction and doesn’t respond to immediate IPM needs. Council input is needed specifically on issues related to 1) the Reduced Risk Pesticide List, 2) expanded PHAER zoning, 3) and the Technical Advisory Committee composition, charge, authority and time frame as identified in the plan. Significant concerns mentioned were that responses to the draft recommendations (Items A-I) from the Hazardous Materials Subcommittee were inadequate or are not captured in the IPM Policy. Additionally, it was stated that the Staff Report erroneously indicates higher costs required to manage with IPM, but data shows costs are actually relatively close. Finally, the comment was made that there needs to be further clarification of the process for resolving conflicts within the City, specifically with Department heads and IPM supervisors or other staff.

   B. Report on Davis Waste Removal (DWR) right of First Refusal

      Richard Tsai, Environmental Resources Manager updated the Commission on the DWR proposed sale to Recology. He thanked the NRC for pushing completion of the DWR policy and contract because that set the framework for this opportunity. The current issue is that the City of Davis has first right of refusal to purchase instead and needs to respond. It is not necessary at this time to make the decision, but only to start the review process to determine the best approach for the City. The management team and the City Attorney’s office are reviewing and have met with the proposed buyer. Also part of the discussion are the in progress Rate Study and
the Organics Feasibility Study.

C. Draft Implementation Approach for Davis Rental Energy Efficiency Ordinance

The NRC Energy Subcommittee presented the draft rental energy efficiency proposal by Build it Green. No fees to City of Davis are proposed; the effort is being supported by PG&E’s Reach Code group with involvement by Marshall Hunt. The Boulder, CO model ordinance is an example of this concept in implementation.

The Commission made suggestions to the subcommittee. The work scope and plan is extensive and proposes evaluation of opportunities, reviewing relevant documents, including the Davis FREE report, developing incentive ideas for property owners, providing stakeholder outreach and development of an implementation strategy. The Commission noted that the five deliverables need more detail and time frame information. A draft Table of Contents was suggested. The Subcommittee is aware that City Council may not be ready to implement this, but starting the study now would allow the City to be ready when the time is appropriate. The Commission was in support of the concept and recommended that the subcommittee authorize the work scope and plan as rapidly as possible.

D. Subcommittee Updates – No further reports.

6. Commission and Staff Communications
   a) Long Range Calendar/Future Agenda Items. Reviewed
   b) Upcoming meeting items/events. Next regular meeting October 23, 2017

7. Adjourn: 9:00 p.m