

MEETING MINUTES

KEEP KERN BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting
May 18, 2022
Microsoft Teams
2:00-3:00 P.M.

1) **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

Committee Members Present

Gary Ananian, Daniel Harrison (Chairperson), Lynnda Martin, Christopher McGehee, Andrea Medina (Vice Chairperson), and Karen Sanders (a quorum was met)

Committee Members Not Present

David Kadel and Steve Kinsey

2) **Welcome and Roll Call**

The Committee Coordinator, Alicia A. Gutierrez, welcomed all Committee Members, Kern County Public Works staff, County Counsel Gurujodha Khalsa, and guests present

3) **Approval of resolution for Keep Kern Beautiful Committee to hold remote meetings**

MOTION: *To approve the resolution for the Committee to hold remote meetings*

Motioned by Karen Sanders; seconded by Andrea Medina

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

4) **Approval of Meeting Minutes from Regular Meeting on April 20, 2022**

MOTION: *To approve Meeting Minutes from the April 20, 2022 Regular Meeting*

Motioned by Gary Ananian; seconded by Christopher McGehee

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

5) **New Business**

A. Provide a recap on Keep Kern Beautiful Earth Day/Great American Cleanup

I. **Committee Members who were point of contacts for cleanups**

Committee Coordinator Alicia A. Gutierrez asked the Committee Members to provide a recap of their cleanup efforts in their respective districts.

For District 1, Committee Member Gary Ananian stated that they had a great turnout, but their numbers were a little down from the usual cleanups they host. He stated that they usually get around 100 people to come out for Earth Day cleanups, but that the high gas prices might have been the cause of the lower turnout since most of their volunteers typically come from Bakersfield and the LA area, but they did see some

from out of town. He stated that they saw people that came as far as San Diego, Long Beach, and even Fresno for the cleanup and had about 45 people in attendance, collected about 2,000 pounds of trash and about a dozen tires. He also stated that they cleaned up the Wofford Heights side of Lake Isabella, which is the West side of the lake and maintained by the County. Lastly, he stated the volunteers picked up lots of loose trash, household stuff, and construction material.

Committee Coordinator Alicia A. Gutierrez commented that she would reach out to the Boron Cleanup point of contact Lynn Black to receive an update on the cleanup, but asked District 2 Committee Member Karen Sanders if she had anything to share.

District 2, Committee Member Karen Sanders was not the point of contact for the cleanup that took place in Boron, so she didn't have any statistics to report, but she did mention that she was coordinating with the California City Chamber of Commerce to cleanup California City Blvd. for the Great American Cleanup in October.

Committee Coordinator Alicia A. Gutierrez commented that District 3 Committee Member David Kadel was not on the call to provide a report, but stated that Kern County Public Works Staff Member Kym Baldwin assisted with coordinating the cleanup efforts with the Oildale Community Action Team and Staff Members also participated with a community outreach booth at the Love Oildale community event, where they viewed a group of around 30 volunteers cleaning up the area around Standard Park picking up trash, cutting weeds and doing a lot of great work. They also had a bulky waste collection event nearby where they were encouraging residents to drop off bulky waste. She also commented that she would follow up with David Kadel on the results of the cleanup.

For District 4, Committee Member Lynnda Martin stated that at the beginning of the month they started with a bulk item community drop off on the 2nd and Kiwanis performed a Caltrans cleanup on Highway 43. On the 16th they had a tree planting community cleanup that was in a cul-de-sac, where they planted some trees and rose bushes with the Lions Club and stated she would share photos. On the 23rd they had a compost giveaway in Shafter at the Youth Center, and they also had the Women's Club doing the walk-around cleanup and meet at Tin Cup for coffee. Some other cleanups took place in Lost Hills and they had another cleanup event that took place in Wasco. It was a bulk item event with community members. Going to send photos, weights, and bags.

For District 5, Committee Member Chris McGehee shared that they had a small, but mighty cleanup crew with seven (7) volunteers and Committee Member Dan Harrison also participating in the East Bakersfield cleanup. They collected between 25-30 bags worth of trash,

bulky items, and shopping carts.

B. Keep Kern Beautiful Cleanup Supplies

II. **Discuss options for cleanup supplies to order with Keep Kern Beautiful funds and a procedure for borrowing the supplies.**

Committee Coordinator Alicia A. Gutierrez asked Committee Members to discuss any ideas on cleanup materials and procedures for borrowing the items. She asked if the Committee could discuss further so that in our next meeting on June 15, the Committee could vote on some items to purchase for future cleanups for all the committee members to utilize. She mentioned the \$2,000 available funds and the possibility of purchasing grabbers, paint rollers, and paint trays, and asked the Committee for any other suggestions.

Committee Member Lynnda Martin suggested paint rollers, sleeves, and plastic paint trays.

Committee Member Gary Ananian suggested a company out of LA that sells portable pressure washers for graffiti removal and that their product can be used on just about anything. His organization uses the pressure washer on the rocks and boulders in the river and around the shoreline. He stated that everything they sell is eco-friendly and the pressure washer costs around \$2,000.

Committee Coordinator Alicia A. Gutierrez stated that she would get pricing for the paint rollers, sleeves, plastic paint trays, and grabbers and present them at the June 15 meeting to vote on.

The Committee also discussed the process for borrowing these items, which would be stored at the Public Services Building at 2700 “M” Street in Bakersfield. The Committee agreed that the borrowing process would be based on a first-come, first-served basis utilizing a sign-out/sign-in sheet to document when the items are in use.

6) In Karina Mendez’s absence, Kym Baldwin, Public Works Maintenance Supervisor presented on recent and upcoming community cleanup efforts

As of May 18, 2022, KCPWD Illegal Dumping & Events Update:

R.A.P.I.D. Stats

Countywide Dump Sites Cleared = 2,078

Countywide Tonnage = 436 tons

Mattresses Collected Countywide = 339

Recycled: 244

Encampments Cleared = 181

Household Hazardous Waste/Temporary Collection Events

- May 21, 2022 – Kern Valley Transfer Station
- May 28, 2022 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- June 4, 2022 – Tehachapi Landfill
- June 11 & 25, 2022 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility

Bulky Waste Collection Event

Completed Events:

Lake Isabella – April 23, 2022 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

- Veterans/Seniors Center – Lake Isabella Blvd.
- Cesar Chavez Environmental Corps. & Thomas Refuse
- Results:
 - 47 customers
 - 5.62 tons

Frazier Park – April 30, 2022 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

- Frazier Mountain Park
- Cesar Chavez Environmental Corps. & Mountainside Disposal
- Results:
 - 15 customers
 - 1.25 tons

Upcoming Event:

Ridgecrest – May 21, 2022 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

- Leroy Jackson Park – 300 East French Avenue
- Cesar Chavez Environmental Corps. & Waste Management, Inc.

Clean California Initiative Event

East Kern Tire Amnesty Day – April 23, 2022 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. (or until capacity is reached)

- Boron, Mojave-Rosamond, Ridgecrest, & Tehachapi Landfills
- In partnership with Caltrans
- Results:
 - Boron – 350 tires
 - Mojave-Rosamond – 143 tires
 - Ridgecrest – 230 tires
 - Tehachapi – 68 tires
 - **Grand Total – 791 tires**

7) Committee Member Announcements or Reports

Committee Member Dan Harrison had a question relating to Item #6 and the cleanup of encampments within the City of Bakersfield limits.

Committee Coordinator Alicia A. Gutierrez stated that she would email Jessica Felix, Community Relations Specialist with the City of Bakersfield's Public Works Department and copy Dan on the message to find out the process for cleaning up encampments near Riverwalk.

Committee Member Gary Ananian shared an upcoming white water rafting and cleanup event on the Kern River on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, at 9 a.m. that should go until around 2 p.m. or 3 p.m. he did note that space is very limited and invited Committee Members out.

8) Staff Comment

No comment from staff.

9) Public Comment

No comment from the public.

10) Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 from 2-3 p.m.

11) ADJOURN

MOTION: *To adjourn the meeting*

Motioned by Daniel Harrison; seconded by Gary Ananian

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.