

MEETING MINUTES

KEEP KERN BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting
November 17, 2021
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, Lynn Black, Daniel Harrison (Chairperson), Lynnda Martin, Andrea Medina (Vice Chairperson), and Christopher McGehee (a quorum was met)

Committee Members Not Present

David Duckett, David Kadel, Steve Kinsey, and Karen Sanders

2) Welcome and Roll Call

The Committee Coordinator, Alicia A. Gutierrez, welcomed all Committee Members, staff, County Counsel, and guests present

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

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

Motioned by Andrea Medina; seconded by Gary Ananian

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

4) Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 20, 2021

MOTION: *To approve Meeting Minutes from October 20, 2021 Regular Meeting*

Motioned by Christopher McGehee; seconded by Daniel Harrison

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

5) New Business

A. Committee discussed and decided on Saturday, January 22, 2022 for a “virtual” clean-up to be held where volunteers can decide the location and time of day to commit to cleaning-up a littered area for 30 minutes. The Committee also discussed changing the name of the event from “virtual” to something that is clearer for volunteers to comprehend.

B. Committee discussed and decided on Saturday, April 23, 2022 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. for a formal clean-up event that ties both Earth Day and the Great American Clean-up event. Committee Members will host a clean-up event in their respective District during that time.

6) Presentation by Karina Mendez, Public Works Maintenance Worker II on recent and upcoming community clean-up efforts

Highlights:

RAPID Stats

Countywide Dump Sites Cleared = 3,193

Countywide Tonnage = 793.66 tons

Mattresses Collected Countywide = 896

Recycled: 498 – 55.58%

Encampments Cleared = 311

Community Clean-up Events

Currently working with community members in:

Buttonwillow – October 16, 2021

Cleanup in prep of Fall Farm Festival on October 23, 2021

1.97 tons picked-up

California City – October 23, 2021

Bi-annual cleanup of hotspots

10.24 tons picked-up

Rosamond Clean-Up – October 23, 2021

Cleanup of desert dumping – Sierra Hwy

2.21 tons picked-up

Household Hazardous Waste/Temporary Collection Events

November 20 – Kern Valley TS

November 27 – Ridgecrest SWF

December 4 – Tehachapi Landfill

December 11 – Ridgecrest SWF

Bulky Waste Collection Event

Bakersfield – October 23, 2021 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

Airport, Fairgrounds, Kern Medical

Traffic Count: 244

Tonnage: 13.85 tons and Donations

7) Committee Member Announcements or Reports

Daniel Harrison spoke on how impressive the tonnage numbers were for RAPID stats, community clean-ups, and bulky waste collection events and Karina Mendez provided further details on the eight (8) events Kern County Public Works had hosted so far this year therefore collecting more waste overall and with plans to increase the number of events in 2022.

Lynn Black had a question on illegal dumping and asked if that was similar to individuals reporting illegal dumping to Code Compliance. Karina Mendez and Michelle Burns-Lusich clarified that illegal dumping and Code Compliance were two separate items: illegal dumping located in the road right of way and within publicly owned property is picked-up by RAPID, while illegal dumping on private property is managed by Code Compliance.

Christopher McGehee reported that along with Andrea Medina they will be meeting with staff members from Supervisor Leticia Perez's office to discuss clean-up areas in District 5. Also, he recently worked with Karina Mendez on Bring Back the Kern and Panorama Vista Preserve groups in holding a clean-up along the Kern River bottom through Beach Park on up to Manor Street and he is still trying to get numbers to report on, but he was able to assist the group with trash bags for the clean-up.

Alicia A. Gutierrez let the Committee know that as an Affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, we have access to their online Volunteer Portal to post Keep Kern Beautiful community clean-up events and for Committee Members to send their event information her way and she will post the information online and share the link on the Keep Kern Beautiful Committee webpage as well for Committee Members and the public to access.

Alicia A. Gutierrez shared with the Committee that Supervisor Zack Scrivner asked that the Keep Kern Beautiful Committee host a community clean-up event near or around the Victory Square area in Taft and to hold the event in January 2022. Christopher McGehee made a comment that he is familiar with that area and would be able to help coordinate the clean-up event. Sal Moretti did mention that he works with a homeless nonprofit organization from the Navigation Center with a slogan 'Doing Good for Nothing' and that they would be able to help with the Taft community clean-up. He is going to provide the contact information of the group for the Committee to get in contact with.

Lynnda Martin asked that Alicia A. Gutierrez email the Taft community clean-up information once final to the Committee Members to help promote as well as post on the Volunteer Portal and had a question on the map that was sent via email to all Committee Members detailing specific clean-up areas that tie into the Litter Index Report.

8) Staff Comment

Michelle Burns-Lusich made a comment for anyone who is interested to join Kern County Public Works' Facebook page and mentioned that we often post events and information regarding recycling, clean-up events, and clean-up sites from our RAPID Crew. She shared the RAPID video link in the meeting chat and mentioned that it could also be found on the Kern County Public Works' Facebook page.

9) Public Comment

No comment from the public.

10) Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 from 2-3 p.m.

Alicia A. Gutierrez mentioned the upcoming Regular Meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 from 2-3 p.m. and that the Special Meeting for the Brown Act Training that was supposed to be held today after the Regular Meeting was postponed and will now take place following the December 15 Regular Meeting.

11) ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:46 p.m.