

MEETING MINUTES

KEEP KERN BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

January 15, 2025

PSB Public Meeting Room: 2700 'M' Street, Bakersfield 93301, 1st Floor

2:00-3:00 P.M.

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m.

2) Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Chairperson Daniel Harrison welcomed Committee Members, Kern County Public Works staff, County Counsel, and guests present.

Committee Members Present

Max Goossen (4), Daniel Harrison (1) (Chairperson), Olivia Jones (3), David Kadel (3A), and Christopher McGehee (5A)

Committee Members Not Present

Gary Ananian (1A), Brian Duhart (2A)

3) Approval of Meeting Minutes from Regular Meeting on July 17, 2024

MOTION: *To approve Meeting Minutes from the July 17, 2024 Regular Meeting*

Motioned by Christopher McGehee; seconded by Olivia Jones

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

4) Selection of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to serve a one-year term

District 5 Committee Member Christopher McGehee raised the question on whether alternative committee members could be nominated for Chairperson.

County Counsel Kathleen Rivera said that it's not in the Bylaws and advised not to appoint alternates, only primary members.

District 3 Committee Member Olivia Jones nominated District 1 Committee Member Gary Ananian for the committee Chairperson and the Committee Members agreed to nominate him. Olivia suggested that it wouldn't be right to nominate him if he wasn't in attendance.

Kathleen was asked if there was anything in the Bylaws that deterred them from doing so. Kathleen noted that the Bylaws didn't say whether it's allowed, but she recommended not to do say in the case that Gary didn't want to be the Chairperson – leaving the Committee without a Chair moving forward.

MOTION: *To move the selection of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to the next meeting.*

Motioned by Christopher McGehee; seconded by Olivia Jones
Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

5) Establish the dates of regular meetings for the following twelve (12) months

District 3 Committee Member Olivia Jones suggested that the quarterly meetings have been accommodating to most so far. She attended all meetings except for the past meeting she missed due to illness. She asked if other members would want to keep the meeting schedule quarterly excluding the last two (2) months of the year and moving October's meeting to September due to holidays.

District 5 Committee Member Christopher McGehee stated that moving forward to quarterly meeting works best, that he was open to Olivia's suggestion except for the September meeting idea due to it being the month that the Kern County Fair takes place. He noted that Kern County Public Works is usually involved with the fair; potentially creating a time conflict. Therefore, the Committee agreed to have the meeting schedule stay the same, for now.

MOTION: *To keep the in-person Committee Meeting schedule the same – to meet quarterly on the third Wednesday from 2:00-3:00 p.m. (January 15, April 16, July 16, and October 15, 2025).*

Motioned by Olivia Jones; seconded by Max Goossen
Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

6) New Business

A. Welcome and Introduce new Keep Kern Beautiful Committee Primary Member representing District 4, Max Goossen

I. INTRODUCTIONS

District 4 Committee Member Max Goossen stated that he is looking forward to meeting everyone and learning more about how the Committee works. He stated that he may not have a ton of experience with Keep Kern Beautiful, but that you'll find that he does have a lot of enthusiasm for keeping his community clean.

He mentioned that he always valued a clean community but thinks that it really came into focus when he joined his family business Westside Waste Management in 2018, where they perform both bulky waste collection events and community cleanups throughout their service areas, which include Taft, Buttonwillow, Maricopa, and Lost Hills.

B. Keep Kern Beautiful Committee Fundraising

I. COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO DISCUSS SPONSORSHIP FORM/LETTER

Kern County Public Works Marketing and Promotions Associate II Mayra Chamale opened the discussion and asked the Committee if they had any edits or suggestions.

District 3 Committee Member Olivia Jones introduced the idea of changing the donation amounts. Her example was to have the categories start at \$500, then \$1,000, \$2,500, and \$5,000+. The addition of "plus" was meant to serve as an umbrella figure.

Committee Members also highlighted the value of offering a custom pledge amount for future sponsorship opportunities, as the current form is tailored more to businesses rather than organizations or individuals.

District 1 Committee Chairperson Daniel Harrison recommended including a monthly contribution option for upcoming sponsorship forms.

District 3 Committee Member David Kadel raised questions about the Kern Foundation account and inquired whether the Committee was officially a nonprofit organization, noting that this information is crucial to share with potential sponsors.

District 5 Committee Member Christopher McGehee provided the official nonprofit tax ID number and information requested to David and pointed out where that information can be found in the Bylaws.

C. Upcoming Community Clean-ups

I. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO DISCUSS ANY UPCOMING COMMUNITY CLEAN-UPS AND HOW TO GET THE COMMUNITY INVOLVED**

District 3 Committee Members Olivia Jones and David Kadel discussed an OCAT Community Clean-up event in collaboration with the Office of Supervisor Jeff Flores taking place on January 25, 2025. Olivia requested Keep Kern Beautiful swag and grabbers.

Kern County Public Works Marketing and Promotions Associate II Mayra Chamale mentioned that she would be happy to coordinate community clean-up supplies pick up date with her.

7) **Receive and File a Presentation by Mayra Chamale, Marketing and Promotions Associate II, on behalf of Karina Mendez, Public Works Maintenance Worker II on recent and upcoming community clean-up efforts**

Household Hazardous Waste/Temporary Collection Events

- January 11, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- January 25, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- February 1, 2025 – Kern Valley Transfer Station
- February 8, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- February 14, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- February 15, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- February 22, 2025 – Shafter-Wasco Landfill
- February 22, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- March 1, 2025 – Mojave Special Waste Facility
- March 1, 2025 – McFarland-Delano Transfer Station
- March 8, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility

- March 14, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- March 15, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- March 22, 2025 – Taft Landfill
- March 22, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- March 29, 2025 – Lebec Transfer Station
- April 4, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- April 5, 2025 – Tehachapi Landfill
- April 11, 2025 – Kern Valley Transfer Station
- April 12, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility
- April 19, 2025 – California City
- April 26, 2025 – Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility

Bulky Waste Collection Events

14 events were held in 12 cities/towns of Kern County with more than 1,400 customers attending and approximately 100 tons collected.

The schedule of events for 2025 is in the process of being finalized and should be shared with the public by the end of this month. We look forward to hosting events throughout the County and potentially adding new areas this year as we continue our partnership with the County's local franchise haulers, Cesar Chavez Environmental Corps, and our locations partners.

For updates on the events, please look for the department's press releases or monitor our Waste & Recycling Events page of our website and follow us on social media.

MOTION: *To receive and file a presentation on recent and upcoming community clean-up efforts*

Motioned by Olivia Jones; seconded by Christopher McGehee

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

8) Committee Member Announcements or Reports

District 5 Committee Member Christopher McGehee provided an update regarding a bike lane that had been affected by fire in District 5.

District 1 Committee Chairperson Daniel Harrison commented on the unexpectedly clean, "spotless" condition of the areas around the Kern Valley Transfer Station.

9) Staff Comment

Kern County Public Works Marketing and Promotions Associate II Mayra Chamale mentioned that Kern County Public Works is thrilled to introduce its new quarterly newsletter – Public Works 101. She invited everyone to sign up to receive all the latest news, information about programs and services, upcoming construction projects, waste & recycling events, and more! She also stated that all Committee Members are welcome to share their community clean-up photos, to be featured in our Keep Kern Beautiful section of the newsletter and mentioned that we would love to showcase all things related to Keep Kern Beautiful to engage and inspire community members and organizations.

10) Public Comment

Ray Scott invited the Keep Kern Beautiful Committee to consider applying for a Clean California affiliation. He said that the requirements to keep affiliation are the same as Keep America Beautiful.

Supervisor Chris Parlier's Field Representative Paul Yanez introduced himself to the Committee as a staff member from the district 2 office. Eager to participate at every meeting, he brings with him eight (8) years of experience from his role with Keep Bakersfield Beautiful.

11) Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, April 16, 2025, from 2:00-3:00 p.m.

12) Adjourn

MOTION: *To adjourn the meeting*

Motioned by Olivia Jones; seconded by Christopher McGehee

Approved unanimously by all Committee Members

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.