




# Meeting Minutes MRC Oversight Committee

 **Date:** 9/21/2023  
 **Start:** 10:04 AM  
 **End:** 10:35 AM

Information about the Oversight Committee including agendas, meeting minutes, recordings, etc., can be found at <https://cchealth.org/hazmat/mrc/>

## I. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was hosted by Michael Dossey

### Attendance

Community Members: ~~Cheryl Grover~~, Benjamin Therriault, Pedro Babiak, Tony Semenza, Deirdre Castillo, Kent Hull, Thomas Lang  
City of Martinez: Lauren Sugayan  
City of Benicia: Josh Chadwick  
Contra Costa Hazmat: ~~Nicole Heath~~, Michael Dossey, Sam Calvert  
MRC: Ken Axe  
MRC USW Rep: Nick Plurkowski

## II. OPEN ISSUES

### a. Status update on Independent Incident Investigation

Scott Berger & Associates provided an update on the status of the Independent Incident Investigation of the November 2022 Catalyst Release at MRC. The contract was originally signed in early May. Requested Documents from MRC and the documents were received on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Documents have been reviewed in detail. Scott Berger & Associates went to MRC from September 6<sup>th</sup> through September 8<sup>th</sup> and conducted interviews and additional documentation review. Still waiting to receive some documents and conduct some interviews. Currently working on finishing the causal analysis and generating the report. Work still to be done includes follow-up with MRC regarding additional documentation. The draft report may be finished by the next Oversight Committee meeting (mid-October).

Question from Benjamin Therriault: Are you able to interview employees in a “safe space”? Scott Berger stated that the interviewees have been forthcoming. A lawyer was present for the interviews but did not interfere with the ability of employees to answer questions.

### b. Status update on Risk Assessment Report

Michael Dossey gave an overview of the Risk Assessment process. The report generated by TRC (consultant) is available on the county website for this Oversight Committee (<https://cchealth.org/hazmat/mrc/>). See New Business item b for more information regarding the Risk Assessment report.

c. Statement from DA

Michael Dossey read a statement from the Contra Costa County District Attorney regarding investigations and proceedings resulting from the November 2022 incident. This statement has been posted at <https://cchealth.org/hazmat/mrc/committee.php>.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

a. Safety Culture Assessment Consultant Proposal Update

Contra Costa Health issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to conduct an independent Safety Culture Assessment of MRC. Three proposals have been submitted and the oversight committee will review the proposals and conduct interviews with the top-ranking candidates. One consultant will be selected to conduct the Safety Culture Assessment.

b. Discuss the timing of the Public Notice of Risk Assessment Report

Public Notice of the Risk Assessment Report started on August 28<sup>th</sup>. The 45-day public notice period ends on October 12<sup>th</sup>. A public meeting presenting the results of the report to the public will be held on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 PM. This will be held at 1025 Escobar Street in Martinez. This meeting will also be held on Zoom concurrently and members of the public can also attend virtually. The information for the virtual meeting is: <https://zoom.us/j/97867911814> or Dial: (360) 209-5623 Webinar ID: 978 6791 1814

c. MRC Safety Inspection report

Contra Costa Health Hazardous Materials department also conducted a safety inspection of MRC as a result of the November 2022 Catalyst release. This report is available for review online at <https://cchealth.org/hazmat/mrc/>

### IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

2-minute public comment: 2 comments were received from the public.

Comment 1 asked for clarification on the timeline for activities being conducted by the District Attorney's Office, more information regarding the distribution process for a flyer regarding the incident to some residents of Martinez, and a timeline for the Safety Culture Assessment

Response 1: Michael Dossey – No information on the timing for the District Attorney's activities. Regarding the flyer sent to some residents of Martinez, not sure of the exact addresses that it was sent to, though the distribution was based on the plume modeling conducted by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. Matt Kaufmann (Contra Costa Health, Deputy Director) – The flyer will be posted online at <https://cchealth.org/hazmat/mrc/>. Michael Dossey – regarding the timing for the Safety Culture Assessment, no specific timeline has been set for the independent Safety Culture Assessment. Kim McCarl (Contra Costa County Public Information Office) provided some information regarding the distribution of the flyer and reaffirmed that it will be posted to the Oversight Committee website.

Comment 2 asked if MRC has conducted any Safety Culture Assessments as required by the County Industrial Safety Ordinance.

Response 2: Michael Dossey stated that MRC is required to conduct Safety Culture Assessments once every 5 years and has been conducting them. The oversight committee has been directed to hire a consultant to review the results and data collected for the MRC safety culture assessment to ensure that the assessment has been conducted appropriately. Additionally, the Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials Department reviews the Safety Culture Assessment program every three years at MRC.

For full details of this meeting and the public comments please view the recording on <https://cchealth.org/hazmat/mrc/>

## **V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM