
Re: IWMA Board Meeting Agenda - January 14, 2026

From mantonland@frontiernet.net <mantonland@frontiernet.net>

Date Mon 1/12/2026 3:02 PM

To Clerk <clerk@iwma.com>

 1 attachment (21 KB)

Dr. Borenstein Letter.docx;

Good afternoon Janet,

I would like to request the opportunity to briefly address the IWMA Board at the Wednesday meeting regarding the sale of nitrous oxide for recreational use in San Luis Obispo County. I have attached a copy of a letter to Dr. Penny Borenstein, Public Health Director of SLO County, concerning this issue. Thank you.

Tom Knight



On Friday, January 9, 2026 at 04:01:07 PM PST, Clerk <clerk@iwma.com> wrote:

Hello,

The Agenda for the meeting of the IWMA Board of Directors called for Wednesday, January 14, 2026, is attached and also available on our website: [HERE](#)

Thank you.

You are receiving this email because you subscribed to receive notifications for IWMA (Board/EC)Meetings. If you wish to unsubscribe from this list, please respond to this email.

Janet Weldon
Clerk of the Board



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
Connecting the Community to Waste Solutions

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1-12-26

**Penny Borenstein, M.D., MPH
Public Health Director, SLO County
1055 Monterey Street
San Luis Obispo CA 93408**

Dear Dr. Borenstein,

I would like to see a ban on the sale of nitrous oxide for recreational use in San Luis Obispo County. Would it be possible to meet with you to discuss the need for such an action? My grandson, a 32-year-old Navy veteran, was admitted to Sierra Vista Hospital in critical condition on November 12th, 2025, as a result of nitrous oxide use. Just prior to Christmas he was transferred to a rehab hospital in Bakersfield for physical therapy. Last week he was transferred to a Bakersfield nursing home where he remains this afternoon. The social worker there says he is the youngest patient there, by far. He is still on OxyContin for severe pain and unable to walk. It is uncertain if he will regain use of his legs.

Nitrous oxide is sold in almost all smoke shops in San Luis Obispo County, though a number of states and several California counties have banned it. The cannisters state "for culinary use only," but that is just a bad joke. It is a product that targets young people with enticing names such as Watermelon Splash, Juicy Peach, and Rainbow Candy. Laughing gas has been around for a long time in dental offices, but under strictly controlled applications. Uncontrolled use can cause loss of control of bodily functions, severe nerve damage, and even death.

Please contact me. Thank you. I am copying all members of the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Tom Knight

**[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**

cc. John Peschong, Supervisor District 1

cc. Bruce Gibson, Supervisor District 2
cc. Dawn Ortiz, Supervisor District 3
cc. Jimmy Paulding, Supervisor District 4
cc. Heather Moreno, Supervisor District 5