
PRESENT:
HON. ROSETTE MIRANDA FERNANDO----Presiding Officer
HON. HUBERT GERVACIO--------------Vice Mayor
HON. ROLANDO S. REMULLA-----------Councilor
HON. REYNALDO M. FABIAN------------Councilor
HON. NORMITA D. CELESTINO---------Councilor
HON. AVELINO S. DE CASTRO----------Councilor
HON. MIGUEL N. BAUTISTA------------Councilor
HON. BAYANI M. DE LEON-------------Councilor
HON. RICARDO F. UGALDE------------Councilor-ABC-Pres.
HON. MARIENNE JOYCE G. CASTILLO---Councilor-SKF-Pres.

ABSENT:
HON. AVELINO B. SOLIS--------------Councilor
HON. MARIENNE JOYCE G. CASTILLO---Councilor-SKF-Pres.

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE No. 3
Series of 2007

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE “MUNICIPAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE” AND THE POSITION OF “MUNICIPAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICER” (S.G-24).

WHEREAS, Section 76 of R.A. 7160 (otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991), in conjunction with Section 454 of the same law, gives the municipal government the option to create a Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO);

WHEREAS, the municipal government of Bacoor, Cavite has yet to create the MENRO despite the fact that R.A. 7160 has been in effect since 1991 and despite the alarming environmental problems besetting Bacoor, Cavite;

Address: Evangelista St. Barangay Tabing Dagat, Bacoor, Cavite
Telefax, No. (046) 434-6716
WHEREAS, the serious environmental problems of Bacoor, Cavite and the urgent need to solve the same necessitates the creation of the MENRO and the position of Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer who has a salary grade of SG-24;

WHEREAS, there are many environmental laws that are not being properly implemented by the municipal government because it has failed to create a MENRO;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Bayan in session assembled that:

Section 1. **Statement of Policy.**—It shall be the policy of the municipal government of Bacoor, Cavite to protect the environment, strictly enforce all existing laws pertaining to the environment without fear or favor, and consistently embark on a platform of government that will enshrine love for the environment in the hearts of everyone in Bacoor, Cavite, in order to ensure that the blessings of Mother Nature shall continue to be enjoyed by all the generations to come.

Section 2. **Purpose.**—The purpose of this Ordinance is to create the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office ("MENRO" for brevity) and the position of Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer I (SG-24).

Section 3. **Scope of Powers of the MENRO** - The MENRO shall:

1. Take charge of matters concerning the environment and natural resources of the municipality;
2. Provide technical assistance to the Mayor in carrying out measures to ensure the delivery of the basic services relative to the environment and the municipality’s natural resources;
3. Develop plans and strategies and upon approval thereof by the mayor, as the case may be, implement the same particularly those which have to do with environment and natural resources programs and projects which the mayor is empowered to implement and which the Sanggunian is empowered to provide under the Local Government Code and under other prevailing laws;
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4. Establish, maintain, protect and preserve communal forests, watersheds, tree parks, mangroves, greenbelts, commercial forests and similar forest projects;

5. Provide extension services to beneficiaries of forest development projects and technical, financial and infrastructure assistance;

6. Manage and maintain seedbanks and produce seedlings for forests and tree parks;

7. Provide extension services to beneficiaries of forest development projects and render assistance for natural resources-related conservation and utilization activities consistent with ecological balance;

8. Coordinate with government agencies and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of measures to prevent and control land, air and water pollution with the assistance of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources;

9. Be in the frontline of the delivery of services concerning the environment and natural resources particularly in the renewal and rehabilitation of the environment during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters and calamities;

10. Recommend to the Sangguniang Bayan and advise the mayor as the case may be, on all matters relative to the protection, conservation, maximum utilization, application of appropriate technology and other matters related to the environment and natural resources; and

11. Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.

Section 4. Composition of the MENRO.—The MENRO shall be headed by a Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer, with a salary grade of SG-24. The said position shall be permanent in nature and any appointment to the said position shall be subject to approval of the municipal government’s Personnel Selection Board (PSB). For purposes of brevity, the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer, shall hereafter be referred to, as the “Department Head”.

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Section 5. **Qualifications of the Department Head** - The Department Head must be:

5.1. a citizen of the Philippines;
5.2. a resident of Bacoor, Cavite;
5.3. of good moral character;
5.4. a holder of a college degree from a reputable and recognized institution of education preferably in environment, forestry, agriculture, or any related course;
5.5. a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent; and
5.6. must have acquired experience in environmental and natural resources management, conservation, and utilization for at least three (3) years.¹

Section 6. **Duties and Responsibilities of the Department Head** - The Department Head shall:

6.1. Take charge of matters concerning the environment and natural resources of the municipality;
6.2. Provide technical assistance to the Mayor in carrying out measures to ensure the delivery of the basic services relative to the environment and the municipality’s natural resources;
6.3. Develop plans and strategies and upon approval thereof by the mayor, as the case may be, implement the same particularly those which have to do with environment and natural resources programs and projects which the mayor is empowered to implement and which the Sanggunian is empowered to provide under the Local Government Code and under other prevailing laws;
6.4. Establish, maintain, protect and preserve communal forests, watersheds, tree parks, mangroves, greenbelts, commercial forests and similar forest projects;
6.5. Provide extension services to beneficiaries of forest development projects and technical, financial and infrastructure assistance;
6.6. Manage and maintain seedbanks and produce seedlings for forests and tree parks;

¹ Sec. 484, Art. 14, Local Government Code.

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6.7. Provide extension services to beneficiaries of forest development projects and render assistance for natural resources-related conservation and utilization activities consistent with ecological balance;

6.8. Coordinate with government agencies and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of measures to prevent and control land, air and water pollution with the assistance of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources;

6.9. Be in the frontline of the delivery of services concerning the environment and natural resources particularly in the renewal and rehabilitation of the environment during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters and calamities;

6.10. Recommend to the Sangguniang Bayan and advise the mayor as the case may be, on all matters relative to the protection, conservation, maximum utilization, application of appropriate technology and other matters related to the environment and natural resources;

6.11. Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as may be prescribed by law or ordinance; and

6.12. Conduct periodic monitoring of public compliance with various environmental laws and ordinances. In this connection, the Department Head shall be required to submit a quarterly report to the Office of the Mayor and the Sangguniang Bayan with regard the compliance of the public with various existing laws and ordinances related to environment protection, the effective use of the municipality’s natural resources, and pertinent data on levels of air, water, and land pollution within the municipality. Provided, that, failure to submit such report may be used as a ground to cause the removal from office of the Department Head by the Mayor.

Section 7. Sources of Funds and the Operating Budget of the MENRO.
7.1. In view of the general limitations set in paragraph (a), Section 325 of RA 7160 regarding the use of municipal funds, no budgetary outlay for the MENRO shall be provided in this Ordinance. However, the absence of such budgetary outlay shall not be considered a hindrance in the creation of the MENRO or in the enactment of this Ordinance. Provided that the absence of such budgetary outlay shall not preclude the Sangguniang Bayan from enacting a budget ordinance in the future for the purpose of providing funds for the MENRO and its officers.

Section 8. Transitory Provisions. — To prevent disruption in the delivery of the basic urban services and the implementation of existing projects intended to protect the environment launched by the municipal government pending the full implementation of the MENRO’s organizational structure and staffing pattern, all officials and employees of the municipal government tasked to implement the various environmental projects of the municipal government shall continue to exercise their duties and functions and receive their salaries and allowances until they shall have been given notice of change of duties and functions, and of being transferred to another office or position.

All assets and properties presently in use or under the accountability of such officials and employees of the municipal government shall be transferred to and assumed by the MENRO as created under this Ordinance, subject to the conditions that may be established by the DBM, the Commission on Audit, and the Office of the Mayor.

The civil service laws, rules and regulations pertinent to the displacement of personnel affected by this Resolution shall be strictly enforced. The municipal government shall provide such amounts as may be necessary to pay the benefits accruing to displaced employees at the rate of one and one-fourth (1 1/4) month’s salary for every year of service: Provided, That, if qualified for retirement under existing retirement laws, said employees may opt to receive the benefits thereunder.

Section 9. Repealing Clause. — All ordinances, resolutions, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof issued by the Sangguniang Bayan or by the Office of the Mayor inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
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Section 10. *Separability Clause.* — If any part or provision of this Ordinance is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions thereof which are not affected shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 11. *Effectivity.* — This Ordinance shall take effect after ten (10) days from the date a copy hereof is posted in a bulletin board at the entrance of the Municipal Hall of Bacoor, Cavite and in at least two (2) other conspicuous places within the municipality.

ENACTED by the Sangguniang Bayan at its regular session today, 13 August 2007, in the Municipality of Bacoor, Cavite.

Attested by:

ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Bayan Secretary

Certified by:

VICE-MAYOR ROSETTE M. FERNANDO
Presiding Officer

Approved by:

HON. STRIKE D. REVILLA
Municipal Mayor

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