

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17, 2005
PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste
Management Task Force

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Conference Room B
Alhambra, California

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Mohajer, Integrated Waste Management Task Force; Carolyn Meredith, City of Pasadena; and Ben Lucha, City of Santa Clarita

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Cynthia Vant Hul, Waste Management; Glenn Acosta, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County; and Kenneth Murray, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services

OTHERS PRESENT:

True Pawluk, staff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

I CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m. by the Chair, Mike Mohajer.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of August 18, 2005, were approved as written.

III. NEWSLETTER ARTICLES, See Attachments

City of Calabasas – The article on recycling education needs to be updated to make it current since it discusses an event in the present tense when that event already passed. It was suggested that it be made clear as to how the City participates in America Recycles Day. It was also suggested that the last paragraph doesn't flow with the rest of the article, so it should either be deleted or maybe written in further up in the article. Need to include contact information in the article.

City of Commerce – The article on the recycling program at the Marksmanship Range was accepted as written with minor grammatical changes. Also need to include contact information in the article.

City of Pasadena – Article on Pasadena's recycling and environmental efforts has some minor grammatical errors and didn't flow because it was missing paragraphs and some paragraphs were in the wrong place. Subcommittee member Carolyn Meredith submitted the article and explained that she had cut and pasted it incorrectly, so she will be working with the editor to make sure the article is corrected for the newsletter.

Conversion Technology Evaluation Report – Accepted as written.

Mike Mohajer requested staff to prepare additional articles covering the areas listed below for publication in the upcoming Newsletter:

- 11/16/05 Hearing by The Assembly Natural Resources Committee on Conversion Technologies

IV. TASK FORCE MEETING DEBRIEFING

The Members of the Task Force and its subcommittees are subject to compliance with the Brown Act. The Task Force wants to emphasize that it is inappropriate for members to use their affiliation with the Task Force or any of its subcommittee or to speak as a representative of the Task Force without prior approval of the Task Force.

The Waste Board's proposed AB 939's Alternative Diversion Compliance System was discussed. The Waste Board is intending to change the current

measurement system to a 'simpler and more accurate' system, including measuring compliance on a countywide basis. If countywide disposal did not increase for a specified year, the Waste Board would conduct a streamlined review of jurisdictions' programs. However, if the countywide disposal increased, it would result in a detailed review of all the jurisdictions' programs within the county.

However, stakeholders have two primary concerns. The first is that countywide disposal would not take into account population growth and construction activities. The second is that the proposed system would pit jurisdictions against each other. The Waste Board approved the proposal at its November 2005 meeting and will begin conducting a dialogue with legislators to introduce legislation to carry out the proposal.

A letter was sent to the cities alerting them to a hearing that took place on conversion technology on 11/16/05, but attendance by cities at the hearing was not very good.

AB 399 had proposed implementation of recycling programs at multi-residential properties. The Task Force opposed the bill which was subsequently vetoed by the Governor even though the bill was supported by the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

V. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pending approval by the Task Force, staff is to draft a letter to all the city mayors with a copy to the city managers and recycling coordinators asking for volunteers to sit on the PEIS subcommittee. Mr. Mohajer wants to invite the cities to be more involved with the subcommittee and to submit articles for the newsletter that promote their environmental programs.

Subcommittee member Carolyn Meredith from the City of Pasadena will be retiring, but she agreed to stay on as an independent member not representing any one jurisdiction.

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE

Next meeting will be tentatively scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room B.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.
Attachments