

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Minutes of May 16, 2013

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association (Formerly GLASWMA)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Grace Chan, rep by Chris Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Mitchell Englander, rep by Nicole Bernson, City of Los Angeles
Gail Farber, rep by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Dr. Jonathan Fielding, rep by Cindy Chen, County of Los Angeles Department of
Public Health
Dr. Barry Wallerstein, rep by Ed Pupka, South Coast Air Quality Management District

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Carl Clark, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.
Michael Conway, City of Long Beach Public Works Department
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Mary Ann Lutz, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Gerry Miller, City of Los Angeles
Eugene Sun, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Enrique Zaldivar, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

OTHERS PRESENT:

Wayde Hunter, NVC/GHNNC
Armine Kesablian, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Tobie Mitchell, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Krishna Nand, Environmental Management Professionals
Chris Sheppard, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Jim Stewart, Bio Energy Producers
Emiko Thompson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Curtis William, City of Santa Clarita

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:07 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 18, 2013, MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion passed with one abstention from Mike Mohajer.

III. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Mike Mohajer reported the subcommittee reviewed and approved seven articles for inclusion in the next edition of the Inside Solid Waste Newsletter. The articles reviewed were the elementary and high school environmental programs conducted by Public Works' Public Relations Group; Walt Disney composting and recycling; City of Santa Monica waste tires; Puente Hills Landfill Closure – What's Next; update on paint recycling; update on carpet recycling and statewide problems; and CalRecycle's consideration of the County jurisdictions regarding the SRREs and HHWEs.

IV. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE (ATAS)

Ms. Tobie Mitchell provided the update from Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee. The Subcommittee's regular agenda included updates from the County's technical and public outreach contractors, who reported that they have focused their resources on assisting the County with outreach and research relating to Senate Bill 804, the County-sponsored conversion technology bill. The County's technical contractor, Alternative Resources Inc., has also worked to identify State and Federal sources of funding for the County's program. The Subcommittee also convened a special meeting to discuss certain legislative items relating to conversion technologies and solid waste management. The Subcommittee passed motions to request that the Task Force take a position of support for Assembly Bill 997 to be consistent with their support position on Senate Bill 804. The Subcommittee also passed a motion to request the Task Force take an oppose position on Assembly Bill 1126.

V. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY PLAN & REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE (FPRS)

Ms. Betsey Landis stated the subcommittee received an update on Sunshine Canyon Landfill. Staff reported that the pilot project area was prepared for planting; there were fewer odor complaints in April than at the same time last year; the sewer connection is expected to be permitted in August; and the proposed access road is in the process of being permitted. Ms. Landis also

discussed that the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Interagency Task Force meeting scheduled for May 8, 2013, was canceled, so there is nothing to report on developing additional mitigation measures to reduce Landfill odors.

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Christopher Sheppard presented the [attached Legislative Summary](#) and recommended action on the legislative bills listed below.

AB 5 – At the request of the Task Force staff brought up AB 5 for discussion. Mr. Mike Mohajer originally suggested a watch position. After a brief discussion, Mr. Mohajer made the motion to send a letter to oppose AB 5. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ron Saldana. The motion passed with one abstention from Mr. Ed Pupka.

AB 371 – Staff recommended the Task Force send a letter to oppose. Ms. Nicole Bernson made the motion to send the opposition letter, which was seconded by Mr. Saldana. The motion passed with one abstention from Mr. Pupka.

AB 521 – Staff recommended the Task Force send a letter to oppose. Mr. Mohajer made the motion to send the opposition letter, which was seconded by Mr. Carlos Ruiz. The motion passed with one abstention from Mr. Pupka.

AB 997 – The Task Force previously voted to oppose the bill; however, at the request of Mr. Mohajer the letter was held until the Task Force could revisit its position on the bill. Mr. Mohajer recommended that the Task Force change their position and send a letter of support to be consistent with language in other bills previously supported. Mr. Mohajer emphasized that the language in this bill is similar to SB 804, which the Task Force just recently supported. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to support AB 997, which was seconded by Mr. Sam Perdomo. Ms. Landis expressed her strong opposition because adding Anaerobic Digestion is not consistent with the scientific definition of composting, and Ms. Bernson concurred. After a lengthy discussion, the motion passed with opposition from Ms. Bernson and Ms. Landis and abstentions from Ms. Cindy Chen, Mr. Pupka, Mr. Saldana, and Mr. Chris Salomon.

AB 1023 – Staff recommended the Task Force send a letter to support if amended. The Task Force decided to watch this bill.

AB 1126 – Staff recommended the Task Force send a letter to support if amended. Mr. Mohajer stated the Alternative Technology Subcommittee voted to recommend that the Task Force take an oppose position. Mr. Jim

Stewart for Bio Energy Producers Association commented that because of bureaucracy the doors are closing on conversion technologies (CT). Existing bills contain language, such as the inaccurate scientific definition of gasification, making it impossible for CT providers to operate and take the financial risk to build facilities. He urged the Task Force to take an oppose position on AB 521 and AB 1126. After this discussion, Mr. Mohajer made a motion to oppose, which was seconded by Ms. Landis. The motion to oppose passed with abstentions from Mr. Perdomo and Mr. Pupka.

SB 254 – Staff recommended the Task Force send a letter to support if amended. The Task Force decided to watch this bill.

Staff informed the Task Force that SB 804 passed the Senate Environmental Quality Committee and is scheduled to be heard by the Appropriations Committee on May 20, 2013.

VII. UPDATE ON CALIFORNIA PAINTCARE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Ms. Armine Kesablyan reported there has been good progress by both the City of Los Angeles and the County making communication with PaintCare. PaintCare seems to be now more willing to work directly with HHW contractors, so amendments to the current HHW contracts will need to be made for this approach to work. County's counsel will be reviewing the contracts. Mr. Carlos Ruiz added that there may be a breakthrough by PaintCare negotiating directly with the HHW contractors. County's counsel may be able to work something out with PaintCare and staff will keep the Task Force informed of this progress. Mr. Mike Mohajer stated it all comes down to liability of who will be the owner of the paint. Sacramento and Santa Clara counties have already gone through this process and received approval from their counsels. Sacramento County has already begun implementing the program.

VIII. CALRECYCLE

There was no report from CalRecycle.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Wayne Hunter mentioned the word odor was left off the Sunshine Canyon Landfill report. He also stated that he's requested the 2012 statistics for the landfill and has not received them. Mr. Ed Pupka informed him that all requests should go through him, and he would check with staff on the status of the report.

Mr. Mike Mohajer mentioned that since the Puente Hills Landfill will be closing, the Sanitation District requested the permit restrictions imposed by the CUP be lifted off the Puente Hills MRF on the limit on how much material they could receive and the timeframe which materials could be collected. The County Department of Regional Planning approved the lifting of the permit restrictions, and they are now able to ship and receive materials 24 hours a day six days a week effective November 1, 2013. Mr. Mohajer also reported he attended the LA County Disposal Association meeting and where a presentation on "*Puente Hills - What Happens after the Gate is Closed*" was given by Chuck Boehmke. He invited Mr. Boehmke to make the same presentation at the next Task Force meeting.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2013, in Conference Room C.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

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