

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

Minutes of February 20, 2014

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
Mary Ann Lutz, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Mike Mohajer, General Public 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 Pat Proano and Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Dept. of
Public Works
Dr. Barry Wallerstein, rep by Ed Pupka, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Carl Clark, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.
Michael Conway, City of Long Beach Public Works Department
Dr. Jonathan Fielding, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Gerry Miller, City of Los Angeles
Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative

OTHERS PRESENT:

Gabriel Arenas, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Kevin Best, Real Energy
Wayde Hunter, NVC/GHNNC
Jason Jones, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Karlo Manalo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Chris Sheppard, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Emiko Thompson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Kawsar Vazifdar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle
Lena Wiegend, CalRecycle
Curtis Williams, City of Santa Clarita

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:02 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 16, 2014

The January 16, 2014, minutes were approved with minor corrections.

III. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE (PEIS)

Mr. Mike Mohajer reported the winter edition of Inside Solid Waste is late but should be going out next week. The Subcommittee discussed the need for staff to do more outreach to obtain more articles. These efforts will be discussed further at the next meeting in May.

IV. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Gabriel Arenas reported the following:

The Subcommittee viewed a PowerPoint presentation from Dirk Duden and Mario Guterrez of Zero Waste Energy, LLC, regarding their company and various anaerobic digestion projects they are involved in throughout the United States including the San Jose Solid Waste Anaerobic Digestion Facility.

During the weekend of February 1, the County and its conversion technology outreach consultant Cerrell participated in and hosted a booth at the Independent Cities Association Conference in Santa Barbara. The event brought together many independent cities throughout the state including Alhambra, Los Angeles, Baldwin Park, Santa Monica, and Claremont.

ARI and Public Works have completed the updates to the Socalconversion.org website to include additional technology companies. The database now has almost 60 technology listings and is available for public use.

Finally, Mr. Arenas reported the Southern California Waste Management Forum Spring Conference will be held March 12 in the City of Downey.

Mr. Pat Proano updated the Task Force on projects the Department of Public Works is working on and specified they are preparing to implement a policy for a waste-free future modeled somewhat on the City of Los Angeles' policy.

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

Ms. Betsey Landis gave an update on Sunshine Canyon Landfill and reported odor complaints for the month of January are down to 32 from 72 reported in December. The subcommittee discussed if the lower numbers could be related to the drought and would like to see reports to compare data. Republic Services, the operator of the Landfill, anticipates the sewer line project will be completed at the end of April. There was no update on the Interagency efforts since they haven't met. The revegetation group met, and Ms. Landis clarified what shrubs grow in the area and the choices of grasses that could be used. Ms. Nicole Bernson questioned the nexus between the drought and the odor complaints. Mr. Wayne Hunter stated that he posed the question to the subcommittee because when water infiltrates into trash, gases are emitted. Since this has been a dry season, he wanted to be sure the odors wouldn't increase again when the rainy season returns. Ms. Landis added that since the data is available, the subcommittee wanted to explore all possible odor correlations.

Ms. Landis also reported that the Task Force sent a letter to the City of Whittier in response to the City's December 12, 2013, letter regarding the withdrawal of the FOC for the Savage Canyon Landfill.

VI. CITY OF SAN JOSE'S SW ANAEROBIC DIGESTION FACILITY

Mr. Dirk Dudgeon, Senior Vice President of Business Development for Zero Waste Energy, LLC, gave the [attached presentation](#) to the Task Force giving an overview of the City of San Jose's Solid Waste Anaerobic Digestion facility, which began operation in November 2013, and their sister facility at the Monterey Regional Waste Management District's landfill.

VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Chris Sheppard distributed and presented the [attached Legislative Summary Table](#). The Task Force considered, discussed, and took position on the legislative bills listed below.

AB 371 – The Task Force decided to watch this bill.

AB 1594 – The Task Force decided to watch this bill.

AB 1893 – Staff recommended the Task Force watch this bill.

AB 1935 – Staff recommended the Task Force support this bill. Ms. Lutz made the recommendation seconded by Mr. Mike Mohajer. The motion passed with one abstention from Mr. Pupka.

SB 270 – Staff recommended the Task Force support and amend this bill. Ms. Lutz moved to support if amended seconded by Ms. Landis. The motion passed with abstentions from Mr. Pupka, Mr. Mohajer, and Mr. Salomon.

SB 498 – Staff recommended the Task Force support this bill once assigned to committee. Mr. Mohajer moved to support and amend seconded by Mr. Carlos Ruiz. The motion passed with abstentions from Ms. Nicole Bernson, Mr. Pupka, Mr. Ron Saldana, and Mr. Salomon.

SB 1014 – Staff recommended the Task Force support. Mr. Mohajer made the motion to support seconded by Ms. Lutz. The motion passed with abstentions from Mr. Pupka and Mr. Salomon.

SB1020 – Staff recommended the Task Force support. Mr. Mohajer made the motion to support seconded by Mr. Ruiz. The motion passed with abstentions from Mr. Pupka and Mr. Salomon.

Mr. Sheppard also mentioned the battery EPR bill hasn't come back to life yet, and staff will keep the Task Force informed.

VIII. AB 1126 – CALRECYCLE IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS

Mr. Mike Mohajer distributed the [attached copy](#) of the e-mail response from CalRecycle. It is currently being reviewed by County Counsel, and Mr. Mohajer will report back once they make a decision.

IX. REPORT ON AB 32 SCOPING PLAN UPDATE DATED 02-10-14

Mr. Mike Mohajer distributed and discussed the [attached list](#) of key recommended actions for the updated Waste Sector Scoping Plan. After a brief discussion, Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter to CARB addressing potential dilemmas with the Plan and proposed solutions. Ms. Mary Ann Lutz seconded the motion, and it passed with abstentions from Ms. Betsey Landis and Mr. Ed Pupka. Mr. Chris Sheppard mentioned the ARB staff presented the plan to the Air Board on February 20, 2014, and the environmental documents will be released in March and open for public comments through April. The Task Force members asked to review the letter before it is sent.

X. AB 341 – CALRECYCLE REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE, 75% DIVERSION BY 2020

Mr. Chris Sheppard reported CalRecycle is still reviewing the report internally and has not submitted it to the Legislature. Staff will report back to the Task Force once the report has been submitted.

XI. CALRECYCLE

Ms. Jennifer Wallin reported the following:

- Regarding the Mattress Stewardship Law, CalRecycle staff is in the process of developing timelines for rulemaking in order to effectively implement CalRecycle's responsibilities under the law. A mattress listserv has been established to communicate CalRecycle's activities regarding the new mattress law, including rulemaking. The listserv can be found at www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Listservs. A Used Mattress Recovery and Recycling Act Informal Rulemaking Workshop will be held March 13, 2014, from 9 am to – 12 noon at the Coastal Hearing Room of the Cal/EPA Building at 1001 I Street in Sacramento.
- The Director of CalRecycle approved the Carpet Stewardship Plan (Version 3) pending a final version from CARE that has minor corrections incorporated. Additionally, CARE and CalRecycle will be conducting two workshops in April (April 16th in Sacramento at the CalEPA building, and April 17 at Lakewood City Hall in LA County) to discuss the plan and its implementation. More details about the workshop will be available shortly.
- On March 11, 2014, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., CalRecycle will hold a stakeholder workshop in the Coastal Hearing Room of the Cal/EPA Building at 1001 I Street in Sacramento to provide and seek information on the paint stewardship program. In addition to CalRecycle, staff and representatives from PaintCare will participate in the workshop. Potential topics of discussion at the workshop may include issues raised by stakeholders at CalRecycle's January public meeting and the October 14, 2013, Workshop on PaintCare's Annual Report. The purpose of the workshop is to facilitate discussion between CalRecycle, PaintCare, and stakeholders on key topics related to the paint stewardship program in California. Further information, the agenda, and details on how to participate remotely will be added to the public notice (www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Actions/PublicNotice) closer to the workshop date. Questions about this workshop can be directed to the CalRecycle Paint Team at paint@calrecycle.ca.gov.

Ms. Wallin also presented the following grants:

- Beverage Container Recycling Grants (Competitive) - Public Resources Code authorizes CalRecycle to issue up to \$1,500,000 annually in grants for beverage container recycling programs. If the budget change proposal related to refocusing the funds currently used for the City/County payment program is enacted and approved in the Governor's Budget, this would result in an additional \$3,500,000 for this competitive grant for 2014/15. Join the [Beverage Container Recycling Grants Listserv](#) to be notified by

email when funding becomes available. Application materials for FY 2014/15 will tentatively be available June 2014.

- LEA Grant Program – a noncompetitive grant program to assist certified LEAs with their solid waste facilities permit and inspection program. Total funds available per fiscal year are approximately \$1.5 million up to \$15,000 per jurisdiction plus additional grant funds based on population and the number of permitted, active solid waste facilities in each LEA jurisdiction. Application materials for FY 2014/15 will tentatively be available Spring 2014.
- HHW Grants – Funding availability for this cycle is \$1.5 million, with \$50,000 available for individual grant applicants and up to \$100,000 for rural and regional applicants. The NOFA will tentatively be released this month with applications due in April. For more information, please check the following website for grant program updates:
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/Grants/>

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 20, 2014, in the Alhambra Room.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ed Pupka clarified that in his statement at the last Task Force meeting it was not his intent to have AQMD come to the meeting to present an update on Sunshine Canyon Landfill. He would like representatives from Sunshine Canyon Landfill to come and give their update.

Mr. Kevin Best of Real Energy, a gas-to-energy company based in Napa, California, gave an overview of their company and highlighted a few of their ongoing and upcoming projects. A few of the projects included an agreement to build an organic transfer station within an existing transfer station to separate out the organics from the MSW, a 25 year agreement with a waste water treatment plant implementing food waste digestion, and development of a few wet anaerobic digestion plants in Southern California with the ability to inject biomethane directly into the public gas pipeline. Mr. Best also stated CalRecycle and the Water Board have a new regulation allowing them to bring preprocessed MSW organic material to a waste water treatment plant to be treated and believes this produces a solution to creating more trucks, routes, bins, or other changes that cities are concerned about.

The meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

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