

## Minutes

### AB 939 LOCAL TASK FORCE REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, December 9, 2021

Public Zoom Video Meeting and Call-in Option

Meeting Recording: [https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/rec/play/AMqwtOLXLdSI05JzELOBi3xLCoRIMCf3u-eoxGmrcXPCIDh2rXJ5I1Fq\\_yuobftep8DLi89UFkX-MrNj.8QCPVuq8K3C0DhgP?autoplay=true](https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/rec/play/AMqwtOLXLdSI05JzELOBi3xLCoRIMCf3u-eoxGmrcXPCIDh2rXJ5I1Fq_yuobftep8DLi89UFkX-MrNj.8QCPVuq8K3C0DhgP?autoplay=true)

#### Welcome & Introductions

Meeting called to order at 1:33

Liz Bortolotto – Chair

Stu Clark – 4<sup>th</sup> District Rep

Art Deicke – Science Advisor

Brandon Hart – TPW – Integrated Waste

Trish Pisenti - TPW

Glen Morelli – TPW – Integrated Waste

Leslie Lukacs – Zero Waste Sonoma

Sloane Pagal – Zero Waste Sonoma

Xinci Tan – Zero Waste Sonoma

Ellen Hathaway – Sierra Club Redwood Chapter

Theresa Ryan – Sierra Club

Dan Noble – Assn. of Compost Producers/US Composting Council

Darek Trowbridge – Old World Winery / Silk Carbon Management

Mike Anderson – Marketing and Recycling Historian

Joseph Essig – Operations Mgr for Republic Services Santa Rosa

Alyssa Messer – 3<sup>rd</sup> District Rep

Caren McNamara – Conscious Container

Sunny Galbraith – 350 Sonoma County

Michael Siminitus – Waste Busters / Sudbusters

Terry Taylor - WeAct

Moment of silence for will Bakx

#### I. [Approval of draft minutes from October 14, 2021 meeting](#)

Motion made by Dan Noble. Seconded by Theresa Ryan. Passed unanimously.

#### II. [Reuse Presentation: Caren McNamara, Conscious Container](#)

- AB 962 Passed this legislative session
- Going to be up to CalRecycle to interpret the regs and implement
- Allows reusable beverage containers to be part of the CRV system to support a robust refillable system in California
- Conscious Container is currently focusing on closing out seed round of funding with wineries, and working with the industry to get this off the ground
- Liz: Is the shape of bottles a barrier for wineries?

- Caren: It's a balance with the history of bottles used for particular wines, but there are standards. 60-80% of the bottles in the industry are of the same mold
- Alyssa: Some local wineries are utilizing refill systems – is there a tie in for them with this new system?
- Caren: There will be a ton of PR from brands once this gets off the ground
- Liz: Can this become part of the “sustainable winery” standards?
- Caren: There are different certifications, groups, and they don't necessarily have a big focus on packaging at this time. We just need the system and infrastructure in order for this to be wrapped into a certification
- Darek: Sustainable Sonoma is coming out of Sustainable Winegrowers Alliance – this packaging element is central to reducing carbon footprint
- Caren: Wine Bottle Renew was in 2008 – their failure was due to failure of a bottle washer that failed, and lack of capital to restart. A refillable glass bottle has an 85% smaller carbon footprint than single use.

### III. Bioresources Presentation – Dan Noble

- There is a lot of collaboration that needs to happen not just within the waste industry. Notably water, but also fire prevention, fuel management
- Need to move from the linear extractive economy to circular economy – but when you try to explain this to outside investors, it becomes pretty complex
- Emerging Circular Economy: an industrial system that is restorative by design (Ellen MacArthur Foundation graphic)
- Attempting to form a bioresources team:
  - A collaborative circular transition to bring to investors and help them make sense of it
- Primary Bioresources = food, feed, fiber, materials, chemicals, energy
- Secondary Bioresources = Bioprocessed/organic residuals= green material, food scraps, manure, biosolids
- Bioproduct portfolio is varied and diverse
- Community bioeconomy – a local circular bioeconomic conceptual model
  - You don't want to be transporting these resources too far
  - As an investor in a local community, how do you invest in this stuff?
- Would like to form a SoCo Bioresources Collaborative with government agencies, nonprofits, bioprocessors, bioproducts/bioservices, haulers, higher educational institutions → that would answer to the LTF, discuss integrated problems and provide solutions for Sonoma County
- Imagining more of a forum, somewhat ad-hoc, not Brown Act.
  - Stu suggests forming an ad hoc committee of the LTF to accomplish a specific goal, complete the task, report back to the LTF, and then disband. Could result in a work product that would be presented to LTF and ZWS board.
- Big questions: which bioresources should we be managing; how to keep them out of landfill; beneficially use these resources within the community
- Stu: Diversion project advocacy group

#### IV. Potential Work Plan Items for LTF in 2022 – Stu Clark

- Would like to see a buying guide that's related to the recyclability and compostability of products for restaurants and customers
- An ad hoc group to talk about these issues may be a good idea – and to have a
- Membership – we have a lot of vacancies on the LTF, how do we fill these positions? How to attract a broader, more diverse group to the LTF?
- Make a presentation to the editorial board of the Press Democrat as an advisory role of LTF
- Bioresources group presented by Dan is another opportunity for an ad hoc group
- Leslie: C&D could be another area that the LTF can work on
- Stu: nothing came of the permitting recommendations to the LTF & ZWS board – but encourages this group to think about what do we learn from that experience, what are the criteria of a good project as a recommending LTF, and determine how to mitigate issues/concerns and practical realities
- Liz: should we take this conversation offline and come back with action items to the February meeting? Dan agrees. Stu encourages members to propose projects at the February meeting.
- Terry: Dashboard could be useful but only if it is used to its potential – is there a way to address some of the issues we discuss at the next Zero Waste Symposium

#### V. Public Comments

None

#### VI. Member Announcements

- Leslie – ZWS is discussion the idea of folding the next Symposium into an inaugural Zero Waste Week with partners that are working in the space in order to hit many different topics and appeal to a wide audience in Sonoma County
- Darek Trowbridge – fungal mycelium are a key and grow really well on static wood pile chips. Interested in keeping these bioresources in Sonoma County which helps sequester carbon, build soils, aid in water retention.
- Upcoming Virtual Event: <https://dailyacts.org/events-cal/zero-waste-during-the-holidays/>

#### VII. Next Regular Meeting Date – February 10, 2022

- Next ZWNB Meeting is January 5, 2022 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm
- Zoom:  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73201462502?pwd=TOVJbnRjdnNVM3NDWEEdiSWRNYm92Zz09>  
(Meeting ID: 732 0146 2502 Passcode: R3r85f)

#### VIII. Adjournment

Theresa Ryan made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Dan Noble. The meeting was adjourned at 3:02pm.