

Minutes
AB 939 LOCAL TASK FORCE REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, December 12, 2019 1:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.
Sonoma County Department of Transportation and Public Works 2300 County Center
Drive, Suite B-100, Main Conference Room Santa Rosa, California 95403

I. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Ken Wells called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

Attendees: Ken Wells - Sierra Club, Tara McRann - Scientific Representative (Alt), Liz Bortolotto - Education, Mike Anderson - Marketing, Greg Carr - 1st District, J. Glenn Morelli - County of Sonoma, Mark Soiland - City of Cotati (Alt), Lee Pierce - Sonoma County Recycling Association (Alt), Sunny Galbraith - Sebastopol, Sloane Pagal - Zero Waste Sonoma, Xinci Tan - Zero Waste Sonoma, Joey Hejnowicz - City of Santa Rosa, Chris Brokate - Clean River Alliance, Celia Furber - Solid Waste Industry, Justin Wilcock - Solid Waste Industry.

II. Approval of draft Minutes from the October 10, 2019 LTF meeting

Lee Pierce motioned to approve the minutes and Joey Hejnowicz seconded it. Greg Carr abstained from the vote. None were opposed. The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Update on Adoption of Model Polystyrene Ordinance

Xinci Tan provided the update.

Windsor has approved the ordinance, but the effective date is yet to be determined.

Cloverdale still needs to hold hearings.

Cotati sent letters to businesses and will have their first hearing in January.

Healdsburg adopted the ordinance on December 16th.

Petaluma passed a revised ordinance on October 21st. Attorneys will meet to decide whether to pass the remaining portions.

Rohnert Park has not passed it yet, but there has been some public comment about it.

Santa Rosa with hopefully have it on the agenda in February or March.

Sonoma has a new sustainability coordinator. ZWS is working with them regarding the ordinance, coupled with the Zero Waste Resolution.

Sebastopol approved the ordinance on November 21st.

The county would like to hear about the ordinance coupled with the Zero Waste Plan.

Regarding enforcement of the ordinance, ZWS will send letters to businesses that have violated the ordinance. Jurisdictions will be responsible for collecting fines.

Official enforcement procedures must be finalized by January 1st, 2021.

IV. Update on regional organics processing project and acceptable compostable products

Xinci Tan provided the update.

Over a year ago, Board Members asked for compostable plastic to be accepted at Renewable Sonoma. ZWS has created a list of acceptable compostable products. The decision was made to recommend that the new facility not accept compostable plastics. This is because there is a local demand for certified organic compost, and compostable plastic in compost prevents it from being able to be certified organic. Also, it is very hard to distinguish conventional plastic from compostable plastic, which makes it impractical to process. An Ad Hoc Compostable Products Committee was formed. ZWS will ask Renewable Sonoma to consider accepting compostable plastic in the future.

PFOs are a chemical added to some BPI certified compostable products. Soon these products will no longer be considered acceptable in certified organic compost.

Renewable Sonoma has not yet signed a contract but they are in negotiations. There is public opposition to the proposed site at the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant, and an alternate site is being considered, across the street at the existing Biosolids Facility. If this alternate site is chosen, biosolids will be sent out of the county to be processed.

There was a discussion about cannabis material and whether it is accepted in the compost bin. It is only if it is rendered unrecognizable by the producer. The LTF's position on this issue is to encourage producers to compost responsibly.

V. Legislative Committee Report and SB 1383 Update/Comments

Liz Bortolotto did not have a presentation because the State Legislature is not currently in session. The second year bills will be coming up in January.

Ken Wells has been in contact with our liaison from CalRecycle regarding SB 1383. It is not confirmed when the final regulations will be announced.

VI. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VII. Member Announcements

Joey Hejnowicz announced the Santa Rosa City Council meeting on January 28th. There will be discussion and hopefully approval of the Zero Waste Resolution and Polystyrene Ordinance. The meeting starts at 4pm, but the specific time that the Zero Waste agenda item will be discussed is unknown.

Chris Brokate made an announcement about the 250 tires that the Clean River Alliance found illegally dumped south of the Hopland bridge in October. There are currently no leads on who is the culprit.

J. Glenn Morelli announced an RFP for disaster debris, toxics & disposal to prepare for future disasters. The goal is to have contracts in place by February.

Sloane Pagal announced that she is working with Petaluma Recycling for a pilot program for CRV collection. There is \$5 million in grants available to 5 applicants, \$1 million each. Sonoma, Cloverdale, and Sebastopol are underserved in CRV redemption centers, and they plan to create a CRV center in one of those cities if they receive the funding.

Xinci Tan announced that the Recycle Guide will now be called the Zero Waste Guide. The theme of the 2020 guide will be compost & carbon sequestration. Leslie Lukacs formed a

coalition of groups that have a stake in carbon sequestration. Their goal is to bring the values and actions of the Marin Carbon Project to Sonoma County.

Food recovery is a part of SB 1383. ZWS will apply for a grant from CalRecycle, which will be accepting applicants in mid 2020.

Sunny Galbraith announced that the Sebastopol Cup Program, which promotes reusable cups to be used at local businesses, is looking for funding suggestions. She also encouraged the LTF to consider buying zero waste products as holiday gifts this year.

Liz Bortolotto announced that there is a group called Graton Against Synthetic Pesticides that is doing important work that we should be informed of.

Mike Anderson is working with the California Resource Recovery Association to create an event for presentations by pioneers and historians of the recycling industry. It is tentatively scheduled to be held in Burlingame in the summer of 2020.

VIII. Next Regular Meeting Date/Suggestions for Agenda Items - February 13, 2020

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tara McRann