



Minutes of May 21, 2026 Meeting

Zero Waste Sonoma met on May 21, 2026, at the City of Santa Rosa Council Chambers, 100 Santa Rosa Ave., Santa Rosa, California.

Board Members Present:

City of Cloverdale – Andrés Marquez
City of Cotati – Susan Harvey
City of Healdsburg – Larry Zimmer
City of Petaluma – Patrick Carter
City of Rohnert Park – Emily Sanborn

City of Santa Rosa – ABSENT
City of Sebastopol – Phill Carter
City of Sonoma – Jack Ding
County of Sonoma – ABSENT
Town of Windsor – JB Leep

Staff Present:

Counsel: Ethan Walsh
Staff: Leslie Lukacs, Thora Collard, Xinci Tan, Courtney Scott, Kristen Sales, Rajesh Jyothiswaran, Katie Cushwa, Sloane Pagal
Agency Clerk: Amber Johnson

1. Call to Order Regular Meeting

Regular session was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

Introductions

Phill Carter arrived at 9:06 a.m.

2. Agenda Approval

Motion: For approval of the agenda.

First: City of Sonoma – Jack Ding

Second: City of Cotati – Susan Harvey

Vote Count:

City of Cloverdale – Andrés Marquez
City of Cotati – Susan Harvey
City of Healdsburg – Larry Zimmer
City of Petaluma – Patrick Carter
City of Rohnert Park – Emily Sanborn

City of Santa Rosa – ABSENT
City of Sebastopol – Phill Carter
City of Sonoma – Jack Ding
County of Sonoma – ABSENT
Town of Windsor – JB Leep

AYES -8- NOES -0- ABSENT -2- ABSTAIN -0-

Motion passed.

3. Public Comments (items not on the agenda)

- None

4. Consent (w/attachments)

4.1 Minutes of the April 16, 2026 Regular Meeting

4.2 April, May, and June 2026 Outreach Calendar

4.3 ZWS FY 2025/26 Third Quarter Financial Report

4.4 Approval of the Seventh Amendment to the Oil Program Management Agreement with Soluna Outreach Solution

4.5 Approval of the First Amendment to the Agreement with Soluna Outreach Solutions for Spanish Language Outreach Program and Budget Adjustment

Board Comments:

- None

Public Comments:

- None

Motion: For approval of the consent calendar.

First: City of Cotati – Susan Harvey

Second: City of Healdsburg – Larry Zimmer

Vote Count:

City of Cloverdale – Andrés Marquez

City of Cotati – Susan Harvey

City of Healdsburg – Larry Zimmer

City of Petaluma – Patrick Carter

City of Rohnert Park – Emily Sanborn

City of Santa Rosa – ABSENT

City of Sebastopol – Phill Carter

City of Sonoma – Jack Ding

County of Sonoma – ABSENT

Town of Windsor – JB Leep

AYES -8- NOES -0- ABSENT -2- ABSTAIN -0-

Motion passed.

Regular Calendar

5. Request for Qualifications to Provide Technical, On-Site Composting Workshops

Board Comments/Action Items:

- How will this proposal move forward through the approval and implementation process? What role will the consultant play in supporting participants, and how will outreach be conducted to reach those who could benefit from the program?
- Appreciates staff for a wonderful proposal.
- Given the limited funding available, there is hope that the funds will be utilized quickly and effectively. It would also be valuable to explore opportunities to connect successful onsite composting practitioners with workshop participants for peer learning and support.
- If the program proves successful, could it be considered a pilot for future expansion?

Public Comments:

- Dan Noble – Expresses agreement with the list of contacts for outreach. Wants to position compost into a larger initiative. Largely supports this item.

Motion: To approve the release of the Request for Qualifications to Provide Technical, On-Site Composting Workshops.

First: City of Petaluma – Patrick Carter

Second: City of Cotati – Susan Harvey

Vote Count:

City of Cloverdale – Andrés Marquez

City of Santa Rosa – ABSENT

City of Cotati – Susan Harvey

City of Sebastopol – Phill Carter

City of Healdsburg – Larry Zimmer

City of Sonoma – Jack Ding

City of Petaluma – Patrick Carter

County of Sonoma – ABSENT

City of Rohnert Park – Emily Sanborn

Town of Windsor – JB Leep

AYES -8- NOES -0- ABSENT -2- ABSTAIN -0-

Motion passed.

6. Approval of Fourth Amendment to Agreement for E-Waste Handling, Transportation, and Recycling Services and CEW Program Update

Board Comments/Action Items:

- How many other entities collect these materials?
- How much revenue is generated from the collection program?
- When did the cost of electronics collection reach 12 cents per pound?
- If numerous items are collected and fees are paid on them, but the items are not ultimately recycled at end of life, do those funds accumulate in the state fund balance?
- At collection sites, is there an opportunity to provide a separate bin for items under five pounds so they can be recycled rather than sent out of state?
- Are there any concerns regarding fire hazards?
- Public education on this topic may be challenging. What is the plan for educating residents?
- Has there been a discussion about having a curbside bin for batteries or other hazardous items?
- What is the anticipated timeline for implementing this new recycling program?
- Interested in seeing how this program develops and performs over time.
- Why are all collected items required to be placed in the container at the end of each day?
- How does Sonoma County compare with other California counties in terms of participation and performance?
- How does California compare with other states in this area?
- What guidance is available for residents who are unsure whether an item can be recycled through this program?
- Is there any enforcement mechanism associated with these requirements?
- Are there any active outreach or public awareness campaigns focused on e-waste recycling?

- There may be opportunities to align this effort with the Right to Repair movement. Product labeling requirements could help consumers better identify recyclable items and proper disposal methods.

Public Comments:

- None

Motion: The Board authorizes the Executive Director to execute the Fourth Amendment to the Agreement for E-Waste Handling, Transportation, and Recycling Services with Onsite Electronics Recycling, LLC.

First: City of Petaluma – Patrick Carter

Second: City of Cotati – Susan Harvey

Vote Count:

City of Cloverdale – Andrés Marquez

City of Cotati – Susan Harvey

City of Healdsburg – Larry Zimmer

City of Petaluma – Patrick Carter

City of Rohnert Park – Emily Sanborn

City of Santa Rosa – ABSENT

City of Sebastopol – Phill Carter

City of Sonoma – Jack Ding

County of Sonoma – ABSENT

Town of Windsor – JB Leep

AYES -8- NOES -0- ABSENT -2- ABSTAIN -0-

Motion passed.

7. FY 24/25 Work Plan Program Progress Report

Board Comments/Action Items:

- Can this presentation be shared with the individual jurisdictions to share?
- Incredibly proud of the staff for the tremendous amount of meaningful and impactful work you do. It is an immense undertaking, and it is a pleasure to serve on this board.
- Consider incorporating more video content into social media outreach to engage a broader audience.
- It would be helpful to see comparisons with other counties.
- The outreach report was very well done.
- Is it possible to present outreach data by calendar year rather than fiscal year?
- The Center for Environmental Inquiry at Sonoma State may be a valuable partner for outreach efforts.
- The quality of your work is clearly reflected in this report. Thank you to the staff for all that you have done.

Public Comments:

- None

8. Boardmember Comments

- Future Fest, a showcase of climate action initiatives and community resources, was held in Petaluma on May 3 and attracted approximately 700 attendees. Reusable purple cups were used for beverages and washed for future events, helping to reduce waste.

- Xinci assisted with the Wine Country Century event, where numerous ambassadors helped attendees sort waste and reusable materials to support the event's sustainability efforts.
- The Cloverdale Grange Thrift Store is an all-volunteer operation that generates approximately \$10,000–\$12,000 per month. Proceeds are reinvested into the local community.
- ZWS hosted an electronic waste (e-waste) collection event in Sonoma last month, which was well attended and positively received by the community.
- The Zero Waste Symposium, held on May 7, 2026, was a major success, drawing strong participation and engagement.

9. Executive Director Report – VERBAL REPORT

10. Staff Comments

- None

11. Next ZWS meeting: June 18, 2026

12. Adjourn: 10:31 a.m.

Submitted by: Amber Johnson