Minutes of January 16, 2013 Regular Meeting

The Sonoma County Waste Management Agency met on January 16, 2013, at the City of Santa Rosa Council Chambers, 100 Santa Rosa Avenue, Santa Rosa, California

Present:
- City of Cloverdale: Nina Regor
- City of Cotati: Susan Harvey, Chair
- City of Healdsburg: Mike Kirn
- City of Petaluma: Dan St. John
- City of Rohnert Park: John McArthur
- City of Santa Rosa: Jennifer Phillips
- City of Sebastopol: Sue Kelly
- City of Sonoma: Steve Barbose
- County of Sonoma: Shirlee Zane
- Town of Windsor: Debora Fudge

Staff Present:
- Counsel: Janet Coleson
- Staff: Patrick Carter, Karina Chilcott, Henry Mikus, Lisa Steinman
- Recorder: Charlotte Fisher

1. Call to Order Special Meeting
The meeting was called to order 8:37 a.m. The representative from County of Sonoma was not present for the Special Meeting.

2. Open Closed Session
CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8
Property: 500 Mecham Road Petaluma, CA 94952
Agency Negotiator: Executive Director, Agency Counsel
Negotiating Parties: County of Sonoma, Deputy Director of Transportation and Public Works, County Counsel
Under negotiation: Both Price and Terms of Payment

3. Adjourn Closed Session & Introductions
Note: County of Sonoma representative Shirlee Zane was present for the start of the regular meeting.

4. Agenda Approval
Mike Kirn, City of Healdsburg, moved to approve the agenda. Steve Barbose, City of Sonoma, seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. Agenda approved.

5. Public Comments (items not on the agenda)
None.

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6. **Election of 2013 Officers**
The slate of officers proposed using the approved alphabetical rotation are: Chair, City of Cotati representative; Vice-Chair, City of Healdsburg representative; and Chair Pro Tempore, City of Petaluma representative. There was a discussion concerning the alphabetical rotation not being effective given the issues coming to the Board. Agency Counsel opined the rotation of Board members through the officer list is not on the agenda for this meeting, and could be considered at a later meeting by placement on the agenda. Consensus for placing the officer rotation on a future agenda was not reached.

Dan St. John, City of Petaluma, moved to approve the slate of officers as presented. John McArthur, City of Rohnert Park, seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**Consent Calendar**

7.1 Minutes of December 5, 2012 Adjourned Regular Meeting
7.2 City/County Payment Program Authorization

Jennifer Phillips, City of Santa Rosa, moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Mike Kirn, City of Healdsburg, seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**Regular Calendar**

8. **Compost Site License & Contract Report**
Henry Mikus, Executive Director, reported the status of negotiations with the County with regard to a site license. Staff intended to present a draft compost site lease/license for consideration by the Board, but that document is not available for discussion at this time. Negotiations with the County are proceeding.

**Public Comment**
None.

**Board Discussion**
None.

9. **New HHW Contract Report**
Lisa Steinman reported that the County of Sonoma Board of Supervisors and Sonoma County Waste Management Agency (SCWMA) have had an Agreement with Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc., (Clean Harbors) to operate the Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHWF) and accompanying mobile collection programs, which was approved June 11, 2002. There have been several extensions of the term; the most recent being the 9th Amendment to the Agreement, which extended the term to June 30, 2013.

Staff has been directed to develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a new contract to be effective July 1, 2013. The Scope of Work for a new contract is expected to remain the same as the current agreement. The SCWMA Board recommended the term of the new Agreement continue through February 2017, to coincide with the current expiration of the JPA. Staff will continue to work with the County to develop a site license agreement, using the model currently under development for the composting site.

**Public Comment**
None.
Board Questions
Dan St. John, City of Petaluma, asked if there was any activity towards a license site agreement for the HHW site. Henry Mikus reported there was some activity. With the compost site license agreement in process, it is assumed the HHW will be written using the compost site license as a model.

Shirlee Zane, County of Sonoma, inquired if the new two-party agreement would result in a reduction of expenses. The Executive Director responded there is an anticipated small increase in expense because of assessed utility costs, which are to be determined.

Board Discussion
None.

10. Carryout Bags Revised Ordinance
Patrick Carter detailed revisions to the Carryout Bag Ordinance, including changes requested by Board members. Changes included removal of the provision which would increase the paper bag charge to $0.25 per bag in the future, warning sent prior to administrative fines, and a revision to reporting requirements. Also discussed were member jurisdiction enforcement, removal of business exemptions, and the appeal process. Staff anticipates having the Draft EIR completed ready in the near future and to hold a public hearing at the February meeting. Depending on comments received, it may be possible to certify the Final EIR at the April 2013 SCWMA meeting. Adoption of the ordinance must occur after the certification of the EIR.

Board Questions
Steve Barbose, City of Sonoma, asked if it would be possible to add restaurants later. Patrick Carter responded that it would be possible since restaurants have been analyzed in the EIR.

Mike Kirn, City of Healdsburg, inquired if restaurants were included now, then provided exemptions at a later date. Agency Counsel responded that at this time, including restaurants would probably trigger litigation.

City of Healdsburg also asked how many appeals have been made to other jurisdictions. Patrick Carter responded that there have been very few appeals. Agency Counsel commented that the appeal issue is an educational issue and Agency staff is prepared to address that concern.

Public Comment
None.

Board Discussion
None.

Dan St. John, City of Petaluma, moved to continue the ordinance process as described and presented in the agenda item. Steve Barbose, City of Sonoma, seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

11. Carryout Bags Public Distribution Plan
Karina Chilcott discussed the plan for the educational component of a carryout bag ordinance. Staff proposed concentrating bilingual education efforts to encourage the use of reusable bags. For the first campaign phase, tasks include purchasing 8,000 bags for distribution at a number of locations, including Agency events and at multifamily presentations anticipated for Phase 2 of the Mandatory Commercial Recycling education project. Activities would also include: a new Agency website page that lists locations where bags will get distributed,
offering tips for remembering one’s bag, updates on the progress of the ordinance, and tests of social media approaches for advertising.

Staff has selected a woven bag suitable for grocery and retail purchases that are made out of 90% post-consumer recycled polypropylene plastic. Bags are hand washable, air dry. The Agency’s catchy bilingual slogan “I’ve got a Bag Habit” appears on the bag and supports the education theme of “Get in the Habit. Bring your own bag.” The purchase of 8,000 bags for $12,340 would be funded from the Contingency Reserve Fund Cost Center using savings achieved from the lower-than-expected contractor costs for the carryout bags EIR process.

Board Questions
Debora Fudge, Town of Windsor, asked about bags specific for “retail” so that there would be no food residue. The Executive Director replied that would be considered in Phase II and this item pertains to Phase I.

Shirlee Zane, County of Sonoma, inquired if there were any local firms that could supply the bags. Ms. Chilcott replied that she had explored that option and had not been able to secure a source. Ms. Zane requested that more investigation be done. Ms. Zane expressed concern that the Agency’s planned efforts could be competing with other companies selling bags. Ms. Chilcott stated that the Agency’s goal was to give bags to targeted groups that would not necessarily be buying bags, such as clients visiting the social services offices at the County.

Steve Barbose, City of Sonoma, questioned the potential of partnering with the local Chambers of Commerce.

Staff responded that the issue of locally manufactured bags and partnerships would be explored.

Public Comment
None.

Board Discussion
Sue Kelly, City of Sebastopol, moved to approve the purchase, not to exceed $12,340, of bags for Phase I of the Mandatory Commercial Recycling project. Dan St. John, City of Petaluma, seconded the motion with the amendment to use locally produced bags and to explore partnership possibilities for Phase II. Ms. Kelly agreed to the amended motion and the motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

12. Sonoma County/City Solid Waste Advisory
Steve Barbose, City of Sonoma, serves as a representative on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for the County of Sonoma. He gave a report on the discussion held at the December 13, 2012, meeting of that group.

13. Attachments/Correspondence:
The Executive Director called attention to the Director’s Agenda Notes, Reports by Staff in January and February 2013, Outreach Events, and letter to Lisa Steinman.

14. On file w/Clerk: for copy call 565-3579
Chair Harvey noted resolutions approved in December 2012, on file with the clerk.

15. Boardmember Comments
The entire Board joined in thanking Nina Regor for her work for the SCWMA and wished her well on her future endeavors.
16.  **Staff Comments**  
The recruitment for the vacant Senior Office Assistant position has begun. There was a reminder that there will be two public hearings at the February 2013 meeting.

17.  **Next SCWMA meeting:**  
Special meeting January 22, 2013  
Regular meeting February 20, 2013

18.  **Adjourn**  
A motion to adjourn was made by Nina Regor, City of Cloverdale, and seconded by Jennifer Phillips, City of Santa Rosa. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlotte Fisher