



MINUTES OF OCTOBER 17, 2007

The Sonoma County Waste Management Agency met on October 17, 2007, at the City of Santa Rosa Utilities Department's Subregional Water Reclamation System Laguna Plant, 4300 Llano Road, Santa Rosa, California.

PRESENT:

City of Cloverdale	Gus Wolter
City of Cotati	Marsha Sue Lustig
City of Healdsburg	Marjie Pettus
City of Petaluma	Vince Marengo
City of Rohnert Park	Tim Smith
City of Santa Rosa	Dell Tredinnick, Chair
City of Sebastopol	Dave Brennan
City of Sonoma	Mike Fuson
County of Sonoma	Susan Klassen
Town of Windsor	Christa Johnson

STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director	Ken Wells
Counsel	Janet Coleson
Staff	Patrick Carter
	Charlotte Fisher
	Lisa Steinman
Recorder	Elizabeth Koetke

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Dell Tredinnick, Chair. Dell thanked Tim Smith, Rohnert Park, for chairing the September meeting.

2. **ATTACHMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

Chair, Tredinnick, called attention to the Director's Agenda Notes and the UCCE Home Compost Education Report 2006-2007.

3. **ON FILE WITH CLERK**

Dell Tredinnick, Chair, noted the resolutions from the September 19, 2007 meeting on file with the clerk.

**Dave Brennan arrived at the meeting at 9:05 a.m. (ek)*

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

CONSENT

- 5.1 Minutes of September 19, 2007
- 5.2 Confirming Local Business Preference
- 5.3 Sharps Collection Strategy Agreement with R3 Consulting Group for HD 16-C
- 5.4 Consideration of Revised Memorandum for Staff Services and Rules of Governance

Motion to approve the consent calendar was made by Vince Marengo, Petaluma. Tim Smith, Rohnert Park, seconded. Santa Rosa abstained. Consent calendar approved.

REGULAR CALENDAR

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

6.1 E-WASTE COLLECTION EVENT CONTRACT

Lisa Steinman explained that in response to requests by e-waste recycling companies for City and Agency-sponsorship of collection events, staff approached the Board at the June 20, 2007 Agency meeting and requested direction from the Board to look into the possibility of setting up Agency sponsored e-waste collection events.

At the August 15, 2007 Agency meeting, staff was given direction from the Board to issue an RFP to establish a two-year agreement with an e-waste contractor to hold city-centered e-waste collection events. Staff received proposals from eight vendors. Of the eight proposers, Goodwill Industries of the Redwood Empire (GIRE) was ranked the highest.

There will be a cost to the Agency for the necessary public outreach and staff time for other logistical requirements to hold the events. Revenues generated from the e-waste collection events are expected to more than offset Agency costs. The revenues generated in excess of these costs will be used to offset other HHW program costs.

Staff recommends awarding Goodwill Industries of the Redwood Empire the contract for e-waste collection event services.

Susan Klassen, County of Sonoma, moved to approve the E-waste collection event contract with Goodwill Industries of the Redwood Empire. Tim Smith, Rohnert Park, seconded. Motion carried.

Ernie Carpenter, Global Materials Recovery Services/Industrial Carting, thanked the Board for the RFP process and congratulated Goodwill Industries on the award of the contract.

6.2 STATUS OF RFP FOR HHW PROGRAM EXPANSION

Ken Wells said the Agency Board authorized staff to distribute a request for proposals for a benchmarking study of the HHW program. The outcome of that study resulted in two general categories of recommendations. One recommendation was to expand the existing facility to increase capacity, which is currently underway with an architect under contract.

The other recommendation referred to the potential of establishing permanent facilities in other locations around the county, as the Community Toxic Collections (CTC's) are quite expensive on a per car/per pound basis.

At the June 2007 meeting, staff was directed to solicit proposals and return to the Board with a contract to study the feasibility, design, and potential permitting of additional HHW collection facilities in Sonoma County. On August 16, 2007 staff sent an RFP to 32 consulting firms believed capable of performing these tasks. No proposals were received by the deadline of September 28, 2007.

After evaluating the situation, staff came up with three possible options (1) Staff could contact and select an interested, qualified consultant, and negotiate a contract for Board approval, or, (2) the RFP could be re-circulated, in the hope that a firm would submit a proposal, or (3) staff could perform the required tasks.

Chair, Dell Tredinnick, asked if staff had contacted the consultants that were sent the RFP to find out why they had not proposed.

Ken Wells said staff received a letter from one consultant indicating why they were not going to submit a proposal indicating they had time constraint issues. The consultants that designed the last HHW facility did not respond.

Dave Brennan, Sebastopol, recommended conducting a survey to find out why the consultants did not propose.

Susan Klassen asked if the work schedule was too short and if so, could it be more flexible?

Ken Wells said in preparation for this effort, staff submitted a grant request to CIWMB to fund this planning study and we have been awarded a \$200,000 grant, so the money is there for the project. There is a two-year window for that funding.

Dave Brennan added that asking the consultants for a two-week response time to the survey would speed up the process. The consultants that don't respond should be taken off the RFP list.

Vince Marengo said he supports the idea of a survey. He was not in favor of option 1; he was in favor of option 2. Option 3 would use staff time and staff time is limited.

Chair, Dell Tredinnick, commented that the existing transfer stations should be examined to see if they could be utilized as the public is already familiar with the locations.

Ken Wells said that before money was invested in permanent structures, we want to confirm they would be cost-effective. That would be prior to any site selection. We would then consider publicly-owned sites, like the transfer stations, wastewater treatment plants, corporation yards, and road yards.

Marsha Sue Lustig, Cotati, made a motion to direct staff to survey potential proposers and ask them for reasons why they didn't respond to the RFP. Based on that, staff will narrow down the list of consultants, if there is only one firm that is interested and qualified, staff will try to work out an agreement and bring it back to the board. If there are multiple firms that are qualified and interested, an expedited competitive process will be done that will reflect changes to the RFP, if necessary. In all cases, staff will return to the Agency with a contract. Vince Marengo, Petaluma, seconded. Motion carried.

Christa Johnson, Windsor, said she was pleased to hear about the grant.

ADMINISTRATION

7.1 TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS FY 07-08

Ken Wells explained that after the budget was submitted and approved for FY 07-08, the budgeting process allows for some changes to be made to reflect information more current than was available at the time of budget approval in June.

Tim Smith, Rohnert Park, noted the reduction of tipping-fee revenue due to disposal tonnage going down, he wanted to emphasize once again that this Agency is in the beginning of a death-spiral if it continues to rely on tipping-fee revenues to fund the good programs that we run. If the Agency succeeds, it fails.

Tim Smith, Rohnert Park moved to approve the Technical Adjustments for FY 07-08. Susan Klassen, County of Sonoma, seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

7.2 SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL REPORT

Ken Wells said at the September 2007 SCWMA Board meeting, the Board gave staff direction to prepare a report detailing the quantity and destination for the disposal of Sonoma County solid waste. A few years back the Agency had a basis of about 490,000 tons of disposal occurring within the county system. That number is down to about 350,000 tons, which is an estimate.

A lot of waste is leaving the County disposal system, bypassing it in various ways like the operations of Global Materials Recovery Services, who take their residue and waste products to out-of-county disposal sites. The material recovery facilities have residue leftover from their sorting efforts that also bypass the County disposal system. Although Petaluma is outhauling the city's waste, they are funding the Agency separately.

Staff asked M&M Services, Inc., a C&D facility in Windsor, where they take their residue, and they said it all goes to Redwood Landfill.

Staff requested that same information from Waste Management and were given the same answer.

As of yesterday we had not gotten residue disposal information from Global Materials Recovery Services/Industrial Carting or Northbay Corporation.

Patrick Carter said Global Materials Recovery Services referred him to Redwood Landfill and Redwood Landfill has not gotten back to him yet. Northbay Corporation said they were waiting on several pieces of information before they would have an answer.

Chair, Dell Tredinnick, asked if there was a legal requirement the Agency could follow to get the disposal information.

Vince Marengo, Petaluma, said he would like to see this item on the November agenda when staff can bring back a disposal data spreadsheet.

Tim Smith, Rohnert Park, said that the City of Rohnert Park made a request from Northbay Corporation on August 25th, 2007; and they have not received an answer yet. Tim Smith asked Agency Counsel to give direction from the Agency's perspective about how to proceed with the City attorneys, specifically what questions board members should ask.

Janet Coleson, Agency Counsel, said in the cities individual contracts with the haulers there is almost always a reporting requirement. The individual jurisdictions can get that information. The Agency doesn't have any kind of contract with the hauler and doesn't have that kind of reporting requirement, but they can get it from other sources.

Tim Smith said he would like to get that information in writing so that he could present it to the hauler as a formal request from the Agency.

Vince Marengo said he'd like to know what's coming into the County system.

Christa Johnson said the Town of Windsor is in the middle of a competitive process for debris box hauling, she would like reporting language to make sure it is included in their new contract.

Ernie Carpenter, Global Materials Recovery Services, said he spoke with the owners of Global about disclosing the disposal information, they had some concerns about disclosing information that everyone else is not disclosing. They questioned whether everyone else is disclosing the same information. Certain public information is available; a quarterly report is submitted that tells the tonnage on an average basis, daily. All of their residual goes to Redwood Landfill. A precise listing of what the Agency wants would be helpful, and assurance that all haulers are reporting their numbers.

Ken Wells said staff receives monthly reports, however, they only show the inbound numbers, not the tonnage that goes out for disposal. A clear request of the information that staff needs will be developed and distributed.

Ken Wells commented that about 1/3 of the solid waste generated in Sonoma County is not coming through the County disposal system.

Staff will bring a report on solid waste disposal to the November meeting.

COMPOSTING/WOOD WASTE

8.1 UPDATE ON COMPOST PROGRAM

Ken Wells gave an update on finding the new compost site. There is a contractor helping with the siting process and the subsequent environmental review. There have been a number of meetings with the consultants. The consultant has identified preferred areas that would be suitable for a new compost site. The next major public milestone is a special meeting of the Local Task Force on November 8th. The consultants will describe the process to date and show how the siting criteria that were approved by this board are being used to identify general regions for a new site. There will probably not be specific parcels at that point, but the process will be narrowed down to a small subset of the county. Meetings are being scheduled with stakeholders in the local farming community, the county's planning department and other important parties to make sure everyone is aware of the process.

Patrick Carter added that it's a goal for the consultants to present some specific sites at a later Agency meeting, possibly the November 28th meeting.

Ken Wells said the contract requires a two-step process in terms of siting. First of all there are about 20 potential locations, and those will be considered and reviewed and narrowed down to 3 sites for further review.

Ken Wells also reported the compost report for July 2007 is included in the packet.

9. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS

Susan Klassen said David Leland from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) will attend the November Agency meeting to talk about their issues with the compost site as it sits right now on the Central Landfill. David Leland is the Division Manager for the division that permits solid waste facilities. He asked for specific questions that the Board would like to have addressed. The RWQCB is interested in hearing our concerns and comments.

After some discussion, the Board developed some questions for the RWQCB, which were compiled by Susan Klassen.

Tim Smith, Rohnert Park, commented that he had visited the San Francisco Transfer Station and the Bayside recycling center. He said that SB 966, which has to do with pharmaceutical take-backs, has been signed by the Governor.

Also, the City of Rohnert Park is holding a Safe Medicine Disposal Seminar on November 8th, the same day that the AB 939 Local Task Force is having their meeting.

Paul Paddock, Sonoma Compost Company, said the RWQCB is going through their tri-annual basin plan review; they have a long list of issues and are wrestling with which ones they want to address. One of the issues is composting operations, though he understands they've decided not to put that on their list of issues to address.

Connie Cloak, C2 Alternative Services, attended the National Recycling Congress in Denver last month, which included tours of some of the facilities in Boulder, one of which is similar to Recycletown.

Tim Smith said there was a story in the NY Times about Seattle and their 30% to 40% recycling rate, which is heading towards 50%. Sonoma County is at 61%, which is still increasing.

10. STAFF COMMENTS

Lisa Steinman said another bill that was signed by the Governor was AB 1109, which is the Lighting Efficiency and Toxic Reduction Act. By 2010 the bill will prohibit the sale of lights in California that contain levels of mercury higher than allowed in the European Union.

Ken Wells said the bill is groundbreaking. It's the first bill like this in the United States. Although there is mercury in the compact fluorescents, studies have shown that the offset mercury emissions from the savings in energy are greater than the amount of mercury in the lamps.

Ken Wells distributed a flyer about treated wood waste. He thanked Global Materials Recovery Services and also M & M Services for taking treated wood. These are two local businesses that are currently accepting this material.

Ken Wells also distributed a pamphlet from the California Product Stewardship Council, a group that the Agency has been involved with since its inception.

11. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Koetke

Distributed at meeting:

Treated Wood Waste Flyer
California Product Stewardship Council brochure
UCCE Home Compost Education Report 2006-2007