



Minutes of November 17, 2010

The Sonoma County Waste Management Agency (SCWMA) met on November 17, 2010, at the City of Santa Rosa Council Chambers, 100 Santa Rosa Avenue., Santa Rosa, California

**Present:**

Town of Windsor	Christa Johnson, Chair
City of Cloverdale	Nina Regor
City of Cotati	Marsha Sue Lustig
City of Healdsburg	Mike Kirn
City of Petaluma	Susan Lackie
City of Rohnert Park	Linda Babonis
City of Santa Rosa	Dell Tredinnick
City of Sebastopol	Jack Griffin
City of Sonoma	Steve Barbose
County of Sonoma	Tom O'Kane

**Staff Present:**

Counsel	Janet Coleson
Staff	Patrick Carter
	Karina Chilcott
	Charlotte Fisher
	Lisa Steinman
Recorder	Elizabeth Koetke

- 1. Call to Order Special Meeting**  
The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.
- 2. Open Closed Session**  
Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b)(1) & (b)(3)(A)
- 3. Adjourn Closed Session**  
No report.
- 4. Call to Order Regular Meeting/Introductions 9:00 a.m. or immediately following the closed session**  
The regular meeting was called to order at 9:11 a.m.
- 5. Agenda Approval**  
**Marsha Sue Lustig, Cotati, moved to approve the agenda. Mike Kirn, Healdsburg, seconded. Agenda approved with a unanimous vote.**
- 6. Attachments / Correspondence**  
Chair Christa Johnson, called attention to the Director's Agenda Notes.
- 7. On File with Clerk**  
Chair Johnson noted the resolutions approved in October 2010, are on file with the Clerk.

## **8. Public Comments (items not on the agenda)**

Martin Millick, Cold Creek Compost, stated they charge a lower tip fee at their facility. Only 15% of their revenue comes from tipping fees, the rest comes from sales. The majority of their feedstock is from Sonoma County. Mr. Millick distributed flyers from the City of Fort Bragg and Fort Bragg Disposal, which indicate acceptable material for yard debris composting.

## **Consent**

**9.1 Minutes of October 20, 2010**

**9.2 Copier Lease**

**9.3 First Quarter Financial Report**

**9.4 Beverage Container Recycling Program Purchase**

**Dell Tredinnick, Santa Rosa, moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Linda Babonis, Rohnert Park, seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.**

## **Regular Calendar**

### **10. Sonoma County / City Solid Waste Advisory Group**

Steve Barbose, City of Sonoma, is serving as liaison for the SCWMA to the Sonoma Waste Advisory Group (SWAG). The SWAG is forming a research committee to meet their objectives. Applications are now being accepted.

A visit to the Central Disposal site is being planned for the SWAG.

SCWMA Executive Director, Henry Mikus, will serve on the SWAG representing the SCWMA.

### **11. Presentation on Mandatory Commercial Recycling Patrick Quinn, Planning Program Manager Sacramento County Waste Management and Recycling Department**

Patrick Quinn, Planning Program Manager, for the Sacramento County Waste Management and Recycling Department, presented information about Mandatory Commercial Recycling.

There was no public comment.

### **12. C & D Pilot Project**

Charlotte Fisher explained this item comes forward with a letter from the County of Sonoma, Department of Transportation and Public Works. The letter explains the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors approved an amendment in October between the County of Sonoma and Redwood Empire Disposal (RED). The amendment contains a description of a pilot project to collect C&D debris box solid waste in the unincorporated area of the county.

This initial two year pilot project could be incorporated into the remaining terms of the Agreement between RED and the County if it proves to be successful.

**The Board made a consensus to move forward with the pilot project and return to the January 2011 meeting for further discussion with an amendment/agreement for consideration.**

### **13. Single-Use Bags**

Patrick Carter has provided legislative updates on single-use bags legislation since March 2008. In September 2010, AB 1998 failed to pass in the California State Senate. At that time staff presented the Board with options for action at a local level and sought direction from the Board. The Board requested more information, but indicated an interest in pursuing a local, countywide effort through the Agency.

Banning carryout bags is viable. Staff is working to determine whether Proposition 26 would prevent jurisdictions from implementing future ordinances and whether a ban/fee is a viable combination.

Another consideration is that any action taken by the SCWMA would only be in effect as long as the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) exists, February 2017. Though the JPA can be extended on a year-to-year basis, this would provide an element of uncertainty to the businesses and customers affected by the ordinance.

A significant amount of staff time would be required to prepare and implement an ordinance designed to reduce carryout bag use. If the directed action includes preparation of an Environmental Impact Review (EIR), additional costs would be incurred to prepare a Request For Proposal (RFP) and enter into an agreement with a consulting firm to prepare the document.

The cost of hiring a consultant to create the necessary EIR could be significantly less once additional reference material from other completed EIRs regarding carryout bag waste reduction becomes public record.

On November 16, 2010, the County of Los Angeles certified their EIR. Staff will monitor the results, particularly the kind of comments and challenges they encounter.

### **Public Comments**

Ken Wells, Guiding Sustainability, suggested that staff prepare a RFP for preparation of an EIR for the ban on plastic bags and a fee on paper bags. He feels a RFP would not commit the SCWMA to an EIR, but would send a message that one is being considered. San Francisco has banned both plastic bags and polystyrene with the support of the community.

Julie King, Sonoma resident, echoed Ken Wells' comments. Over 19 billion bags a year are used in California; most of them are not recycled. The County of Marin has been working on this for the past several years and they have sample ordinances and presentations there are some templates available.

**The consensus of the Boardmembers was for staff to complete their current projects, and to calculate how much staff time would be needed to put out an RFP.**

**Chair Johnson suggested that Boardmembers check their cities franchise agreements and encourage their haulers to provide public education. She also requested that that this item be included in the Workplan for FY 11-12.**

**Staff was given direction to draft a form letter to send to grocery stores and big box stores encouraging them to take the lead in banning or eliminating plastic bags in Sonoma County and to present the draft letter at the January 19, 2011 meeting.**

**Chair Johnson asked each Boardmember to provide staff with a list of the larger generators in their jurisdictions at the January 2011 meeting.**

### **14. Boardmember Comments**

Marsha Sue Lustig, Cotati, would like to schedule an informal social gathering with the new Executive Director as soon as possible.

Nina Regor, Cloverdale, suggested a formal 'Thank You' to Susan Klassen for her work as Interim Executive Director.

Chair Johnson, welcomed Henry Mikus and his wife, Carla, to Sonoma County and to the SCWMA. She also thanked Susan Klassen and staff for the additional duties they assumed during this interim period.

**15. Staff Comments**

Janet Coleson, Agency Counsel, confirmed formally cancelling the December 15, 2010 SCWMA meeting

Charlotte Fisher reported the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Allocations from Sonoma Compost Company were available.

**16. Next Sonoma County Waste Management Agency Meeting, January 19, 2010.**

**17. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Koetke

**Copies of the following were distributed and/or submitted at this meeting:**

**'Compost Dollars and Sense', Cold Creek Compost**

**'Food Scraps Accepted in Yard Debris', City of Fort Bragg & Fort Bragg Disposal**