Minutes of December 17, 2014 Special Meeting

The Sonoma County Waste Management Agency met on December 17, 2014, at the City of Cotati, 216 East School Street, Cotati, California

Present:
- City of Cloverdale: Bob Cox
- City of Cotati: Damien O’Bid
- City of Healdsburg: David Mickaelian
- City of Petaluma: Dan St. John
- City of Rohnert Park: Don Schwartz
- City of Santa Rosa: John Sawyer
- City of Sebastopol: Sue Kelly
- City of Sonoma: Carol Giovanatto
- County of Sonoma: Susan Klassen
- Town of Windsor: Deb Fudge

Staff Present:
- Counsel: Janet Coleson
- Staff:
  - Henry Mikus
  - Patrick Carter
  - Lisa Steinman

Agency Clerk: Sally Evans

1. **Call to Order Regular Meeting**
   The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. **Agenda Approval**
   Henry Mikus, Executive Director, stated that the public employee performance evaluation for the Executive Director will be pulled from the closed session.

   Janet Coleson, Agency Counsel, asked that the Agency Counsel performance evaluation be first on the closed session.

3. **Public Comments (items not on the agenda)**
   Sarah Lecus, Sonoma Coast Surfrider Foundation, thanked the Board for passing the plastic bag ordinance. Ms. Lecus proposed that the Board ban Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) in Sonoma County. Ms. Lecus explained similarities between EPS and plastic bags and pointed out that EPS cannot be recycled in Sonoma County. Ms. Lecus added that these light weight plastic ultimately ends up as litter and in the ocean. Ms. Lecus remarked that it’s important for the county to create its own ordinances at a local level, and relayed that San Francisco, San Jose, New York City,
Washington D.C. as well as neighboring Mendocino County have banned EPS takeout food containers.

Ms. Lecus highlighted that in 1989, Sonoma County created an ordinance banning EPS from Sonoma County government property. Ms. Lecus asked for enforcement of the existing ordinance, as she is aware some county facilities are not in compliance.

Ms. Lecus asked the Board to consider including the concept of a ban on EPS takeout food containers in the Board’s upcoming annual work plan. Ms. Lecus provided supporting signatures for the proposed ban on EPS, and a copy of the 1989 Sonoma County Ordinance banning EPS from county government property.

Deb Fudge, Town of Windsor, arrived at 9:09 am.

Martin Mileck, Cold Creek Compost, stated that Cold Creek Compost does not have enough green waste to deal with difficult waste material. Mr. Mileck added that the Agency is exporting green waste and suggested that the Agency and Cold Creek Compost have a discussion regarding having green waste from Healdsburg and surrounding areas hauled to Cold Creek Compost. Mr. Mileck stated this would decrease the Agency material handling cost. Mr. Mileck added that he is aware the Agency has looked at it and obtained a price to have the contractor haul it, but the contractor refuses to haul it.

4. **Consent** (w/attachments)
   4.1 Minutes of November 19, 2014 Regular Meeting
   4.2 Zero Discharge Report
   4.3 Ninth Amendment to Agreement with City of Petaluma
   4.4 Assignment of MOU with County of Sonoma for E-Waste Management Services
   4.5 Assignment of MOU with County of Sonoma for Load Checking Services

**Board Discussion**
Ms. Sue Kelly, City of Sebastopol motioned to approve the consent calendar. Mr. Bob Cox, City of Cloverdale, seconded the motion.

**Public Comments (items on the consent agenda)**
Mr. Roger Larsen, Happy Acres, stated that the November 19th, 2014 minutes should reflect that his question for Henry Mikus, Executive Director, was not addressed.

Mr. Larsen stated that the Zero Discharge Report contains how much water was hauled away from the pond, but it does not provide information regarding how much water went into the pond. Mr. Larsen added that he is trying to determine how much water ended up in the creek.

Vice Chair St. John explained that the public comments section during the Board meeting is for public comments, and recommended that Mr. Larsen contact Agency Staff, outside of the Board meeting, with his questions.

Mr. Larsen commented that the Zero Discharge Report says it’s a Zero Discharge, but it actually is not. Mr. Larsen added that there was water discharged, and asked that the creek stop being polluted.
Consent items passed unanimously.

**Regular Calendar**
There were no Regular Calendar items.

**Adjourn to Closed Session**
The Board adjourned to closed session at 9:17 am.

**Closed Session**

5. **Open Closed Session**

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION
GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(1)

Renewed Efforts of Neighbors Against Landfill Expansion vs. County of Sonoma, Sonoma Compost Company, Sonoma County Waste Management Agency
Case 3:14-cv-03804-TEH

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
Title: Agency Counsel

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
Title: Executive Director

Mr. Sawyer left at 11:47 am.

6. **Adjourn Closed Session**

The Board resumed open session at 11:48 am.

7. **Attachments/Correspondence:**

7.1 Reports by Staff and Others:
7.1.a December 2014 and January 2015 Outreach Events
7.1.b Comment letter to CalRecycle on draft composting regulations

8. **Boardmember Comments**
Ms. Kelly stated that she will be in attendance at the January Board meeting, but work obligations may prevent her attendance the following months. Ms. Kelly added that Larry McLaughlin will be
in attendance during her absence. Ms. Kelly shared that she has announced her retirement from the City, beginning the 1st of July.

David Mickaelian stated that he will not be at the January Board meeting, but will check with Mr. Gary Plass, regarding his attendance. Mr. Mickaelian stated that the City of Healdsburg is in the process of selecting an additional alternate.

Mr. Mikus stated that he does not recall any unanimous vote items for the January meeting, other than attorney fees.

Vice Chair St. John congratulated Agency staff for their work and for keeping the Board informed.

Carol Giovanatto, City of Sonoma, stated that a new councilmember from the City of Sonoma was appointed to the Board. Ms. Giovanatto added that she will remain as the alternate and that she will be meeting with the new Board member prior to the January meeting.

9. **Staff Comments**
   
   Mr. Mikus thanked Ms. Carol Giovanatto, City of Sonoma, for adjusting her schedule to attend today’s Board meeting and added that he also wanted to thank John Sawyer, City of Santa Rosa.

   Mr. Mikus explained that the success in dealing with the water and rain issues at the Compost Site was due to the assistance from staff at the Laguna and Ellis Creek. Mr. Mikus reported that it has been a team effort, and acknowledged Santa Rosa and Petaluma for their assistance.

   Mr. Mikus announced that Sally Evans is the new Agency Clerk, and added that she is bilingual.

   Mr. Mikus reported that he will be taking some time off over the holidays, but will be available by phone.

10. **Next SCWMA meeting: January 21, 2015**

11. **Adjourn**
    
    The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.

    Submitted by
    Sally Evans