



MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2007

The Sonoma County Waste Management Agency met on March 21, 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 Santa Rosa	Dell Tredinnick, Chair
City of Cotati	Marsha Sue Lustig
City of Cloverdale	Steve Holsinger
City of Healdsburg	Marjie Pettus
City of Petaluma	Vince Marengo
City of Rohnert Park	Tim Smith
City of Sebastopol	Dave Brennan
City of Sonoma	Steve Barbose
County of Sonoma	Dave Knight
Town of Windsor	Christa Johnson

STAFF PRESENT:

Director	Ken Wells
Counsel	Janet Coleson
Staff	Charlotte Fisher
	Patrick Carter

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
Chair, Dell Tredinnick, called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.
- 2. ATTACHMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE**
Dell Tredinnick, Chair, called attention to the Director's Agenda Notes.
- 3. ON FILE WITH CLERK**
Dell Tredinnick, Chair, noted Resolution 2007-03 is on file with the clerk.
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
There were no public comments.

CONSENT

- 5.1 Minutes of February 21, 2007**
- 5.2 Appropriation Transfers (Unanimous Vote Required)**
- 5.3 Reuse Assistance Grant for SonoMax**
- 5.4 Printing of 2007 Recycling Guide by American Lithographers**
- 5.5 EPR Support Agreement with PPI**
- 5.6 E-Waste Recycling Agreement with ASL**

Vince Marengo, Petaluma, moved to approve the consent calendar. Tim Smith, Rohnert Park, seconded. Consent calendar approved.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

6.1 HHW Recommendations Implementation Plan

Patrick Carter summarized previous Board actions and described the recommendations listed in the HHW Program Benchmarking and Program Evaluation report. Staff explained that the HHW Recommendations Implementation Plan was condensed into three independent actions;

- (1) solicit proposals and return to the Board with a contract for a consulting engineer to extend the canopy of the existing facility, and
- (2) solicit proposals and return to the Board with a contract to study the feasibility of adding HHW facilities described in the HHW Program Evaluation, and
- (3) evaluate the HHW program fees to align revenues more closely with expenses and return to the Board with recommended fee changes.

Dave Knight questioned whether the recommendations needed to be approved altogether. He supported recommendations #1 and #3, but he wanted to have more information about recommendation #2, including a comparison of those proposed facilities against the cost of the CTCs, and Rover in terms of participation and cost. He also requested exploring other sources of revenues other than just the surcharge tipping fee. Other Board members felt that it was premature to discuss this item as the financial impacts on the FY 07-08 budget had not yet been considered, so it was suggested that this item be tabled until after discussion on Item 7.1.

Dave Knight, County of Sonoma, moved to table Item 6.1 until after Item 7.1, the FY 07-08 Budget discussion. Dave Brennan, Sebastopol, seconded. Motion approved.

ADMINISTRATION

7.1 Further Consideration of FY 07-08 Draft Budget

After Ken Wells reviewed the direction to staff from the February 2007 Board meeting, he presented the draft FY 07-08 budget that included the Board's direction and included a \$1.00/ton increase for the wood waste, yard debris and refuse tipping fees for FY 07-08. Windsor asked for clarification that the Board was not considering the entire work plan and schedule of rate adjustments over the four years. Staff clarified that only the FY 07-08 budget and rate were presented for approval. After a lengthy discussion focused on the amount of the surcharge tipping fee increase and the language of the reserve policy, **Christa Johnson, Windsor, moved and Tim Smith, Rohnert Park, seconded approval of the proposed draft FY 07-08 Budget. A roll call vote was taken that failed to achieve the unanimous vote requirement (Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Rohnert Park, Sonoma, Windsor – aye; Petaluma, Sebastopol, County of Sonoma – no; Santa Rosa – abstain).** Further discussion resulted in direction to staff to develop another draft FY 07-08 budget that would balance revenue with expenses for all surcharge cost centers (i.e., no excess revenue transfers to Reserves), transfer \$100,000 of Contingency Reserves to the HHW Operating Reserves for three years (total of \$300,000 transfer), and increase the tipping fee surcharge evenly over future years using the same program assumptions. Staff was asked to distribute the revised draft FY 07-08 budget as early as possible, prior to the distribution of the complete Agenda packet. Ken Wells indicated staff should be able to get a revised draft FY 07-08 budget to the Board in about two weeks, such that Board members could have as much time as possible to review the budget before the April 18 meeting. Staff will also provide the proposed cost of services for Petaluma under the same assumptions. Rohnert Park also requested an estimated non-tipping fee assessment such as the arrangement that the City of Petaluma is currently using. No further action was taken on this item.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

6.1(continued) HHW Recommendations Implementation Plan

After concluding the discussion and direction on Item 7.1, proposed FY 07-08 budget, the Board returned to the Implementation Plan for the HHW Program Recommendations. Ken Wells noted that each of the recommended actions in the staff report can be considered as independent decisions. He also noted that significant grant fund support from the CIWMB was used for the current HHW facility and additional grant funding will be pursued when it is available.

Ken Wells confirmed that it was expected that staff would do the analysis to develop revised HHW program fees as proposed in recommendation #3 without the need for consultant services. Ken Wells explained the estimated cost of the canopy extension proposed under recommended action #1 was based on a \$100/square foot estimate for the full cost of the canopy extension of approximately 2,400 square feet, including design, engineering, permitting and construction.

Dave Brennan, Sebastopol, moved to direct staff to implement recommended action items #1 and #3, and return to the Board at a future meeting with a more detailed report on what would be included with recommendation action item #2. Dave Knight, County of Sonoma, seconded. Motion approved with a unanimous vote.

ADMINISTRATION

7.2 Unanimous Vote Requirement in JPA

Ken Wells noted this item was included as directed at the previous meeting, reviewed the past effort to modify the unanimous vote requirement, and presented potential change for consideration. The Board then discussed the challenges and the benefits to the smaller communities as well as allowing for productive information exchange with the unanimous vote requirement. Steve Holsinger, Cloverdale, stated he would not support a change in the unanimous vote requirement. Vince Marengo also noted he would not support a change to the requirement. No further action was taken on the item.

PLANNING

8.1 Recommendations from LTF for CoIWMP Revision

Patrick Carter described the Agency's responsibility for the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CoIWMP), the history of the CoIWMP in Sonoma County, how the County's current solid waste management program is inconsistent with the CoIWMP, and how the LTF became involved in the revision. The Board was advised that the changes proposed would also require the analysis of any new environmental impacts to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. An estimated \$150,000 has been proposed in the FY 07-08 Budget in the Contingency Reserve for this item for a consultant who would assist staff with CEQA documents. The staff recommendation is that that the Board:

- (1) Consider accepting the draft language provided by the Local Task Force for this revision to the Summary Plan and the Siting Element and, if acceptable,
- (2) direct staff to continue the Summary Plan and Siting Element revision process as defined by Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 9, Article 8, Sections 18780 – 18784 of the California Code of Regulations and,
- (3) direct staff to solicit proposals from consultants qualified to perform CEQA review of the revised Summary Plan and Siting Element

Chair Tredinnick asked for public comments.

Mike Anderson, Chairman of the Local Task Force, stated that the public County landfill system is no longer functioning and the language in the proposed chapters was purposely made broad to allow the most future flexibility. These changes were reached by consensus of the two dozen task force members. The Brown Vence report put the Zero Waste concept at a high priority and the LTF is following this ranking by including this language as a goal.

Ernie Carpenter suggested reviewing the document for ambiguous statements. He believed that the word compliant was used inappropriately as it relates to landfill permitting. (*ed: Merriam Webster defines "compliant" as ready or disposed to comply, or conforming to requirements. Therefore, compliant is used correctly.*)

Christa Johnson, Windsor, expressed concern with the new goal of Zero Waste and the financial implications, especially the policy about franchise fees being used to fund Zero Waste

programs. Santa Rosa expressed concerns about potential costs that could be incurred by the Agency as a result of implementing Zero Waste programs. Ken Wells responded by stating that no new programs were proposed in this revision and that the language changes in Chapter 2, other than those relating to the Siting Element, reflecting a change from considering discards as "waste" to a viewpoint that discards are resources which should be put to productive use.

The Board was unclear which changes were required and which were not, so staff was directed to create and return at the next meeting with a matrix describing the changes by listing the location, substance, and rationale of each substantive alteration of the text. No further action was taken on this item.

COMPOSTING/WOOD WASTE

9.1 Compost Program Update

There is a pilot program currently underway to sort wood waste from solid waste on the tipping building at the Central Disposal Site floor. Sonoma County is contracting with Sonoma Compost to sort and haul the wood to their facility, where it is processed under the Agency's program. The RFP for the assistance with siting of the permanent composting site and the environmental documentation has been issued with proposals expected to be submitted, reviewed and a contract brought to the Board by August 2007.

10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Dave Brennan, City of Sebastopol, asked for definitive information concerning the requirement to move the composting operation off the Central Disposal Site. He also asked what is preventing a relocation of the compost operation within the boundary of the Central Disposal Site. This will be included on a future Agency agenda.

11. STAFF COMMENTS

Ken Wells reminded Board members to submit their Form 700 Financial Disclosure forms.

12. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Fisher