



Minutes of the August 16, 2017 Meeting

The Sonoma County Waste Management Agency met on August 16, 2017, at the City of Santa Rosa Council Chambers, 100 Santa Rosa Avenue, Santa Rosa, California.

Board Members Present:

City of Cloverdale	Melanie Bagby	City of Santa Rosa	John Sawyer
City of Cotati	Susan Harvey	City of Sebastopol	Henry Mikus
City of Healdsburg	Brent Salmi	City of Sonoma	Madolyn Agrimonti
City of Petaluma	Dan St. John	County of Sonoma	Susan Gorin
City of Rohnert Park	Pam Stafford	Town of Windsor	Deb Fudge

Staff Present:

Executive Director/Clerk	Patrick Carter	Staff	Felicia Smith
Counsel	Ethan Walsh		Kristin Thigpen
			Thora Collard
			Courtney Scott

- 1. Call to Order Regular Meeting**
Regular meeting was called to order at 8:35a.m.
- 2. Agenda Approval**
- 3. Public Comments (items not on the agenda)**
None
- 4. Consent (w/attachments)**
 - 4.1 Minutes of the June 21, 2017 Regular Meeting
 - 4.2 July, August and September 2017 Outreach Calendar
 - 4.3 HHW Grant Award Notification
 - 4.4 Letters of Support for AB 954 and AB 1219

Public Comments:

None.

The motion for approval of items 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 on the consent calendar was made by Susan Harvey City of Cotati, and seconded by Henry Mikus, City of Sebastopol. Brent Salmi, City of Healdsburg requested to abstain from consent item 4.1 due to his absence at that meeting.

Item 4.1

Vote Count:

City of Cloverdale	AYE	City of Santa Rosa	AYE
City of Cotati	AYE	City of Sebastopol	AYE

City of Healdsburg	ABSTAIN	City of Sonoma	AYE
City of Petaluma	AYE	County of Sonoma	AYE
City of Rohnert Park	AYE	Town of Windsor	AYE

AYES -9- NOES -0- ABSENT -0- ABSTAIN -1-

Motion passed.

Items 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4

Vote Count:

City of Cloverdale	AYE	City of Santa Rosa	AYE
City of Cotati	AYE	City of Sebastopol	AYE
City of Healdsburg	AYE	City of Sonoma	AYE
City of Petaluma	AYE	County of Sonoma	AYE
City of Rohnert Park	AYE	Town of Windsor	AYE

AYES -10- NOES -0- ABSENT -0- ABSTAIN -0-

Motion passed.

Regular Calendar

5. Consideration of an MOU with the Town of Windsor for Used Oil Collection Reimbursement

Courtney Scott, SCWMA staff, recommended to the Board approval to execute the MOU with the Town of Windsor for Used Oil Collection Reimbursement dependent on the Used Oil Payment Program funding from CalRecycle.

Board Discussion

Mr. Mikus asked if the staff time for manning the Windsor oil drop-off station would be eligible for reimbursement.

Ms. Scott responded that staff time was not eligible.

Ms. Fudge commented that the staffing was new due to a prior contamination of the tank. The tank hours are now Monday – Thursday during business hours.

Public Comments

None.

Pam Stafford, City of Rohnert Park motioned to approve the execution of the MOU and Susan Gorin, County of Sonoma, seconded the motion.

Vote Count:

City of Cloverdale	AYE	City of Santa Rosa	AYE
City of Cotati	AYE	City of Sebastopol	AYE
City of Healdsburg	AYE	City of Sonoma	AYE
City of Petaluma	AYE	County of Sonoma	AYE
City of Rohnert Park	AYE	Town of Windsor	AYE

AYES -10- NOES -0- ABSENT -0- ABSTAIN -0-

Motion passed.

6. Consideration of an Agreement with UCCE for Home Composting Education Services

Patrick Carter, SCWMA Executive Director, recommended to the Board the approval of the agreement with University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) for Home Composting Education Services. The services provided will include public outreach events and workshops. The approved amount is less than budgeted, including the additional SCWMA-funded advertising that will be required.

Board Discussion

Ms. Agrimonti asked about the types of outreach UCCE offers, written only or hands-on training.

Mr. Carter explained that the UCCE does on-site, hands-on training demonstrating composting.

Ms. Gorin suggested that City of Sonoma and coordinate for an event.

Ms. Harvey commented that she was happy to see outreach happening at the schools and the importance of engaging children.

Public Comments

None.

Ms. Gorin motioned to approve the Agreement with University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) for Home Composting Education Services and Ms. Agrimonti seconded the motion.

Vote Count:

City of Cloverdale	AYE	City of Santa Rosa	AYE
City of Cotati	AYE	City of Sebastopol	AYE
City of Healdsburg	AYE	City of Sonoma	AYE
City of Petaluma	AYE	County of Sonoma	AYE
City of Rohnert Park	AYE	Town of Windsor	AYE

AYES -10- NOES -0- ABSENT -0- ABSTAIN -0-

Motion passed.

7. Update on Organics Processing Services RFP

Mr. Carter updated the Board on the status of the Organics Processing Services RFP. The RFP was released. A mandatory pre-conference meeting was held, and 23 companies attended. On July 7th an addendum was published with questions received up to that time. One question was a request to extend the deadline for the submission. Staff agreed to extend the submission date to October 18th. City of Santa Rosa has offered land next to the Laguna Water Treatment Plant and has issued an RFP to lease the property in conjunction with the SCWMA's RFP. The award of the City of Santa Rosa's RFP does not guarantee a selection by the SCWMA. July 27th a second addendum was issued with additional questions and answers. One question raised was regarding the contamination rate of the waste stream. The SCWMA invited interested parties to see loads at the Healdsburg Transfer Station on August 9th. Six groups inspected the feedstock on that date.

Board Discussion

Mr. St John asked where the public to take their self-hauled green waste.

Mr. Carter responded self-haulers should take it to the Healdsburg, Sonoma, Annapolis and Guerneville transfer stations. Central Disposal site has limited capacity. Private sites are available, but have capacity issues.

Ms. Harvey asked why only six of the twenty-three interested parties attended the Healdsburg Transfer Station trip.

Mr. Carter responded that some of the parties are already receiving our green waste, so they are familiar with our product stream. Some of the other parties are forming partnerships and consolidation.

Ms. Gorin inquired if the addendums are posted on the website and asked for the addendums to be mailed to the Board.

Mr. Carter responded that the addendums are linked from the "In the Spotlight" section on our homepage.

Mr. St. John inquired if there was interest in the problem of biosolids.

Mr. Carter responded that we had included biosolids as an area of interest in the RFP.

Ms. Harvey Recommended Mr. Carter work with the Air Quality Board to find collaboration on bio-fuel solutions.

Mr. Carter confirmed that he has been in contact with them.

Ms. Agrimonti asked if there is a tie-in with the increased capacity that may be a result from the Marijuana industry.

Mr. Carter responded that the SCWMA would be very interested in doing outreach to educate the industry on pesticide disposal and organic waste.

Ms. Gorin commented that there are strict guidelines for the marijuana industry on fertilizer and pesticide usage, storage and disposal. Much outreach will be needed to bring the industry into compliance.

Public Comments

None.

8. Request for Direction on a Polystyrene Waste Reduction Model Ordinance

Felicia Smith, SCWMA staff, requested direction from the Board on the development of a model ordinance to reduce polystyrene.

Board Discussion

Ms. Gorin commented about the problem of plastic straws in the waste stream also. She mentioned the need to discuss with business owners on the impact and request feedback.

Ms. Agrimonti mentioned the availability of paper straws and other re-usable items are easily available at places like Whole Foods. She asked if there was a way to include recommended alternatives.

Ms. Smith responded that the ordinance will recommend alternatives that are recyclable or compostable and have a transition period.

Mr. Carter commented that 110 other cities and counties have already passed ordinances similar to these that can be modeled after.

Mr. Sawyer stressed the importance of a transition period. Education and phase-in period will be very important. He asked about timeline and the availability of education materials for Board members to bring back to their councils. He thinks it will be a well-supported ordinance, but it will have lots of questions.

Ms. Fudge commented that she thinks this will be an easy transition because many businesses have already moved away from the use of Styrofoam. She showed the "Sip it Sonoma" business card that can be left for businesses with information regarding single use straws.

Ms. Bagby commented on the vast amount of Styrofoam waste that is in the waterways and on the beaches. She suggested it is a problem that we do need to address.

Ms. Harvey asked if there are any legal ramifications of this ordinance

Mr. Walsh commented that he is not aware of any issues and has recently worked with the City of Davis to pass a similar ordinance.

Ms. Harvey stressed early involvement with businesses.

Mr. Sawyer commented on the Styrofoam from construction and inside coolers. Important to educate the community. He is pleased that we are tackling this important issue.

Ms. Gorin expressed her frustration with the Styrofoam being used in packaging and asked the question about where to dispose of that material, is it HHW or landfill? Ms. Gorin asked if the Board could have a "Sip it Sonoma" presentation.

Ms. Stafford agreed with the importance of involving business owners and appreciated the inclusion in the board packet of information on costs for alternative containers.

Ms. Agrimonti asked about the re-useable straws and the note from "Sip it Sonoma" and where she could find them.

Mr. Carter replied that the cards were something customers could leave as feedback to business owners showing a ground-up demand for change.

Public Comments

Ken Wells, Sierra Club Representative to AB939 Local Task Force, was happy this was in motion and expressed a desire for this process to move faster than the plastic bag ban. He reported there is not any legal issues regarding this ban. He stressed the importance of a level playing field regarding this ban, make all restaurants and take out venues have the same restrictions because it is a very competitive market. The San Francisco ordinance is a good reference.

Board Discussion

Mr. Sawyer asked what the next steps were.

Mr. Carter replied that this was the first of three presentations regarding this topic. The next option would be for staff to prepare a report with a menu of options for items to include in the ordinance.

Ms. Gorin would like to include straws at the same time.

Ms. Gorin asked if there are other items that are used by restaurants that should be included with this ordinance.

Mr. Carter responded that we could tie-in food waste reduction while outreach is conducted.

Ms. Smith responded that disposable utensils could be considered.

9. Boardmember Comments

Ms. Gorin expressed the frustration of the community of Sonoma with the lack of options for bottle and can recycling available.

Mr. Carter reported that the City of Santa Rosa had selected Recology for their waste contract. He asked if the board would like the SCWMA to do a background investigation of Recology that can be shared with board members to share with their cities.

Mr. St. John expressed that each city would need to do their due diligence regarding Recology and thought this would be beneficial to all the members.

Mr. Sawyer inquired if this fell within the SCWMA's scope.

Mr. Carter thought this is a solid waste issue that involves our members and education was part of our scope.

Mr. Mikus commented that the SCWMA would need to do a background report for the contract with the Ratto Group for hauling organics, so it is within scope and could be shared.

10. Next SCWMA meeting: September 20, 2017

11. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

Submitted by: Patrick Carter

June 21, 2017 – SCWMA Meeting Minutes