



MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

The Sonoma County Waste Management Agency met on September 19, 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 Rohnert Park	Tim Smith, Vice Chair
City of Cotati	Marsha Sue Lustig
City of Healdsburg	Mike Kirn
City of Petaluma	Vince Marengo
City of Santa Rosa	Greg Scoles
City of Sebastopol	Dave Brennan
City of Sonoma	Stephen Barbose
County of Sonoma	Phil Demery
Town of Windsor	Christa Johnson

ABSENT:

City of Cloverdale	Gus Wolter
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STAFF PRESENT:

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

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
Tim Smith, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.
- 2. ATTACHMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE**
Vice Chair Smith called attention to the Director's Agenda Notes.
- 3. ON FILE WITH CLERK**
Vice Chair Smith noted the resolutions from the August meeting on file with the clerk.
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
There were no public comments.

CONSENT

- 5.1** Minutes of August 15, 2007
 - 5.2** Adoption of Travel and Reimbursement Policy
 - 5.3** Beverage Container Grant Program
- Motion to approve the consent calendar was made by Dave Brennan, Sebastopol. Vince Marengo, Petaluma, seconded. Cloverdale absent. Consent calendar approved.**

REGULAR CALENDAR

ADMINISTRATION

6.1 TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS FY 07-08

With approval from the Board, Vice Chair Smith directed that this agenda item be rescheduled for the October 17, 2007 meeting as this item requires a unanimous vote and all cities were not represented at this meeting.

6.2 NOVEMBER AGENCY MEETING DATE

The November meeting was originally scheduled for November 21, 2007, the day before Thanksgiving, staff asked for direction from the Board to move the meeting to another date in November.

Phil Demery, County of Sonoma, made a motion to move the November meeting date from November 21, 2007 to November 28, 2007 to accommodate the Thanksgiving holiday. Greg Scoles, City of Santa Rosa, seconded. Motion approved.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

7.1 STATUS OF EPR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Lisa Steinman reported on the Agency's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Implementation Plan, which was approved by the Board at the February 2007 meeting. The implementation plan is two-fold, the first phase is to encourage producer responsibility by supporting legislation at all levels, include EPR language in procurement policies, and encourage local businesses to implement voluntary take-back programs for mercury containing products and household batteries. The second phase, to be initiated at the Agency Boards' discretion, would implement a local mandatory take-back ordinance. There will be another status report presented to the Agency Board in January 2008.

Among other actions related to EPR, the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) adopted a set of strategic directives at their February 13, 2007 Board meeting which included Strategic Directive 5: Producer Responsibility. The CIWMB is considering at their September 19, 2007 meeting adopting an EPR policy framework which includes sponsoring legislation that would delegate responsibility to the CIWMB to implement take-back regulations.

The only current California legislation addressing household batteries, fluorescent lamps or mercury-containing thermostats that continues to progress in the legislature is AB 1109. The 'California Lighting Efficiency & Toxics Reduction Act', which has been approved by the legislature and is awaiting approval by the Governor.

A related bill is Senate Bill SB 966, which addresses pharmaceuticals in the waste stream, which would begin the EPR process for a statewide solution to the growing problem of improper disposal of unused and expired pharmaceutical drugs by creating model disposal program and requiring the CIWMB to report back to the legislature on their potential statewide implementation by 2010. Pharmaceutical disposal is not addressed in the Agency's EPR Implementation Plan. This bill is also awaiting Governor approval.

The Agency continues to experience an increase in the use of its HHW collection services. With increases in the number of collection opportunities provided by manufacturers and retailers the Agency is hoping to see a decrease in costs for items such as batteries.

Agency staff is also considering setting up accounts with the Thermostat Recycling Corporation (TRC) and The Big Green Box[™] (which is for household batteries) for the

Agency's HHW Program to help reduce costs. Staff will continue to work with local retailers to encourage their participation in the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC), TRC and The Big Green Box[™] programs.

Marsha Sue Lustig, Cotati, asked if there was a way to track the stores that collect the materials, where they take it, and how much they collect.

Lisa Steinman said those questions would be addressed in the next status report to the Agency in January 2008.

Vice Chair Smith distributed an invitation to a symposium about Safe Medicine Disposal which will be held in Rohnert Park November 8th.

Vice Chair Smith said he had been in contact with Ben Stone from the Sonoma County Economic Development Board and would like very much for Extended Producer Responsibility to be included when considering a business for a Green Business Certification.

Vice Chair Smith said he appreciates what staff has done by sending letters on behalf of SB 966 and AB 1109. He asked staff to present a brief update on the status of these bills at the next Agency meeting.

Ken Wells confirmed that staff is working with Ben Stone and the Sonoma County Economic Development Board on the development of an expanded Green Business Program for Sonoma County. The idea of adding take-back responsibilities or opportunities to businesses that would like to be Green Businesses is an excellent idea and consistent with our EPR Resolution.

7.2 CLEAN HARBORS CONTRACT EXTENSION

Ken Wells explained that recently the Board agreed to a one-year extension of the Clean Harbors contract that would take the current agreement to January 2009, although the contract allowed for an extension for two years which would take us to 2010. Clean Harbors indicated a willingness to extend for one year under the same terms and conditions, however for a second year they asked for a 3% increase in their operating fee. Staff was given direction to work with Clean Harbors to see if that particular condition could be removed; we received a letter that was presented to this board at the last meeting that indicated that Clean Harbors was willing to go the extra year but only if that 2nd year included the 3% increase in their operating fee.

At the time of last months' meeting, staff reported that Central Contra Costa Sanitation District (CCCSD) was completing a competitive process for household hazardous waste disposal. CCCSD was an organization in our benchmarking study as they do a lot of the same things we do.

At the August meeting staff was directed to review and evaluate the five HHW disposal proposals received by CCCSD. Staff determined that there were two top-ranked firms in terms of cost, one was Phillips Services Corporation (PSC) and the other was Clean Harbors. PSC was less expensive than Clean Harbors by about 16%.

Based on that evaluation, staff recommends moving forward with a competitive process, and if disposal costs don't go up too much in the next 6 or 8 months, it's possible that we could get even better prices than we have now.

Vince Marengo, Petaluma, asked if there was anything that was not similar in CCCSDs contract and our contract.

Ken Wells said that one difference is that we recycle latex paint; we don't pay to dispose of it. CCCSD pays to dispose of their paint.

Phil Demery, County of Sonoma, asked who the previous service provider for CCCSD was.

Ken Wells said it was PSC.

Phil Demery, County of Sonoma, moved to reaffirm the previous action and go forward with an RFP. Vince Marengo, Petaluma, seconded. Motion approved.

COMPOSTING/WOOD WASTE

8.1 COMPOST PROGRAM UPDATE

Compost reports for June and July 2007 were included in the packet.

Staff is working on outreach efforts to the community to let them know that vegetable waste is an acceptable component to their green waste can.

Feathers have been added to the compost, as has duck bedding and the nitrogen levels have increased.

There was a kick-off meeting with ESA, the contractor developing the siting criteria for the new compost site. There may be some sites to consider by November. There will be a meeting with the AB 939 Local Task Force at that time.

Vice Chair Smith commented that he worked with the Cotati Creek Critters and they were appreciative of the compost from Sonoma Compost Company.

Also, compost was given away at the second to the last Wednesday night market. And the \$2.00 veggie compost bins were available for sale. The veggie compost bins are very popular.

9. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS

Vince Marengo, Petaluma, said that the City of Petaluma has a non-exclusive contract for debris box hauling for commercial use, he would like to request information on the destination and quantities of waste going to the various disposal sites.

Ken Wells said staff will prepare a report for the Board on where solid waste goes.

Marsha Sue Lustig, Cotati commented that where our waste goes affects the money that this Agency receives.

Ernie Carpenter, Global Materials Recovery Services, said they are required to keep numbers for all their non-exclusive contracts, and they are happy to make those numbers available.

Christa Johnson, Windsor, commented that included in the BVA report are several comments from the AB 939 Local Task Force. She would like the Agency Board to have the opportunity to review and comment on any report that would be done in the future so that the Boards' comments could appear in the report.

Marsha Sue Lustig, Cotati expressed interest in having a conversation with the RWQCB staff as was mentioned at a past Agency meeting. If they gave their perspective about

the composting operation and environmental situation at the Central Landfill that would be helpful.

Vice Chair Smith added that their advice as to what they are looking for in the new compost site would be helpful.

Ken Wells said this was discussed at the August meeting, and Susan Klassen, the other County representative, indicated that she would pursue inviting the RWQCB to an Agency meeting.

Phil Demery, County of Sonoma, gave an open invitation to all Board members and members of the public to tour the Central Disposal Site to see the HHW Facility, the Recycling and Reuse area and the Compost Facility.

10. STAFF COMMENTS

Lisa Steinman updated the Board on two businesses in Sonoma County that are accepting treated wood waste; M&M is accepting treated wood from commercial customers and Global Materials Recovery Service is accepting treated wood waste from the public.

Christa Johnson, Windsor, asked where the treated wood waste was being taken.

Ernie Carpenter, Global Materials Recovery Service said the two closest landfills that are certified to accept it from the public are Hay Road Landfill and Altamont Landfill.

Ken Wells commented there was a request at a past meeting that we consider a Local Business Preference, in doing research, we discovered that we have one that was approved in 1995. We'll bring that back for confirmation and review at the next meeting.

He added that we're expecting to be awarded a \$7,000 grant for sharps disposal which is a coordination grant working with the County's Department of Health Services.

The Agency was also selected for a \$200K grant to help with the HHW facility expansion program.

Finally, we submitted an RFP for the idea of doing collection events in the various cities and eight proposals were received.

11. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Koetke

Distributed at meeting:
Safe Medicine Disposal Seminar Invitation from City of Rohnert Park