



November 20, 2013

To: SCWMA Board Members

From: Henry J. Mikus, SCWMA Executive Director

Executive Summary Report for the SCWMA Board Meeting of November 20, 2013

**Consent:** The Consent Agenda approval contained two items: the Minutes of the October 16, 2013 Regular Board Meeting, and a brief update report on the carryout bag ordinance. The bags report included two letters the Agency recently sent to State Assemblyman Levine on his AB 158 and State Senator Padilla on his SB 405. Both bills have to do with a state wide bag ban, but there are two concerns that the letters addressed for which Agency staff requested modification: both statewide bills cover fewer businesses than the proposed local ordinance and neither bill acknowledges existing legislation on the subject throughout the state which is known as the pre-emption issue. The consent items passed on a unanimous vote of those members present.

**Item 5:** Compost Site Discussion: There are still two open topics for which relevant information is being collected. Regarding the Site 40 property value negotiation, the landowners are still having their property appraisal prepared which values the property as a permitted compost facility. For the Central Alternative Site, there is no solution yet on the County's work to find an effective solution to connecting their leachate pipeline to the Laguna Plant. However, the Agency had a storm water analysis done, which showed that for a typical rainfall year 14 million gallons of water storage capacity would be needed, while for a very high rainfall year 29 million gallons would need to be handled. For the normal rainfall amount just treatment costs would be approximately \$750,000 annually, which would equal a \$5 per ton cost.

A brief report as also given on current operations, particularly that the site is nearly at capacity with attendant problems. A "Permit Modification" is being prepared to address some key issues. Board Member Zane asked the Agency Contractor, Sonoma Compost, to do a report at the January meeting.

**Item 6:** Compost "Zero Discharge" Project Status: Subsequent to the Agency submittal of a plan to the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB) in May to achieve "Zero-Discharge" of storm contact water at the current compost site, there were two rounds of correspondence between the Agency and the NCRWQCB with questions and answers, the last in early October. However no approval to Agency proposals or clear direction had been received from the NCRWQCB. In recent weeks Agency and NCRWQCB staff did discuss the issues. Two near term actions are underway. First has been implementation of some "Best Management Practices" to reduce the solids present in run-off water, and the second has been to develop a program to collect and treat off-site the initial 200,000 gallons of "first flush" water from each storm. The cost estimate to do "first flush" on an annual basis is \$200,000. This expenditure is to be brought to the Board in January for approval, with a plan to implement in February 2014. The Board asked Agency staff to prepare a letter for the Chair's signature to the NCRWQCB confirming the actions agreed to verbally in the conference.

**Item 7** JPA Agreement Amendment Update: Five members (Sonoma, Sebastopol, Healdsburg, Cotati, and Windsor) have approved the amendment. The remaining five are scheduled to discuss and vote on the amendment in December or early January. Those that have yet to weigh in on the single-use carryout bag ban ordinance have indicated they will also have that discussion by early January. As a result, the plan is to conduct the initial steps for adopting the bags ordinance at the January Board meeting.

**Item 12:** Staff comments: The HHW toxics facility regularly carries out an annual maintenance shut-down, typically over the holiday break at years' end. This year the HHW toxics facility will be closed from Dec. 19, 2013 through January 2, 2014.