

Date: March 19, 2014
To: SCWMA Board Members
From: Henry J. Mikus, SCWMA Executive Director



Executive Summary Report for the SCWMA Board Meeting of March 19, 2014

We welcomed two new Board members this morning: Santa Rosa Council Member Jake Ours, and Sebastopol City Manager Larry McLaughlin.

Item 4: Consent: The Consent Agenda contained but one item, the Minutes of the February 19, 2014 Regular Board Meeting. This item was continued until the April meeting, due to questions that can only be resolved by checking the February meeting tape recording. At the February meeting the items were not taken in numerical order, while the minutes did list the items numerically.

Item 5: FY 14-15 Draft Budget: For the first time in several years, balancing revenues and expenses for the budget has challenges. Higher cost are expected resulting from the ongoing bid process for a HHW contractor, and from possible expenses from service and operational improvements plus the new "Zero-Discharge" requirements. Staff presented several possible means to balance the budget, all of which are policy decisions for the Board to make. These included use of fund balance excess, use of reserves, or increased user fees. The user fee changes suggested by staff were limited to yard and wood waste fees, NOT the tip fee surcharge. The Board directed staff to return with a balanced budget; staff plans to do so by putting together several versions. The Board also wished to discuss the Reserve Policy at the next meeting.

Item 6: Sonoma Compost Agreement 1st Amendment: Sonoma Compost had proposed some service and operational improvements, and had requested an amendment to their contract with the Agency regarding financing. This item was continued to the Agency April Board meeting. The Board asked Sonoma Compost to provide answers to several questions, and to provide additional information including a "Business Plan" on how the proposed improvements would increase facility capacity and add revenue. The Board also indicated that the Agency's share of residual or resale value of new equipment should be 100% if financed by the Agency.

Item 7: Compost Site Selection: Draft RFP for Engineering: Members of the Board's Technical Subcommittee have suggested that the Agency have engineering design and analysis work done to bring clarity and more certainty to some of the difficult technical, practical, and financial issues involved with selecting a site for a new compost facility. The draft scope of work was presented for Board discussion. The Board approved the scope of work and directed staff to conduct the RFP process.

Item 8: June and July Strategic Planning Meetings: This item was not discussed because of meeting time constraints. It will be listed on the April meeting agenda.

Item 9: Attachments/Correspondence: The attachments were the March & April 2014 Outreach Calendar, the "Extended Producer Responsibility" Report (typically given every 6 months), and a fact sheet from an imminent CalRecycle organics grant program.