



County of Yolo

WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

c/o PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
DIVISION OF INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT

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MINUTES OF THE YOLO COUNTY WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 22, 2014

Paulina Benner called the May 22nd, 2014 meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. Those present were:

Members: Paulina Benner, Jacques Franco, Larry Fisher, Roberta Childers, Carol Scianna, and Michael Fan

Staff: Linda Sinderson – Yolo County Planning and Public Works
Marissa Juhler – Yolo County Planning and Public Works
Tamara Lokteff – Yolo County Planning and Public Works
Moushumi Hasan – Yolo County Environmental Health

Guests: Craig Johnson – Davis Waste Removal

Absent/Notified: Dorothy Peterson, Michael McDonald, John Geisler

Introduction

Introductions were made around the room.

Public Comment

None.

Consent Agenda

1. Approve Meeting Minutes

Members did not have adequate time to review the minutes. Approval of meeting minutes for February, April, and May 2014 was postponed to the next meeting.

Regular Agenda

2. Member/Jurisdiction Updates

Yolo County – Linda Sinderson spoke about the search for a new director and the merger of two departments, Planning and Public Works plus Environmental Health. Marissa Juhler shared the success of an HD-20 funded media campaign of direct mailers sent to Senior/Disabled residents. About 165 phone inquiries came during the first weekend after the mailer went out and the pick-up schedule is now booked through July. Going forward, appointments will be consolidated and neighboring areas will be assigned to a particular weekend of each month. More efficient routing will conserve resources and allow service to more residents. Regarding the status of the composting/C&D facility, Waste Management will be moving out in the next week. Northern Recycling is preparing to take over operations of the facility, setting up a conveyor belt onsite and training staff. An element of the Northern contract is diverting as much reusable material from the CDI waste stream to be stored and made available in the future through a preliminary reuse facility or “garage sale” type event. Linda added that the RMDZ page (Recycling Market Development Zone) is up and that the loan process is moving forward for Northern Recycling.

City of Davis – Nothing to add

City of West Sacramento – Paulina Benner reported positive responses to both the Bulky Waste Event and the Oil Filter Exchange with local stores. The number of participants and filters exchanged remained about the same as last year.

City of Winters – Carol Scianna shared that “ZunZun” entertained the elementary school (K-5th) students in April with a message of environmental sustainability, water conservation and recycling. A bulky waste event is coming up at the end of June.

City of Woodland – Roberta Childers reported that at this year’s bulky waste event there was a reuse area for residents that went very well. A key learning point for future events like this would be to have more staff help at the site. Regarding the Oil Filter Exchange, the number of participants and filters exchanged was about equal to past years. Also, the city was awarded a Competitive Used Oil Opportunity Grant from CalRecycle, amounting to about \$27,000 for outreach and materials/supplies.

UC Davis – Michael Fan commented that campus staff are preparing for the annual student move out. Discarded furniture, trash, and moving materials left behind will be properly managed, diverted, and made available for reuse when possible. While the digester facility is ready to process up to 50 tons of food waste per day, available tonnage from the University is still low at only 10 tons per week. To help make up the needed tonnage, a contract was secured with a grocery distribution center in Natomas to provide food waste. Recently the decision was made to use dairy waste and hay as well, even though the methane content is not as high. Michael also shared an engaging story about inventive staff at the waste water treatment facility doing their part to help a UC Davis research center save thousands of dollars. Large enclosures that house healthy primates have gravel on the floor which must be changed out every week. In the past, the heavy excrement covered gravel was disposed of at a very high rate. Costly clean gravel was then purchased for the enclosures. With the new system, gravel is processed through several wash stages by equipment very similar to that which is used for mining. The dirty gravel is now known as “monkey gold” and comes out clean enough to be reused in the primate enclosures. Additionally, this reclaimed treatment plant water becomes carbon-rich slurry that can be used to supplement certain crop fields. With the newly developed gravel wash system, 20-25% is being diverted from the landfill and up to \$150k will be saved per year.

3. MAC (Meeting of Area Coordinators) Update

Marissa Juhler talked about the successful filter exchange program in the unincorporated area with participation from 150-175 residents and \$2-3K in filter sales. Although corporate Napa Auto Parts has not been interested in participating with the oil filter exchanges, the locally owned Napa store in Winters has been a great partner. The next scheduled exchange is planned for November. Marissa also thanked West Sacramento for their work using grant funds from Waste Management in cooperation with the Yolo County Office of Education to provide bus service for a tour at the landfill with high school students. Many of the students were exposed for the first time to the reality of what actually happens to all the trash after it is put on the curb.

4. 2014-15 City Contracted MSW Rates, and 2014 CPI Increase and Estimated Host Fees

Linda Sinderson provided excel spreadsheets and graphs to review the progression of CPI increases since 2009. The new rate is under the 3% increase cap and less than 95% of the gate rate. It will be effective July 1, 2014 (with some contracts implementing the change on January 1, 2015). Franchise tonnage over the last 10 years was also reviewed, showing a leveling off in the past two years that can be attributed to the effectiveness of recycling. Import tonnage was then added to show that total tonnage leveled off and is slowly increasing. Finally, actual tonnage with the percentage of waste from each city was shown to provide estimated values of host fees to be paid to each city. Those checks are expected to go out in late August.

5. Legislative Update

At the last meeting, members voted to submit a letter of support for AB1893, the Medical Waste Management Act. At the time, the Board of Supervisors was not in support of the bill. Linda Sinderson updated members that the Board consequently changed their decision. In their letter of support, the Board addressed their reservations. As it was, the bill mandated that sharps sold in CA must be sold with an approved disposal container. This would incur unnecessary costs to any individuals who already had larger containers to accommodate their spent sharps.

Discussion followed about television and radio ads currently running in opposition of SB-270, Senator Alex Padilla's bill to phase out single-use plastic grocery bags.

Member Questions

None.

Meeting Adjournment

Carol Scianna motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 p.m., seconded by Roberta Childers.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Yolo County Waste Advisory Committee is scheduled for June 26th, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Yolo County Central Landfill.

Paulina Benner, Chair
Yolo County Waste Advisory Committee

Prepared By: Tamara Lokteff
Division of Integrated Waste Management