

# County of Santa Clara

Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission  
Integrated Waste Management Division

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www.ReduceWaste.org



## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 11, 2009

### VOTING MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

CALIFORNIA RESOURCE RECOVERY ASSN.	Richard Gertman
CITY OF CUPERTINO	Cheri Donnelly
CITY OF GILROY	Tony Eulo
CITY OF MILPITAS	Elizabeth Koo
CITY OF MORGAN HILL	Tony Eulo
CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW	Lori Topley
CITY OF SAN JOSE	Skip Lacaze
CITY OF SANTA CLARA	Rick Mauck
CITY OF SUNNYVALE	Mark Bowers
CLARA MATEO	Gil Cheso
CLARA MATEO	Julie Muir
COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREA	Lisa Rose
SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY	Bruce Olszewski
WEST VALLEY CITIES	Marva Sheehan

**Commissioners:** Jamie McLeod, Chair; Ronit Bryant, Kansen Chu, Peter Drekmeier, Patrick Kwok, Evan Low, Cat Tucker, Kris Wang, Ken Yeager

**VOTING MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING**

ACTERRA  
 CITY OF CAMPBELL  
 CITY OF LOS ALTOS  
 CITY OF MONTE SERENO  
 CITY OF PALO ALTO  
 CITY OF SARATOGA  
 COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
 LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
 SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT  
 SIERRA CLUB  
 SILICON VALLEY LEADERSHIP GROUP  
 TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS  
 TOWN OF LOS GATOS

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Julie Benabente	City of San Jose
Cary Bloomquist	City of Mountain View
Arthur Boone	Total Recycling Associates
Jill Boone	SCC
Clifton Chew	SCC IWM
Colleen Costine	HF&H
Wendy Fong	SCC HHW
Walter Lin	City of San Jose
Trish Mulvey	CLEAN South Bay
Andrew Newman-Dilfer	SCC
Donna Perala	City of San Jose
Terri Ramirez	San Jose State University
Sarah Smith	SCC IWM HCEP
Dave Staub	City of Santa Clara
Christy Wolter	City of San Jose
Jo Zientek	City of San Jose

## **1. Call to Order**

Tony Eulo, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum of 10 was present. Those present introduced themselves.

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

Mark Bowers made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2009 TAC meeting. The motion was seconded by Gil Cheso. All present voted to approve the minutes. Those not present at the May 14, 2009 TAC meeting abstained.

## **3. Public Presentations**

There were no public presentations.

## **4. Household Battery Management**

Wendy Fong filled in for Rob D'Arcy. She said the HHW program was exploring various options to prevent batteries from short circuiting during transportation. Currently, they are layering batteries in the upright position and putting cardboard over them in 15 gallon containers for transport which has reduced some of the labor costs compared to taping them. The partners (Orchard Supply) are sending the batteries directly to the recycler (MDS) and there may be a problem since not all of them are taping batteries consistently. HHW will have a cost comparison data in July. The next meeting is June 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will have updates from other jurisdictions to see how they are managing batteries as well as updates of discussions with DOT. As a point of reference, the HHW Program collected about 100,000 pounds of batteries last year.

## **5. Zero Waste and the Climate Change Compact**

Tony Eulo opened the item to the TAC group for discussion on what the county should be doing in terms of Zero Waste. Currently, the cities of Mountain View, Palo Alto, San Jose and Sunnyvale have adopted a Zero Waste position. The County and the City of San Jose have signed the Climate Compact which has a Zero Waste goal of 2020.

Arthur Boone, education director for NCRA, provided a handout on NCRA's resolution on Zero Waste and addressed TAC members to indicate support for Zero Waste.

After some discussion and refining, a motion was made by Richard Gertman to establish an Ad Hoc Subcommittee on the topic of Zero Waste for a period not to exceed four (4) months with an end product of a plan moving forward with a set of recommendations to TAC, RWRC and jurisdictions. The motion was seconded by Skip Lacaze. All present voted to approve. Richard German will chair the subcommittee with the following members: Jill Boone, Cheri Donnelly, Skip Lacaze, Rick Mauck, Julie Muir, Lori Topley and Bruce Olszewski.

## **6. Division Manager's Report and Updates on Countywide Programs**

Lisa Rose had two items: 1) The County continues to work with the District Attorney and City of San Jose on the Kirby Canyon Landfill issue. IWM will be assisting by providing any numbers that will help with the case and the pursuit of restitution for the loss of the funds; and 2) The Audit Report is completed and copies of the findings went out to the TAC distribution list. There were some minor suggestions but the primary findings were that our practices of receiving and redistributing funds were sound. The Audit will be on

the agenda of the upcoming Implementation Subcommittee meeting.

- A. Disposal Reporting System – in the TAC packet.
- B. Green Business – in the TAC packet. Having an EPP is now part of the Green Business checklist.

Lisa also announced that the County's Annual Green Business Recognition Event will be held on Tuesday, September 29 at 1555 Berger Dr, Building #1 First Floor Auditorium. More than 125 businesses that were certified in FY 2008-09 will be recognized by Liz Kniss, President of the Board of Supervisors.

- C. Home Composting Education Program – in the TAC packet. Sarah Smith provided a handout which was sent out with the TAC packet.
- D. Recycling Hotline – no report.

## 7. Subcommittee Reports and Updates on Countywide Programs

- A. Household Hazardous Waste – Walter Lin reported that San Jose did get competitive bids for the First Phase on May 21 and will be going to City Council to award a construction bid on the June 23. Construction is anticipated to take seven months with an opening in April 2010. During the process, an aggressive outreach campaign will be launched, once opened, they plan to have 96 events a year. The Second Phase for the warehouse design will be awarded on June 23 and hope to open in the summer of 2011.

Wendy Fong announced that all jurisdictions have signed off on the AB939 agreement including the Board of Supervisors.

- B. Implementation – Lisa noted that there will be an Implementation Subcommittee meeting on June 24 at 2:00 pm here at the second floor conference room.
- C. Legislation – Following in the tradition of Russ Reiserer, Mark Bowers prepared a handout on several bills of interest with notes on which bills were moved to two-year bills (cannot be taken out until January). He noted two additional items: 1) the CIWMB dissolution is not clear since funding is through landfill fees (thus not saving any taxpayer dollars) and there was a proposal to increase duties from DTSC; and 2) CRV reserve fund monies are being sought by the governor. Mark said Sunnyvale would lose about \$380K year in recycling revenues if this was to happen. Some of the funds may be going to franchise haulers which in turn could impact rates. No particular bills to oppose or support at this time.
- D. Operations – No report.
- E. Public Education – Cary Bloomquist said the report had been sent to TAC members. There were some questions about leveraging campaigns with VTA and Urban Runoff Programs and Dave Staub responded that Pub Ed was in contact with SCVURPPP but did not know about VTA's campaigns and will be making contact.

A question was raised about the budget and what campaigns were dropped. The U-Waste and Holiday Campaign were dropped due to budgetary considerations and will be looked at with the Implementation Subcommittee Meeting on June 24. It was suggested that the Pub Ed subcommittee come back with a clear work plan.

An additional question was asked about what the County was doing for the unincorporated areas and Lisa responded that the recent hauler newsletters that went

to unincorporated residents included an article about reusable bags and she would have to check with Zakk for additional information on outreach within the unincorporated area.

- F. Source Reduction/Recycling – Skip Lacaze said the last SRR meeting looked at HCEP which also had a budget reduction similar to PubEd. Since this is a discussion item at the implementation subcommittee it was pointed out that this is an unexpected event that occurred too late to modify with the recently approved AB939 fee increase.

Regarding bags, Palo Alto is leading all the jurisdictions. San Jose is going to Community and Economic Development Committee for consideration on August 24, 2009 since it could not go to Transportation and Environment Committee due to a Brown Act issue. Staff will present the same options that the RWRC has seen from TAC: fee on both type of bags, ban on both type of bags, ban plastic with a fee on paper, etc.

County staff prepared a draft resolution that reflects the RWRC's view and if anyone has revisions please send them to Lisa Rose so that she can circulate the draft resolution to jurisdictions. Note that the Board of Supervisors has already taken a different set of actions and this resolution is not a recommendation from the Board of Supervisors.

- G. Ad Hoc AB939 – Lisa Rose said the survey was sent out to all the jurisdictions and currently waiting for responses. To date, there have only been three responses.
- H. Ad Hoc Disaster Debris Planning – Clifton Chew said the Ad Hoc Subcommittee was sent an email about participating in the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) Regional Match. It was forwarded to the subcommittee and Michael Gross was also invited to participate in the RCPGP group.
- I. Ad Hoc Organizational Study – Lisa Rose said the RFP was on BidSync website and nearly 200 vendors have viewed the document. She asked if Mark would like to set up a review committee and he deferred to the County staff but would like to be on the review panel and asked that all Ad Hoc Organizational Study participants be invited to review proposals as well.

## 8. Future Agenda Items / Guest Speakers

Skip Lacaze asked if TAC was interested in commemorating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day.

Christy Wolter said the City of San Jose has been looking at the schools program where they go beyond the city boundaries. They also got invited to a June 22 meeting by San Mateo County to be in a discussion about regional collaboration.

## 9. Informational Updates and Announcements

Mark Bowers said last fall Sunnyvale began a Pay As You Throw (PAYT) program where they looked at the collection numbers and found: 52% of the residents used the 65 gallon cart, 29% use the smaller cart and 19% use the larger cart. Six months after the start of the program with an expansion to collecting mixed paper, there was a 12% increase in paper collection, a 5% increase in container collection; a 5% increase in yard waste collection and 22% decrease in garbage collection. The decrease translates to 2,500 tons of which 1,500 can be accounted for through the SMaRT station. The 1,000

unaccounted tons can be either: a decrease in the economy; less inappropriate stuff (commercial waste); or more inventory (holding on to stuff).

Trish Mulvey said the Watershed Management Initiative has released their legislative priorities.

Arthur Boone said San Jose was shipping waste to Solano County.

Jo Zientek said San Jose is bringing forward an MOU with an entity called Zanker Biogas next Tuesday for the first dry fermentation anaerobic digestion in the U.S. as part of their environmental process.

Bruce Olszewski said San Jose State University has established a Sustainability Coordinator with a Faculty in Residence.

## **10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED TAC MEETING: July 9, 2009 @ 1:30 P.M.