

# County of Santa Clara

Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission  
Integrated Waste Management Division

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## RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION COMMISSION MINUTES

December 11, 2006

County Center at Charcot, 2310 First Street, Ponderosa Pines Conference Room  
Business Meeting at 12:30 p.m.

### Voting Members in Attendance

Tony Estremera, SCVWD  
John Howe, SMaRT Station Cities  
Mike Kasperzak, Member-at-Large  
Patrick Kwok, Member-at-Large  
Linda J. LeZotte, City of San Jose  
Pete McHugh, County of Santa Clara  
Dolly Sandoval, North County Cities  
Roland Velasco, South County Cities

### Representing

Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Mountain View, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale  
All Jurisdictions  
All Jurisdictions  
City of San Jose  
County of Santa Clara  
Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills  
Gilroy, Morgan Hill

### Voting Members Not In Attendance

Jose Esteves, Central County Cities  
Nick Streit, West Valley Cities

Milpitas, Santa Clara  
Campbell, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga

### County Staff

Jennifer Choo, Board Aid to Supervisor McHugh  
Elizabeth Constantino, Integrated Waste Management Division  
Rob D'Arcy, Household Hazardous Waste Program  
Lisa Rose, Integrated Waste Management Division  
Greg Van Wassenhove, Department of Agriculture and Environmental Management

### Others in Attendance

Mark Bowers, City of Sunnyvale  
Skip Lacaze, City of San Jose  
Cynthia Palacio, City of Mountain View

### **1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Chair Patrick Kwok called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. Lisa Rose took the roll call. Six Commissioners were present and quorum was met.

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 23, 2006 MEETING**

A motion to approve the October 25 minutes was made by John Howe and seconded by Mike Kasperzak. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioners Estremera and LeZotte arrived after approval of the minutes.

### **3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

There were no public presentations.

### **4. SOLID WASTE PLANNING FEE INCREASE FOR FY 2007-08 and FY 2008-09\***

TAC Chair Cynthia Palacio stated that the TAC has been very thorough in ensuring that all tonnage being disposed of in Santa Clara County has been captured and an increase of \$.06 increase in the Solid Waste Planning Fee is still the recommendation of the TAC.

Elizabeth Constantino provided an update on the reasons TAC is recommending a \$.06 increase, raising it from \$.50 per ton disposed to \$.56 per ton. This increase would cover the expansion of the recycling hotline and website, the Public Education program and the development of a measurement tool for the Green Business Program. This increase would also be used to create a Disaster Debris Plan which is mandated to be part of the County Integrated Waste Management Plan (COIWMP) and to provide for limited Build It Green Services. The proposed increase would go into effect for the last two years of the three year cycle – fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09, beginning July 1, 2007. Based on projected tonnage for these fiscal years, the increase in revenue will be approximately \$90,000 per year. This additional revenue will keep the year end cumulative balance within the 15 to 20 percent contingency range approved by TAC.

There was a lengthy discussion on the Built It Green (BIG) program and whether it was in competition with the US Green Building Council's LEED certification program. Elizabeth explained that the BIG program is designed with many of the same principles LEED employs and that BIG assists residents and builders at a more local level. Additionally, there is no cost to residents to use the BIG services which are more information and resource oriented, while LEED requires an application fee and is a certification program. Linda LeZotte noted that another difference is that BIG focuses primarily on residential building and remodeling while LEED focuses on the commercial sector. IWM currently supports the BIG database and would continue to do so, if the SWPF is approved. Commissioner LeZotte also suggested that IWM/TAC look into San Jose's virtual resource center in their Green Building Program so that efforts are not duplicated and look for resources that may be available at no cost to the County.

There was also discussion as to which city/county departments should be overseeing programs such as Green Building. Clearly much of the efforts should be handled through community development or planning and building departments, but there is also a solid waste component when it comes to reusing and recycling building materials. State law mandates what activities may be paid for with AB 939 fees.

Pete McHugh made a motion to approve the Solid Waste Planning Fee and that staff do a report back on which agencies are the most appropriate to handle the various services that Build It Green offers. Patrick Kwok seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **5. APPROVE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES TO BE FORWARDED TO ASSEMBLYMAN RUSKIN**

At the last meeting, Assemblyman Ruskin asked that the RWRC review their legislative priorities and submit the top priorities they would like him to carry through legislation in the coming year. Elizabeth Constantino presented the priorities that the TAC Legislative Subcommittee had identified, to the Commission. She noted that in addition to sending them forward, the Commission should be ready to lend their support and advocacy when Assemblyman Ruskin brings such legislation forward. John Howe moved for approval of the priorities and Pete McHugh seconded. The motion carried unopposed.

## **6. TAC CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Cynthia announced that she will no longer be representing Mountain View on the TAC and that it has been a pleasure to serve to Commission as Chair of the TAC. Lori Topley will be the new representative for Mountain View.

## **7. IWM DIVISION MANAGER'S REPORT**

Elizabeth Constantino reported that the AB 939 increase of \$.37 that was implemented in July 2006 would most likely not sunset in June 2007, as expected. Rob D'Arcy from the Household Hazardous Waste program will do a report back to the Commission in 2007 with a proposal to extend and possibly increase the fee. Greg Van Wassenhove asked that the report back include information regarding which beneficiaries, (including storm water and waste water agencies and local jurisdictions) of HHW services have been contacted and what their response was.

Lisa Rose played "Give an Experience" ads that are currently running on KEZR radio and various TV stations and shared the print ads that are running in many local newspapers including the *Milpitas Post*, *Sunnyvale Sun*, *Mountain View Voice*, *Cupertino Courier* and *Metro Newspaper*.

Elizabeth and Lisa distributed the new Green Business Program directories and postcards that certified businesses can give to clients and customers to explain what it means to be a Green Business. The new collateral was designed by Digital Hive with input from all the Bay Area Green Business Coordinators and will be used throughout the Bay Area. These materials will also be distributed at fairs and events and feature the new Green Business tagline – *Environmental Values at Work*.

## **8. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES**

Patrick Kwok presented certificates to outgoing Commissioners LeZotte and Kasperzak and thanked them for their dedication and years of service to the Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission. Staff will mail Commissioner Streit's certificate to him.

## **9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.