

MINUTES

Solano County Local Task Force (LTF) for Integrated Waste Management

Meeting of May 15, 2014

9:00 a.m.

Solano County Administration Center

Member Organization	Representative	Present
Republic Services	Susan Hurl	
Republic Services	Marie Knutson	X
CCL Organics	Dave Burnley	
City of Benicia	Sharon Williams	X
City of Dixon	Janet Koster	X
City of Fairfield	Esther Blanco	X
City of Rio Vista	John Degele	
City of Suisun City	Amanda Dum	X
City of Vacaville	Ivonne Vaughn	X
City of Vallejo	Derek Crutchfield	X
Concrush	Allen Hochstetler	X
County of Solano	Narcisa Untal	X
County of Solano	Marcy Hannum	X
County of Solano	David Weiss	X
Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District	Kevin Cullen	
Pacific Rim Recycling	Steve Moore	
Pacific Rim Recycling	Marissa Wong	
Potrero Hills Landfill	Jim Dunbar	X
Potrero Hills Landfill	Natalie Hicks	
Recology Hay Road	Danielle Lowther	
Recology Hay Road	Chris Taylor	
Recology Vacaville Solano / Recology Dixon	Julia Lopez	
Recology Vacaville Solano / Recology Dixon	Scott Pardini	
Recology Vallejo	Lisa Lefebvre	X
Recology Vallejo	Tom Phillips	X
Recycling Zone	Dave Ryan	
Recycling Zone	Chris Aschero	
Rio Vista Sanitation Service	Dave Adler	X
Rio Vista Sanitation Service	Sal Coniglio	X
Sierra Club	Jane Bogner	
Solano Community College	Dwight Calloway	
Solano Community College	Jeff Lehfeldt	
Solano Garbage Company	Sandra Gonzalez	X
Solano Garbage Company	Tony Cincotta	
Travis Air Force Base	Brian Sassaman	
Travis Air Force Base	Milea Franklin	
VALCORE	Ken Hawes	X
VALCORE	Erin Tator	
CalRecycle	Jill Firch	

GUESTS:

Marianne Butler, Solano RCD
Joe Scholtes, 95.3 KUIC
Natalie DuMont, Solano Land Trust
Todd Sutton, Waste Sleuth

1. Call to Order / Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dunbar at 9:00 a.m. Those present introduced themselves.

2. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Marianne Butler, Solano RCD, announced that they received a used oil grant. She thanked the cities and the county for all of their help. They will be working with the county and the cities to expand the Lake Berryessa programs. She noted that they give out thousands of bilge pads but don't get many used ones back. They will be talking to boaters to figure out what they are doing with their used bilge pads and encourage them to return them for recycling. They will also be bringing Bilgee to the classrooms. One of the messages to the elementary students is that Lake Berryessa is a drinking water source. In addition the City of Fairfield has \$100,000 to put towards a storm drain catch basin.

3. Action Items(s)

a. Minutes: March 20, 2014

The minutes of March 20, 2014 were approved as prepared.

4. Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP)

a. Non-Disposal Facility Element (NDFE) Update

Ms. Untal reported that the County received a request by the City of Vallejo to update the Non-Disposal Facility Element to reflect a siting reclassification for Recology Vallejo from a recycling center to a transfer station. There is no action to be taken by the LTF. The request has been submitted to and approved by CalRecycle.

Tom Phillips, General Manager, Recology Vallejo, gave a brief description of the project. He stated that the reason for requesting the transfer station permit was so that they can integrate food scraps into their green waste program. Currently they have a green waste bunker at their facility where all the green waste is held until it is transferred to Jepson Prairie Organics to be composted. Under current state regulations foods scraps are considered solid waste (MSW) and cannot touch the floor of any facility that is not permitted as a solid waste facility. In order to provide the food scrap program and to integrate food composting into their current operation it was necessary for them to apply for the solid waste facility permit. They are not changing their operation in any other way other than to allow food scraps into their current green waste program. They are now in the public review phase of the permitting process.

Chair Dunbar asked if there were any physical changes that needed to be done at the facility. Mr. Phillips answered that there will be no physical changes except to putting a cover over the green waste bunker to enclose it for sanitation and odor mitigation. The green waste program is offered to residential and commercial customers in the City of Vallejo, City of American Canyon and the unincorporated areas of Vallejo.

Ms. Hannum noted that in order for Recology to move forward with the transfer station permitting process the Solano County LEA is the lead agency and they needed to do a Mitigated Negative Declaration as required by CEQA regulations. The document is out for public review until June 9, 2014 and is posted on the Solano County website. Once the comments and any changes to be made are incorporated into the document the Mitigated Negative Declaration will be adopted. After the adoption of the Neg Dec and the changes to NDFE are complete Recology Vallejo will submit a solid waste permit application. Once the application is determined to be complete it will take about 150 days before the permit is issued. A public information meeting will be held in Vallejo during that time for the public to hear about the proposed changes and make comments.

Chair Dunbar asked what the reason was for the jump in capacity. Mr. Phillips answered that it was because the current volumes are starting to go up. The volume reflects the total volume for the facility not just the green waste portion. The transfer station permit will cover the entire footprint of Recology Vallejo.

5. PRESENTATIONS

a. Waste Sleuth

Ms. Knutson introduced Todd Sutton of WasteSleuth. Mr. Sutton offers sustainable citizen workshops. She has used him in Benicia and Martinez where he offered successful and informative presentations to increase community involvement in waste prevention at schools and throughout the community.

Mr. Sutton gave a presentation on how WasteSleuth works with businesses, organizations and government agencies to provide and create services and programs that are cost effective, reduce waste, improve resource management and increase environmental performance and achieve higher levels of sustainability and conservation. His presentations remind communities and schools that we only have one planet. When we throw something in the garbage it doesn't just disappear but continues to exist and impact the environment. He also aims to empower the individual to action by stressing that their behaviors, such as whether they throw something into the garbage or recycle it, can make a difference. And that our behaviors have on going impacts on the planet.

b. Center for Imaginative Reuse

This item is continued to a future meeting.

5. **Member Updates**

Esther Blanco, City of Fairfield

Ms. Blanco thanked everyone who participated in their Earth Day and Kids Day of Fishing event. Solano Garbage and Potrero Hills Landfill contributed financial support. Solano RCD, Solano Land Trust, Solano Community College, Solano Garbage and Potrero Hills Landfill had booths at the event. Joe Scholtes of 95.3 KUIC was an MC. There was also a poster contest.

This seasons Farmers Market will open in May. With funding from the City of Fairfield, the Fairfield Main Street Association will create a group called the "Green Tomatoes" who will man booths and the trash and recycling receptacles to educate the public on recycling. The City will be offering free, confidential paper shredding on the last Saturday of each month. They will collect up to 10 boxes and the event is not restricted to City of Fairfield residents. The shredding will be done by Gone For Good Document Management which is a social enterprise of United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay. On June 3rd the City will be presenting Green Business Awards through Solano Garbage.

Amanda Dum, City of Suisun City

The City of Suisun City was able to purchase some garbage and recycling cans. Ms. Dum is continuing to work with the Girl Scouts and a group of airmen from Travis AFB who pick-up trash in selected areas in Suisun City.

Sandra Gonzalez, Solano Garbage Company

Solano Garbage participated with Mission Solano for Suisun City's Earth Day. Their outreach to the public on recycling was successful. She reported that PG&E participated in Solano Mall's Earth Day with an energy conservation display. Solano Garage also participated in outreach at Solano Community College's Earth Day and in an Earth Day poster contest with the City of Fairfield. There were 191 poster entries which were displayed at the Fairfield Community Center. Ms. Gonzalez announced that the diversion rate for the food scrap recycling program at Travis Elementary School has grown from 21% to 49% in approximately six months.

Ivonne Vaughn, City of Vacaville

Ms. Vaughn reported that the City of Vacaville has been doing a lot of work with their multi-family housing recycling program and their participation rate is approximately 73%. There are some apartments that use a valet service for their recycling. She also noted that although some neighborhoods are not mandated to recycle they are recycling anyway. The local Boy Scouts volunteer to pick up recycling in the Leisure Town community and drop it off at the Vacaville corp yard. The Boy Scouts also accept plastic bags at the corp yard on the first Saturday of the month unless it is a holiday.

Sharon Williams, City of Benicia

The City of Benicia held their annual weed abatement cleanup in conjunction with Republic Services at the end of April. Every Thursday they have a town hall booth at the Farmers Market. They distribute recycling information, street sweeping guides from Republic Services, water conservation information and low flow shower heads.

Marie Knutson, Republic Services

Ms. Knutson announced that Sharon Williams is now officially the LTF's representative from the City of Benicia. In July they will be presenting a "Build Your Own Worm Bin" class. At the Farmers Market they usually have a guest chef from one of the local restaurants come and cook at the community garden. The chefs incorporate fresh vegetables from the farmers market into their recipes. Afterwards Republic Services talks about composting the leftovers. Ms. Knutson continues to work on her newsletter, The Sustainable Benician, and asked members to let her know about events that are near Benicia. She announced that Cork USA in Benicia works with Resource Area for Teachers (RAFT). They recently sent approximately 800 pounds of misprinted corks that they can't use to RAFT for use by teachers. The City of Benicia can also count that towards their diversion. She also reminded everyone that she still has an unlimited supply of burlap bags.

Joe Scholtes, 95.3 KUIC

Mr. Scholtes reminded the members to keep sending the station news of upcoming events and activities.

Lisa Lefebvre, Recology Vallejo

Ms. Lefebvre announced that they held a successful volunteer event at the Global Center for Success on Mare Island. There were 170 Recology volunteers. She and Mr. Crutchfield continue to work with the schools on food waste recycling. Their recycling rate continues to rise substantially. In May Recology Vallejo held a rummage sale in their parking lot. All proceeds will go to Vallejo Relay for Life. Congressman Mike Thompson recently took a tour of their facility. Recology is an employee owned company and the Congressman was interested in learning more about the company. Ninety percent of the people who stopped by their booth at the Vallejo Earth Day event asked when the facility would be able to start accepting food scraps for recycling.

David Weiss, County of Solano

Mr. Weiss stated that in addition to Recology Vallejo's permit the County is also working with Tonnesen Pet Cemetery. Tonnesen is required by the Regional Water Control Board to close as a landfill and apply for a solid waste facility permit. The County hopes to receive their complete application packet by the end of May.

Marcy Hannum, County of Solano

Ms. Hannum added that if Tonnesen's application is submitted by the end of May it could go to hearing sometime in July.

Dave Adler, Rio Vista Sanitation Service

Mr. Adler noted that there was a successful household hazardous waste event in Rio Vista over the past weekend. Rio Vista Sanitation will be hosting a paper shredding event at Trilogy in Rio Vista.

Sal Coniglio, Rio Vista Sanitation Service

Mr. Coniglio stated that they held an Earth Day event in their Pittsburg facility.

Allen Hochstetler, Concrush

Mr. Hochstetler noted that Concrush is in the process of moving from their Cement Hill location to a temporary site on 5056 Peabody Rd. They expect to be fully moved in by July

1, 2014. Once the Train Station development project is completed they will be able to move into their permanent site.

Derek Crutchfield, City of Vallejo

Mr. Crutchfield reported that they wrapped up their Recycled Sculpture and Art Contest. The first place prize was \$1,000. They added two categories (K-6 and 7-12) to allow children a chance to compete for prizes. He described some of the outstanding entries and passed around pictures of the art work. The art work is displayed at Vallejo City Hall for a couple of weeks. Afterwards Recology Vallejo displays many of the entries at their site. The prizes were awarded at their Earth Day event held at their Farmers Market. The City of Vallejo will also be holding a Public Works week event at their corp yard in May.

Jim Dunbar, Potrero Hills Landfill

Chair Dunbar noted that on April 29, 2014 Potrero Hills received a unanimous appeals court ruling in their favor on litigation regarding the landfill's expansion plans. They will now be able to receive their BCDC permit and expansion construction will begin this summer. They also were awarded a contract to receive waste from Humboldt County. He reminded LTF members to start thinking about nominations for the November 2014 elections of LTF officers. Nominations will be made at the September meeting.

Narcisa Untal, County of Solano

Ms. Untal stated that Rio Vista Sanitation Service's Mt. Diablo Recycling facility was awarded a 10 year contract to receive recycling from the Central Contra Costa area (Walnut Creek, Danville, Orinda, and Moraga). This contract will put the facility at capacity. Republic Services was awarded the contract to collect the recycling and deliver it to the Concord facility where it will be "trans loaded" to the Mt. Diablo Recycling facility in Pittsburg. These new contracts are a loss for Pacific Rim Recycling.

A presentation was made to the City of Vacaville regarding a proposed plastic bag ordinance. Vacaville decided that they do not want to spend any staff time on the effort at this time and would like to wait and see what happens with State bill (SB 270). In the meantime Ms. Untal has been meeting with small businesses through their chambers of commerce, the Main Street Business Association and Solano Economic Development Corporation and giving presentations on the proposed plastic bag ordinance. Ms. Untal will return back to the 4C's with an update on her outreach to the cities and businesses of Solano County and to consider what the next steps should be regarding a plastic bag ordinance.

Ms. Untal reported that counties surrounding Solano County are members of the CalRecycle Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ). CalRecycle has been encouraging Solano County to become a zone. Staff looked to see if Solano County could join with an existing zone because there is an administration effort involved. Only one community within a county can be the lead agency that would deal with the administration tasks. The reimbursement for the administrative duties is \$1,500 per year. The benefits are access to low interest loans for businesses that use recycled products to create new products for sale. The Solano County Economic Development Task Force indicated that they did have an interest in using the RMDZ as a tool however none of their city representatives were willing to take on the administrative responsibilities of becoming a lead. Because it is something that the Economic Development Task Force is interested in and there is the benefit of it being a contributing factor to Solano County's Source Reduction and Recycling Element of the Integrated Waste Management Plan it was

decided that the County will take the lead. As lead it will be working with each of the City's economic development managers to bring it through to their respective City Councils for approval.

The County has also decided to take the lead on the application process to become an affiliate of the Keep America Beautiful organization. It would allow the County access to grants for recycling and community beautification projects and programs. The County is being allowed to apply at a reduced rate because it has an existing task force that can serve a board.

The County is developing a template for a Construction and Demolition handout. It will satisfy the education and outreach effort for the annual report. Ms. Untal asked if any of the cities were interested in taking on the template. The only charge to them would be any changes that they made.

Additional Comments:

Natalie DuMont, Solano Land Trust

Ms. DuMont announced that there will be trail run and community hike at Lynch Canyon scheduled for June 7, 2014. She provided flyers describing the event.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:36am

The next regular LTF meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 17, 2014
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