

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Minutes of June 18, 2015

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Sam Pedroza, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Gail Farber, rep by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Cynthia Harding, rep by Jeanne Biehler, County of Los Angeles Department of
Public Health
Grace Robinson Hyde, rep by Paul Prestia, County Sanitation Districts of
Los Angeles County
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Bernadette Halverson, City of Los Angeles Bureau of
Sanitation

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Dr. Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Jim Kuhl, City of Long Beach Public Works Department
Mitchell Englander, City of Los Angeles
Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Cathy Warner, California League of California Cities
David Thornburg, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries

OTHERS PRESENT:

Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Tranette Sanders, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Jason
Jones, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Kathy
Salama, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Chris
Sheppard, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Jon
Emelson, City of Redondo Beach
Wayde Hunter, NVC/GHNNC
Dick Harabedian, County of Orange
Rob Sherman, Republic Services
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:10 p.m., by Ms. Margaret Clark.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MAY 21, 2015, MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the May 21, 2015, minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

III. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE (ATAS)

Mr. Clark Ajwani reported the ATAS members went on a tour to the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County's Waste Water Treatment Facility in Carson, where they are processing food waste and converting it into fuel gas. In addition, they had a brief discussion on the CT conference, which is being planned to be held at Public Works headquarters later this year.

IV. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY PLAN & REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE (FPRS)

Ms. Betsey Landis gave her report from the Facility Plan & Review Subcommittee (FPRS). She reported that the FPRS discussed the odor complaints for the Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) made in May 2015. A total of 12 complaints were called in to the South Coast Air Quality Management District hotline. In comparison to the previous month, the number of complaints decreased by 80 percent (from 60 to 12 complaints). Compared to May 2014, the number of complaints this May decreased by 77 percent (from 52 to 12 complaints).

Ms. Landis also discussed the Status Report on the Adopted Board Motion (Status Report) that the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA) staff submitted to the SCL-LEA Board of Directors (Board). The report provided status on several actions that the Board had directed the SCL-LEA to take in order to mitigate the odor problem at the Landfill. Ms. Landis emphasized that some of these actions are in direct conflict with the Conditional Use Permit issued by the County of Los Angeles and contradicting action taken by the County Department of Public Works, such as directing the operator to "immediately" replace the 9-inch soil cover requirement with a tarp. She informed that the Subcommittee considered making a motion for the Task Force to send a comment letter to County Counsel seeking their advice; however, Mr. Carlos Ruiz recommended that the Task Force postpone in taking any action until Public Works has an opportunity to speak to its Counsel and the SCL-LEA to form a joint and mutually understanding position on the course of

actions. Ms. Landis also requested staff to provide Task Force members with copies of the Status Report.

V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Gabriel Arenas gave an update on the attached legislative table.

- AB 876 (McCarty) – Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to send an oppose letter, Ms. Betsey Landis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- AB 901 (Gordon) – Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send an oppose unless amended letter, Ms. Landis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- AB 1045 (Irwin) – Ms. Landis made a motion to send an oppose letter, Mr. Mohajer second the motion. The motion failed. Mr. Pedroza, made a motion to bring this item back with more information. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to oppose the bill unless amended to include local government and consideration of public health and safety when developing policies that promote that development of streamlined permitting and regulations of composting facilities, Ms. Landis seconded the motion. The motion passed with two abstentions (Mr. Saldana, Ms. Reina Pereira).
- AB 1103 (Dodd) – Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send an oppose letter, Ms. Landis second the motion. The motion passed with one abstention (Mr. Saldana).
- AB 1176 (Perea) – Ms. Landis made a motion to send a support letter, Mr. Saldana second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- AB 1239 (Gordon) – Ms. Pereira moved to oppose, Mr. Mohajer second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- SB 485 (Hernandez) – Mr. Pedroza made a motion to support, Mr. Mohajer second the motion. The motion passes with one abstention (Mr. Paul Prestia).
- HR 2463 (Bera) – Mr. Mohajer made a motion to support if amended, Ms. Landis second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. MANAGING LANDFILL ODOR

Mr. David Tieu of the Orange County Waste & Recycling gave the [attached presentation](#) on Managing Landfill Odor.

VII. 2014 CALRECYCLE WASTE CHARACTERIZATION STUDY

Mr. Chris Sheppard gave the [attached presentation](#) on the 2014 CalRecycle Waste Characterization Study. CalRecycle has not yet released the waste

characterization study results. It is expected that the final results will be released in July. Mr. Mike Mohajer reminded the Task Force members that CalRecycle also has still not released the AB 341 report to the legislature and appears to be focusing more on composting than on other forms of diversion and recycling.

VIII. UPDATE ON ALAMEDA COUNTY PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE LAWSUIT

In the [attached presentation](#), Mr. Coby Skye gave an update on the Alameda County Lawsuit and discussed the Board Motion by the County Board Supervisor Mike Antonovich to investigate feasibility of an EPR ordinance for Los Angeles County. Staff recommends submitting a memo and the report to the Board of Supervisors regarding feasibility of adopting a pharmaceutical take-back ordinance and utilizing County's purchasing power. Mr. Mohajer added that it needs to be submitted within 30 days which will be on July 2, 2015. Mr. Mohajer would like for staff to forward a copy of the Board memo for the Task Force review and depending on the recommendation we can address this on the next Task Force meeting for the Task Force support.

IX. CALRECYCLE MANDATORY ORGANICS RECYCLING GUIDELINES (AB 1826)

Mr. Mike Mohajer reviewed the CalRecycle Mandatory Organics Recycling Guideline with the Task Force members. Mr. Mohajer gave an overview on the discussion he had with Mr. Howard Levenson of CalRecycle. After his conversation, Mr. Mohajer sent an email to Mr. Levenson addressing the concerns of the Task Force as listed in the Task Force letter from May 21, 2015. Mr. Mohajer referred the Task Force to the handouts he distributed and added that he continues to have a problem with the bullet on Page 4, Item 5, Section E6, which reads "Please confirm if appropriate zoning and permit requirements are in place in the jurisdiction for the location on new organic waste recycling facilities,....", (emphasis added).. As provided by Section 42649.84(c) of the PRC, CalRecycle cannot encroach into the local jurisdiction's land use decision. CalRecycle agreed to revise the requirements, but the revised language, which now reads "*Please describe if appropriate zoning and permit requirements are in place in the jurisdiction for the location of new organic waste recycling facilities, or describe any local limitations for siting new facilities, if applicable*" (emphasis added), remains essentially unchangeable.

Mr. Mohajer would like to communicate with Mr. Levenson that this language was not what was agreed.

X. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Ms. Jennifer Wallin reported the following:

- 2014 Annual Report is now active.
- Beverage Container Recycling Grant and Payment Programs City/County Payment Program - Funding request due date is June 23, 2015.
- Used Oil Payment Program – Funding request due June 30, 2015
- Southern California Household Hazardous Waste Information Exchange- June 25, 2015, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., City of Thousand Oaks Municipal.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2015, in Conference Room C.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

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