

MINUTES

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

Meeting of July 18, 2013

9:00 a.m.

Solano County Administration Center

Member Organization	Representative	Present
Allied Waste	Susan Hurl	
Allied Waste	Marie Knutson	X
CCL Organics	Dave Burnley	
City of Benicia	Anne Cardwell	
City of Dixon	Janet Koster	
City of Fairfield	Esther Blanco	X
City of Rio Vista	John Degele	X
City of Rio Vista	Marni Rittburg	
City of Suisun City	Amanda Dum	X
City of Vacaville	Ivonne Vaughn	X
City of Vallejo	Derek Crutchfield	X
Concrush	Allen Hochstetler	X
Concrush	Loriana Patterson	
County of Solano	Narcisa Untal	X
County of Solano	Ed Padilla	X
County of Solano	Marcy Hannum	
Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District	Kevin Cullen	
Pacific Rim Recycling	Steve Moore	
Potrero Hills Landfill	Jim Dunbar	X
Potrero Hills Landfill	Natalie Hicks	X
Recology Hay Road	Danielle Lowther	
Recology Hay Road	Chris Taylor	
Recology Vacaville Solano / Recology Dixon	Julia Lopez	X
Recology Vacaville Solano / Recology Dixon	Scott Pardini	
Recology Vallejo	Lisa Lefebvre	X
Recology Vallejo	Tom Phillips	
Recycling Zone	Dave Ryan	
Recycling Zone	Chris Aschero	
Rio Vista Sanitation Service	Dave Adler	
Rio Vista Sanitation Service	Sal Coniglio	X
Sierra Club	Jane Bogner	X
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	Dolores Tiburcio	X
Travis Air Force Base	Milea Franklin	
VALCORE	Mark Nichols	
VALCORE	Erin Tator	

GUESTS:

June Guidotti, 3703 Scally Road, Suisun, CA 94585
Joe Scholtes, 95.3 KUIC
Christine Bradley, Recology

1. Call to Order / Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dunbar at 9:08 a.m. Those present introduced themselves.

2. Public Comment

The following is verbatim testimony:

Ms. Guidotti: "Public comments not on the records is that Potrero Hill Landfill is in the process of mitigating for a piece of property. And they continue not to run the water trucks and it's very upsetting when you have to breathe in this radiation that's in the leakage from Tonnesen's Pet Cemetery. It leaks down into the (not intelligible) property and I see that there was an article in the newspaper that actually had shown a picture of where they're at. And the place that they are actually working at is not in their place of use that they are supposed to be mitigating. They have taken it. It's... in 1985 when they found my brother dead on the ranch. He was fighting for the return of our property rights. And on our northwest corner Jerry Brown needed a road. And when he needed that road he took a right of way and (not intelligible) right of way. And they got an after the fact permit. So basically that is what Potrero Hills right now is doing. I paid eighty dollars for the Marsh Development permit. And where they are supposed to be doing this mitigation is not where the picture in the newspaper says. This is out of the place he used. So again they are going for an after the fact permit and it's a concern because Dianne Feinstein is involved in it because all the leakage that's leaking off that pet cemetery is from Livermore Laboratory and U.C. Davis. And U.C. Davis dogs have low doses of radiation and the beagle dogs. So Dianne Feinstein thirty-five years ago was the director of ABAG. Tonight there is a meeting. ABAG is... she designed it. So... it's a concern. David Tam thirty-two years ago wrote a paper for Dianne Feinstein that she... he was awarded because it was to protect the environment. So my concern is that the public is not given the information that they need. Even today it's being hidden. Page two on the paperwork. Jim has not given it to the public. I just assumed...'

Chair Dunbar: "Thirty seconds."

Ms. Guidotti: "Thirty seconds, it's still not the paper. This is not correct either. I want page two showing that (not intelligible) on the... I still don't have the paper. But we'll... I'll get a chance to talk about that on agenda number 4 because they've been told on East Bay MUD. There's another plan I get to talk about."

End of verbatim testimony.

3. Action Item(s)

a. Approval of the Minutes: March 7, 2013

b. Approval of the Minutes: May 16, 2013

Ms. Dum noted that the "unnamed speaker" on page 6 of 7 was Chris Rose of Solano RCD.

Ms. Untal noted that the minutes should have included a copy of each of the letters from the jurisdictions reporting their annual solid waste disposal capacity

report as well as the summary letter signed by Chair Dunbar. That information will be added to the May 16, 2013 minutes.

Jane Bogner motioned to approve the minutes of March 7, 2013 and May 16, 2013 as amended. The motion was seconded by Lisa Lefebvre. Chair Dunbar asked if there were any comments.

The following is verbatim testimony:

Ms. Guidotti: "On the minutes?"

Mr. Dunbar: "Yes"

Ms. Guidotti: "O.K, are they going to be changed in the record? Because they made an error in the public comment on page 2 of 7. You put that the access road Jerry Brown donated 32 acres? No, I said Jerry Brown filled in 32 acres of wetland and was paying the County 8.3 million dollars to haul his garbage in here. And then after the fact, marsh development permit? So I would like that corrected in the minutes Jim Dunbar."

Mr. Dunbar: "Very well. You have your notes. We'll follow up on that."

End of verbatim testimony.

There being no further comments the minutes of March 7, 2013 were approved and the minutes of May 15, 2013 were approved with amendments.

4. COUNTYWID INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN (CIWMP) Non-disposal Facility Element (NDFE)

Ms. Untal stated that in January the City of Vallejo had brought to the Task Force a proposal to update the Non-disposal Facility Element for Recology Vallejo. Currently they are designated as a recycling center and wish to update the NDFE to change their siting status to a transfer station. Since that time there has been a modification made in which Mr. Crutchfield will explain in more detail.

Mr. Crutchfield, City of Vallejo, stated that Recology Vallejo's proposal to change their siting status to a transfer station was heard and approved by the City of Vallejo Planning Commission. The reason for the change was to include food scraps in residential yard waste. Later they went back before the City of Vallejo Planning Commission a second time to also include food scraps from commercial businesses. The green waste and food scraps will be taken to Jepson Prairie Organics to be converted into compost. At this point there is no timeline for when the program will be up and running as it is a very long process to convert a recycling center to a transfer station.

Marie Knudson, Allied Waste, asked if the permit indicated that it was for food waste only or for anything that a transfer station could take. Mr. Crutchfield answered that it was not going to become a transfer station in the true sense of the word. The only reason for the change in siting status to a transfer station was because the food waste could not be put on the ground for any substantial amount of time in a recycling center. Mr. Dunbar asked if there was a daily amount that they were anticipating. Christine Bradley, Recology San Francisco, stated that it was limited to 200 tons per day. Ms. Untal summarized that food scraps are still defined as solid waste. Because they intend to be collecting a solid waste which will be comingled with yard waste they were required to elevate their status to transfer station. The intention for Recology Vallejo to

become a transfer station is solely based on the technicality of definition. They don't intend to increase their MSW or residual but the food being brought in will be considered MSW. They will be above their 10% residual rate which allows them to continue to be a recycling center at this time. The decision to also include food scraps from commercial businesses has been brought to the LTF for complete transparency and to inform all the jurisdictions as Recology Vallejo moves forward with their expansion plan. There is no action to be taken by the LTF on the matter because per 2012 legislation there is no longer the requirement for a public hearing for a non-disposal facility element update.

The following is verbatim testimony:

Ms. Guidotti: "Does the proposed expansion of the NDF for to not be for development until it has been identified and described to the city NDF. Each proposal of the NDF must comply with project CEQA review and the land use permitting process. The permit of the various Federal, State and regional ... Recology Eastbay Organics they not going to stick for a second to beginning four months after they issue the permit Recology submits quarterly reports identifying the tonnage of material which is transferred to the composting facilities outside Alameda County and they identified Eastbay MUD, anaerobic digester and the material on which side it's going to. Like how much Potrero Hills gets and how much Hay Road gets. There's a problem because you're making a transfer station in Vallejo. Irving Lambert's parcel was used as the transfer station. Jerry Brown was supposed to divest seventeen landfills across the United States. He didn't do it. So the vote of the people on Measure E is still tied up in court on how much tonnage you can haul in here. I don't have the paper work on what went through last Wednesday... two weeks ago from Michael Harris and the problem is when you're hauling mixing food waste in your garbage, your green waste and you're sending it to Hay Road... One cigarette butt, one cigarette butt in there kills all the tomatoes. When you're sending the water from Jim Dunbar from Vallejo up to Potrero Hills Landfill with oleander on the freeway it kills a cow in seven to nine hours. The dust when he's recycling; when it blows over onto my property. Seven to nine hours, there is five chemicals that kills an animal that fast. So I'm not too happy about the recycling that Jim Dunbar is doing up there on... where he doesn't even have his permit yet. And one more thing is in regards to Recology... the food waste that China... the fact that you don't have the figures of how much waste is coming into this county. And I was supposed to get the papers from Diane today. She gave me a paper I don't have the second page still on how much is actually coming in. So I still would like that paper. So, and how much is being transferred into this county."

Mr. Dunbar: "Thank you June."
End of verbatim testimony.

5. Presentations

a. KUIC 95.3FM Public Outreach

Joe Scholtes, 95.3 KUIC, gave a brief Power Point presentation of the KUIC website showing how it can be used as an outreach tool. He noted that KUIC has a number of ways for jurisdictions to get their information out to the public such as the Hometown Happenings, Hometown Green pages and the Ultimate Coffee Break and Helping Your Hometown radio programs. He also showed the

members how to submit their information to the website. Their public service announcements are free to all nonprofits.

b. Local Impact from China's Green Fence Policy

Ms. Untal reported that Ms. Lefebvre was interested in making Styrofoam recycling services available at Recology Vallejo and was working with Sal Coniglio of Mt. Diablo Transfer Station to work towards that goal when she became aware of China's new Green Fence policy.

Ms. Lefebvre, Recology Vallejo, reported on the local impact of China's new Green Fence policy. Operation Green Fence is a campaign by Chinese customs to strictly enforce existing laws governing the import of waste co-mingled with recycled materials coming into their country. It is estimated that up to 20% per baled load is contaminated with waste. China is limiting the amount of acceptable contamination to 1.5% of each bale. Bales exceeding that amount are being rejected. Also if inspectors see contamination on more than three sides of a bale they may reject the entire load. A load consists of 32-36 bales with one bale weighing 1200lbs. The rejected loads are sent back at the sender's expense which is very expensive. With a limit of only 1.5% of waste allowed it only takes a small amount for a bale to be considered contaminated. So far Recology Vallejo has not had any rejections. The new policy will force recyclers in the US to either sort recyclables more carefully, or recycle more material in the US or both. Recology Vallejo works closely with Mt. Diablo Transfer Station and had been sending them residual material to be recycled that Recology could not take. Now due to the Green Fence policy Mt. Diablo Transfer Station is concerned about exceeding the 1.5% waste limit and cannot accept the residual material which will now go to the landfill. Ms. Lefebvre noted that trade magazines have said that this enforcement may just be a warning to those who are gross offenders and could only last thru November 2013. Mr. Coniglio said that Mt. Diablo Transfer Station is having the same experience and like Recology Vallejo they have a lot of pride in quality of their material and have not had any rejections. They have had to add staff to the pre-sort line to make sure their product will not be rejected. The added costs for labor and trying to stay productive have impacted the bottom line of their operations. Ms. Lefebvre added that stockpiles of mixed plastics #3-7 are growing as China is not accepting them at this time. Mr. Coniglio agreed stating that they also have stockpiles of residual material that are getting bigger as they have to hold on to them. Ms. Knudson asked if they recycled plastic bags and if the restrictions were affecting them as well. Ms. Lefebvre answered that they don't accept plastic bags but do receive a lot of them. They were included in the residual waste that they had been sending to Mt. Diablo Transfer Station. Mr. Coniglio stated that they have a load of the bags ready but since the market for them is volatile they are still holding on to them.

6. Member Updates

Jane Bogner, Sierra Club

Ms. Bogner brought in some items labeled as compostable that she had put in her composting bin. The plastic lining from a paper cup had not biodegraded. A Sun Chip bag that was supposed to biodegrade in 12 weeks was still intact after being in her compost bin for two years. She also noted that VALCORE is looking for a new general manager as Keith Nance has accepted a full time job in Marin County. She also noted that she had been elected again as VALCORE's president.

Esther Blanco, City of Fairfield

Ms. Blanco announced that she had taken the Recycle Guide and made it into a flip book. It is on the City of Fairfield's website and Facebook site. She noted that the upcoming Tomato Festival will have a Green Zone to highlight green businesses and other environmentally friendly activities. Ms. Blanco is also requesting a grant on behalf of Fairfield, Suisun City, Solano County and their school districts to help fund one supervisor and 7 core members (part-time) from the Solano Regional Conservation Corps. She is working with their school district to divert a percentage of their waste from all the schools to get free (33.3% diversion) or discounted (sliding scale) garbage services.

Sandra Gonzalez, Solano Garbage

Ms. Gonzales announced that they were going to begin a food waste program in a Suisun City elementary school next year. She is continuing to work with Ms. Blanco on multi-family recycling and are currently setting up a program at Dover Park Apartments (237 units).

Ed Padilla, Solano County

Solano County recently issued revised permits for Recology Hay Road Landfill and the Jepson Prairie Composting facility. The revised permit allows Recology Hay Road Landfill to increase the daily tonnage up to 2400 tons per day and the vehicle counts were increased from 500 to 620 vehicles. The change for Jepson Prairie was minor as they were tied in with the vehicle counts. The permits will expire in 5 years.

Marie Knutson, Allied Waste

Ms. Knutson noted that it looked like the City of Benicia was not going to replace Tonya Gilmore. She reported that she has been working with Kathleen Trinqué who is in the Public Works Department and will be the LTF contact. Ms. Knutson also announced that Benicia High School is getting rid of old trophies. She asked if anyone has ideas on how to recycle them and thanked Ms. Bogner for the successful composting classes. Ms. Knutson added that they had created a very nice multi-unit recycling package that she would be happy to send to LTF members.

Sal Coniglio, Rio Vista Sanitation

Mr. Coniglio said that the transfer station in Pittsburg has begun an asphalt shingle recycling program. They are processing about 35 tons per week.

Allen Hochstetler, Concrush

Mr. Hochstetler stated that due to planned development adjacent to their current site they need to move to a temporary site. The industrial park they plan to move to won't be ready for another 5 to 10 years.

Dolores Tiburcio, Travis AFB

Ms. Tiburcio announced that their request for a food waste program was denied due to funding constraints. She hoped that the cost for the program would be included in the next round of negotiations for food service workers renewal contract.

Lisa Lefebvre, Recology Vallejo

Ms. Lefebvre announced that WhatBin.com should be up and running by the end of July. She brought bags of various sizes for attendees to take. She had been working with Mr. Crutchfield on recycling in schools and had doubled the amount of recycling from May to June.

Derek Crutchfield, City of Vallejo

Mr. Crutchfield stated that the City of Vallejo is in the process of replacing their garbage cans throughout the city. They recently replaced 90 older cans with new ones and 100 more will be ordered in the next fiscal year. The new cans are designed to prevent break-ins by scavengers.

Narcisa Untal, Solano County

Ms. Untal reminded everyone that the next LTF meeting will be at Loma Vista Farm. She also reviewed the upcoming events shown on the agenda.

Jim Dunbar, Potrero Hills

Chair Dunbar noted that Potrero Hills is working on mitigation work that is scheduled to be completed this summer.

7. **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:33am

The next regular LTF meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 19, 2013
