

**Solid Waste & Recycling Technical Working Group
Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2008**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting of the AB 939 Solid Waste & Recycling Technical Working Group was called to order by Susan Weisbart at 3:00 p.m., Monday, March 10, 2008.

Roll Call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Member Jurisdictions Present:

Jim Rodkey
Rene Rosales
Chuck Dodd
Susan Weisbart
Robert Edwards
Bret Plumlee
Frankie Riddell
Troy Butzlaff
Bruce Williams
Diane Christiansen

Agency:

City of Blythe
City of Coachella
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
Riverside County Waste Mgmt.

Member Jurisdictions Absent:

Deanna Pressgrove
Alberto Ramirez

Agency:

City of Cathedral City
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

Others Present

Mary Matava
Debbie Morris
Robert Mehring

Agri Service
HF&H
ZBest Grinding

CVAG Staff Present

Katie Barrows
Linda Rogers

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Susan Weisbart led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Finalization of Agenda

It was moved by Bruce Williams and seconded by Diane Christiansen to remove Item No. 7 Presentation by California EPA, Dept. of Toxic Substances and replace it with Authorization to Release the Request for Proposals for the Used Oil Recycling Program.

The motion carried.

4. Public Comments

None.

5. Committee Member & Director Comments

Katie Barrows explained that the contract for the Used Oil Program has been ongoing for the last three years and last year the contract was extended with HF&H at the same price. The time has now come to solicit Request for Proposals for the Used Oil Contract. This item has been placed on the agenda for the Energy and Environmental Resources Committee (“E & E”). Katie Barrows noted that she neglected to include it on the TWG Agenda. However, if the committee is agreeable, the item could be added to the agenda and this committee could recommend to the E&E to move forward with the Request for Proposals. At the recommendation of the Chair, this item was placed on the agenda as an emergency item by way of a motion in Item No. 3 above.

Susan Weisbart announced that the Living Desert is celebrating Earth Day and it was suggested that it would be valuable to have information on compost materials there. The Chair indicated it would be good to have Agri Service and Cal Bio information available for the public. Bob Edwards stated that the City of Indio will be there and they will have a compost bin. Diane Christiansen also stated that the County of Riverside Waste Management Department will also have a compost bin there as a part of public education.

Diane Christiansen provided information on the beef recall adding that it has affected some of the school districts in the Coachella Valley. Diane reported that the County is tracking this through the Disposal Reporting System (DRS). Discussion ensued regarding State requirements in terms of tonnage allowed to be deducted. Diane stated that the waste must be destroyed or landfilled. As soon as the data is available, a letter will be sent out with the tonnage amounts.

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Presentation by Roger Kintz From CAL EPA

This item was removed from the agenda and will be rescheduled for May’s meeting.

8. Used Oil Program Update

Debbie Morris reported that four of the used oil events have been completed and were very successful. An overview of the four events was provided by Debbie Morris.

Blythe – Filters collected: last year 37; this year 74 filters were collected. Oil Collected: last year 100 gallons; this year 200 gallons of oil were collected. The vast majority of attendees heard about the event from being given a flyer at the store. There is a Spanish speaking radio station that does serve the Blythe area, KERU, and it was suggested that KERU be contacted for next year’s event.

Palm Springs – Filters collected: last year 10 filters; this year 56 filters were collected. Oil Collected: last year 50 gallons; this year 250 gallons of oil were collected. The majority of the attendees heard about the event on KUNA Radio.

Cathedral City – Filters collected: last year 16 filters; were collected, this year 44 filters were collected. Oil collected: last year 150 gallons; this year 250+ gallons of oil were collected. The vast majority of attendees heard about the event on KUNA Radio.

La Quinta – Oil collected: last year 130 gallons of oil; this year 500 gallons+ of oil were collected. Filters collected: last year 25 filters; this year 28 filters were collected.

Highlights:

- Attendees were bringing in the maximum amount of oil and getting containers.
- Goal: to educate the community about recycling used oil and filters. Attendees appeared to be unaware that oil filters could be recycled.
- The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Event Schedule was distributed at the events. Attendees were encouraged to also take any pesticides or chemicals they may have in their homes to the HHW events.

Discussion ensued regarding floor graphic mats to be placed in the stores. Floor mats have been approved from the CIWMB, Auto Zone and Kragen. As far as timing and ordering the floor mats, Debbie requested that comments be forwarded to her before June. Questions and answers were addressed by Debbie Morris regarding commingled or contaminated oil. A flyer is being put together for the certified centers and will be distributed regarding contaminated oil.

Debbie Morris provided some insight into why there was an increase of filters and used oil collected this year. Debbie will be putting a report together, by city, identifying where the most value was achieved for the dollars spent on marketing.

9. Green Waste Subcommittee Update

At the last meeting there was input from several of the cities and the water districts about the potential for providing more information about green waste materials and promoting it as a water conservation and recycling method. CVAG has a reseeding program that is an air quality program that looks at a different method of scalping and reseeding in order to cut down on dust and air quality issues. This year there is an ordinance that many of the cities are requiring in order for landscapers to obtain a business license requiring them to go through a reseeding training course. Al Hollinger will be presenting these workshops to landscapers for CVAG. CVWD is also interested in training landscapers on water conservation. Discussion ensued regarding creating a flyer using information about composting and handing it out. Katie asked about getting the Green Waste Subcommittee together in order to get some feedback about green waste with an emphasis on air quality issues. Al Hollinger will spend about 15 minutes on the topic of water conservation during the workshops. Susan Weisbart stated that a trip has been arranged out to the Plantation in Indio which has no overage or green waste going offsite. All green waste is used on site to include: golf course green waste, citrus groves, bushes, and shrubbery. Susan Weisbart stated that the site is well managed and it is a good model.

Discussion ensued regarding diversion credits. The City of Indian Wells is looking forward to a plan to be able to compost locally for all golf resorts. The green waste would be moved to another site for grinding, processing and then shipping back out to where it came from. Right now this is in the planning stages and is not yet in place. The Green Waste Subcommittee is looking at the ongoing issue that if cities are producing green waste, then there needs to be a way to take it back to residential areas, golf courses or city landscape areas.

Mary Matava discussed pending legislation for ADC and diversion credit. Troy Butzlaff commented that maybe we should go on record by opposing this legislation for the Coachella Valley especially in terms of diversion credits. Troy Butzlaff recommended that this item be

put on the next TWG agenda for a recommendation to the Energy and Environmental Resources Committee to potentially take action. Susan Weisbart updated the TWG on the media burst in Northern California regarding green waste going to landfills. Troy Butzlaff added that it would be beneficial to look at each jurisdiction to see how much of our current diversion level is attributed to ADC. That differential is going to be hugely expensive in terms of elimination of ADC and the economic impact to all the landscapers and country clubs who will have to pay a higher landfill fee. An analysis should be considered to be presented to the State when this legislation is opposed.

Diane Christiansen added that this issue is also being addressed to the Air Resources Board, and they are moving concurrently with the Waste Board. Diane addressed the issue of green house gases emitted from landfills where ADC will most likely end up. Further discussion ensued regarding green waste and this will be addressed at the next Green Waste Subcommittee. This discussion will be brought back at May's meeting.

10. Curiosity Quest

Susan Weisbart indicated that with CVAG's assistance, a grant application was submitted to EPA to support development of a Curiosity Quest episode. However, the grant request was unsuccessful. Susan stated that the purpose of applying for the grant was to help sponsor Curiosity Quest for the entire valley specifically for some kind of waste and what happens to it. There are still a couple of Curiosity Quest programs available for this year. There are a couple of jurisdictions that are interested in going in to sponsor an episode. Members were urged to contact Katie Barrows so that a group can be put together. The total amount of funding needed is \$25,000 and the city's name will appear on the film. There will be other incentives in that participating member jurisdictions would own a copy of their sponsored episode.

11. Consideration and Discussion of Extended Producer Responsibility and Model Resolution

Susan Weisbart stated that the City of Indian Wells has passed a resolution and signed this pledge. Right now the City of Indian Wells will spend in excess of \$100,000 to process its hazardous waste. Both the state and federal governments are targeting electronic waste (e-waste) right now, making the responsible party pay for disposing of these items, namely, the manufacturer. This measure urges both state and federal legislators to take action and shift the burden from the local jurisdiction to the actual manufacturers and some retailers as well.

Troy Butzlaff expressed some concern on how this might impact the cost of consumer business adding that manufacturers will pass along the cost to consumers. The Chair urged member cities to pass the Resolution. It was recommended that the E&E consider the resolution and make recommendation to the Executive Committee.

Committee consensus was to request a presentation by the California Stewardship Council at May's meeting. It was also recommended that the TWG make recommendation to the E&E to consider the Resolution making recommendation to the Executive Committee for their approval.

12. CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval

12A Approval of the Minutes of the Solid Waste & Recycling Technical Working Group of January 14, 2008.

It was moved by Troy Butzlaff and seconded by Frankie Riddell to approve the Minutes of the Solid Waste & Recycling Technical Working Group of January 14, 2008.

The motion carried with one abstention from the County of Riverside.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next meeting of the Solid Waste & Recycling Technical Working Group will be on May 12, 2008.
- Katie Barrows announced it is budget time at CVAG and objectives and items of interest are being developed for the Energy & Environmental Resources Program. If there are additional items that the TWG would like to look at for next year, let Katie know while objectives are still being developed.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Linda Rogers
Program Assistant II