

SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP
Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2009

1. Call to Order & Introduction

The meeting of the AB 939 Solid Waste & Recycling Technical Working Group was called to order by Susan Weisbart, Chair, at 3:05 p.m., on Monday May 11, 2009.

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

Member Jurisdictions Present

Jim Rodkey
Rene Rosales
Bret Plumlee
Frankie Riddle
Diana Beck
Susan Weisbart, Chair
Robert Edwards
Bret Plumlee
Janet Moreland

Agency

City of Blythe
City of Coachella
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Rancho Mirage
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
Riverside County Waste Management

Member Jurisdictions Absent

City of Cathedral City
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Palm Springs

Others Present

Oscar Santana
Ken Stevens
Mike Veto
Michael Hardy
Mary Matava
Bob Gedert
Dorothy Woody
Debbie Morris
Gregory Trueblood
Gary Calhoun
Ted Dumas
Jennifer Dumas

City of La Quinta
Burrtec
Burrtec
Cal Bio-Mass
Agri Service
CRRRA
CIWMB
HF&H Consultants
HF&H Consultants
Evergreen Recycling Solutions
Southern California Recycling
Southern California Recycling

CVAG Staff Present

Jim Sullivan
Linda Rogers

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Susan Weisbart, Chair.

3. **Finalization of Agenda & Additions and Revisions**

It was the consensus of the TWG to accept finalization of the agenda and continue Item No. 11 in July.

4. **Public Comments**

None.

5. **Committee Member & Director Comments**

None.

6. **Correspondence**

None.

7. **Conference Planning for California Resource Recovery Association (CRRA), August 2-5, 2009, in Rancho Mirage**

Bob Gedert, Executive Director of the CRRA, was introduced and welcomed by the Chair. The CRRA conference is being held in August in Rancho Mirage. Mr. Gedert stated that the CRRA views the collection of local communities as the general host. One thing being sought for the conference is a way for the CRRA to showcase some model programs and examples within the local area along with some of the excellent activity going on in the Coachella Valley. Approximately 90% of CRRA members will be coming in from outside the desert communities. Some of the ways to showcase the models would be through conference sessions and the ability to work in some of the local programs. During the opening and closing ceremonies, CRRA will have a slide show of sponsors including photos and examples of activities of the local host community. Mr. Gedert requested photos or slides, anything that can be sent to Mr. Gedert by way of e-mail, so that he can prepare a powerpoint presentation at the conference. Mr. Gedert's e-mail address is bobg@crra.com.

If there are local events or local sites of interest that jurisdictions would like to advertise to CRRA members, please e-mail to Bob Gedert (bobg@crra.com). Mr. Gedert's phone number 559-593-5298. Some of the sites being looked at right now are Burrtec,, MURF, California Bio-Mass, Lambs Canyon Landfill. Most of the tours are being scheduled for Wednesday, August 5th, and there is the potential to schedule in some more for Sunday afternoon. Committee members were encouraged to attend the conference and those interested in attending were asked to contact Mr. Gedert for a discounted conference rate.

8. **AB 939 Credits**

Ted Dumas, General Manager, with Southern California Recycling reported that his facility takes in most of the palm in the Coachella Valley. In years past, they have always depended on AB 939 credits. Mr. Dumas indicated that his concern is the season for 2009. Normally 13,000 tons of palm are taken in a year. In past, his company has depended on the ADC program or slope cover. Mr. Dumas explained his concern was that his facility may not be able to accept palm this year. Mr. Dumas

asked for the committee's help to put palm at the top of the list to go to ADC and once that is completed, use the other materials as needed. Mr. Dumas asked for any suggestions that the committee could offer.

Discussion ensued regarding what other markets are out there for some of the palm material. Further discussion ensued on soil amendments, slope and erosion control.

Mary Matava added that she takes in a third to half of what Ted Dumas takes in. Mary Matava indicated that there is a lot of publicity about dust control around the Salton Sea area. There was some discussion about using the palm spread down at the Salton Sea and asked for the committee's assistance with the Salton Sea Authority. Discussion ensued regarding how the palm makes for good erosion control and it works well for dust control. Ms. Matava added that this would be a real benefit to the community if there was some way for this group to facilitate working with the Salton Sea Authority.

Susan Weisbart summed up the discussion indicating that the palm trimming season is upon us and it is questionable as to whether or not the trimmings from any of our cities will be counted as ADC or trash. The Chair welcomed any suggestions or support letters. Dorothy Woody with the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) suggested addressing the letter to the board members. Ms. Woody added that she help to make contact with Imperial County the regional agency. Ms. Matava added that it would be helpful to get someone who could help facilitate a regional approach to this issue. Frankie Riddle suggested bringing this up at our next meeting.

Jim Sullivan commented that he would mention this topic to Aurora Wilson, CVAG staff, who handles air quality issues. Jim Sullivan added that the County of Riverside would be the best agency to address this issue through rather than through the Salton Sea.

Susan Weisbart announced that within the next few weeks a meeting of the Green Waste Subcommittee meeting would be scheduled.

9. HHW Information Updates

9.1 Sharps Education and Collection program changes being launched by Riverside County Waste Management Department

Janet Moreland with Riverside County Waste Management addressed the committee on behalf of Diane Christiansen. Janet Moreland gave a presentation on the Sharps Education and Collection program changes. There has been a change in the sharps program in response to SB 1305 prohibiting residents who use sharps from throwing these into their solid waste contains. Janet Moreland indicated that the County has printed up sharps container labels with instructions for labeling a home generated hard sided, closable container. Labels will be provided to residents for sharps disposal. Further discussion ensued regarding the proper disposal of the sharps and properly labeling containers. These labels and HHW schedules were funded by HHW 16th Cycle Coordination grant. Discussion ensued regarding distribution of labels to the various jurisdictions including distribution of the labels at various HHW events. Jurisdictions were urged to update their websites regarding sharps disposal and linking to the current HHW website.

9.2 New Palm Springs Permanent HHW Collection Facility

Janet Moreland indicated that there has been a delay in construction and the County is waiting on a certificate of occupancy and at that point the hazardous waste collection will be moved to this site. It is anticipated that the HHW facility will be on Saturday. Changes have been made on the website in terms of the delay in the opening of the facility. A banner has been posted that the HHW facility will be opening soon and the County has flyers available to the public with anticipated hours of operation. The facility is located at 1100 Vela Road, Palm Springs.

10. Used Oil Program Update

10A Outcome of Drawing Contest (Elementary School winners)

Debbie Morris indicated that site visits to certified collection centers are almost completed. Debbie Morris went over the Used Oil/Filter Exchange Event progress comparison throughout the various jurisdictions. Debbie Morris reported on the drawing contest stating that a total of 137 drawings were received from the Cities of Desert Hot Springs, Palm Springs and Cathedral City. There was some discussion about trying to get city staff involved next year with the school districts. Debbie Morris noted that the Cities of Coachella and Rancho Mirage did not have any participants in the drawing contest. The last two events are scheduled for May 16 and 17. Additional advertising efforts were made this year by notifying the College of Desert Automotive Program. Josie Kalbakian participated in the 2009 Energy Summit this year in lieu of the Earth Day event participation. Debbie Morris thanked the Cities of Coachella and Rancho Mirage for their donation of bicycles, movie tickets and other gift certificates. This year KUNA will be donating two bicycles and HF&H will be working with the other radio stations for a donation of prizes.

11. Used Carpet Recycling

This item will be continued in July.

12. Update on Citrus Collection Program Numbers

Susan Weisbart updated the committee on the citrus collection numbers and urged more cities to participate in the citrus collection program. This year Hidden Harvest installed two more cold boxes, one in Desert Hot Springs and one in Palm Springs. Those cold boxes are accessed directly by local charities. Cities were encouraged to start the citrus program or other edible human products. Hidden Harvest representative Christy Porter is happy to provide information and work with other interested cities.

13. Green Waste Update

Jim Sullivan indicated that Katie Barrows will be contacting everyone with regard to setting up a meeting on the Green Waste Working Group. Susan Weisbart indicated that we will make sure to address the palm issue with the working group.

14. Legislation Updates

15. Consent Calendar

Approval

- 15A Approve Minutes of the Solid Waste & Recycling Technical Working Group of November 17, 2008 and January 12, 2009.

It was the consensus of the committee to approve the Minutes of November 17, 2008 and January 12, 2009.

16. Announcements

The next meeting of the Solid Waste & Recycling Technical Working Group is scheduled for July 13 at 3:00 p.m.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Rogers
Program Assistant II