

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

Minutes of January 15, 2004

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Albert Avoian, Business/Commerce Representative
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Margaret Clark, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Joe Massey, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
Michael Miller, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
David Roberti, General Public Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Thomas L. Garthwaite, rep. by Stan Uyehara, County of L.A. Dept. of Health Services
James A. Noyes, rep. by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Jim Stahl, rep. by Charles Boehmke, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Director of City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, represented by Karen Coca
Ben Wong, rep. by Mary Ann Lutz, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Ron Deaton, City of Los Angeles Appointee
Christopher J. Garner, City of Long Beach
David Kim, City of Los Angeles Appointee
Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Martins Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Paul Alva, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Doug Corcoran, Waste Management
Mary Goytia-Strauss, City of La Cañada Flintridge
Ben Lucha, City of Santa Clarita
John McTaggart, Task Force Alternate, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Carolyn Meredith, City of Pasadena
Mike Mohajer, Task Force Alternate, General Public Representative
Michelle Nicholls, SCS Engineers
Javier Peraza, City of Diamond Bar
Fred Pfaeffle, County Counsel
Isabel Schleif, City of Covina
Michael Theroux, USCPA
Jessica Vallerand, City of Santa Clarita

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2003

Task Force members requested the last line of the first paragraph on page 5 be amended to state the Task Force members recommended that copies of the letter be sent to the various agencies listed. The minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

III. STATUS OF RESPONSE TO TASK FORCE REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ON BRADLEY LANDFILL

Several Task Force members stated they would not be present for the entire meeting. Due to the importance of the agenda items IX, X, and XI, it was decided to address those immediately following the approval of the meeting minutes. Task Force members stated all members should have the opportunity to discuss those items.

Mr. Martins Aiyetiwa from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works explained that staff reviewed the documents submitted by Waste Management, Inc., and concluded they did not provide all of the information the Task Force requested as stated in the staff report (attached). Mr. Aiyetiwa stated staff recommends the Task Force continue working with Waste Management to obtain all requested information. He explained, if the information is still not provided, Task Force members may authorize staff to work with County Counsel to consider legal action against Waste Management. Task Force members asked what is the likelihood of obtaining all requested information.

Mr. Doug Corcoran from Waste Management responded Waste Management intends to work with staff to provide all requested information. He stated he even brought additional documents today and gave them to Mr. Aiyetiwa prior to the meeting. However, Mr. Corcoran explained some of the requested information does not currently exist in the form in which the Task Force requested it.

Task Force members asked Mr. Corcoran to explain why providing the information has taken so long, considering the initial letter, dated July 10, 2003, requested the information be provided within 30 days. Mr. Corcoran stated he was out of his office during the holidays and did not receive the most recent e-mails from staff. He stated he would provide staff with alternate contact information to ensure they can always communicate

with Waste Management. Mr. Corcoran further explained Waste Management has been communicating with staff to clarify the information requested. However, he stated he misread the urgency of the Task Force's request for information and would work with staff to ensure the Task Force receives all the needed information now that he understands the urgency.

Mr. Corcoran and Task Force members established a timeline for Waste Management to submit the needed information. Waste Management is to meet with staff by January 23, 2004, to clarify any questions for the requested information. After meeting with staff, Waste Management must submit all information by January 30, 2004. Staff should work with Waste Management so that a final version of all requested information is submitted by February 12, 2004. Task Force members agreed that if all the needed information is not received by February 12, the Task Force would hold its conference with County Counsel to discuss legal action.

A motion was made to approve the timeline, final deadline, and intent to continue with conference to discuss legal proceedings if all the requested information is not provided by Waste Management by the final deadline. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Mike Mohajer requested that the minutes note that he did not vote as Mr. David Roberti was present and voted.

IV. CLOSED SESSION

The closed session regarding potential litigation proceedings against Waste Management, Inc. was not held. The closed session will be listed in the February 2004 Task Force agenda.

V. REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

The closed session was not held.

VI. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Paul Alva from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works stated the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee (Subcommittee) held its first meeting earlier in the day. The Subcommittee members reviewed their roles and responsibilities and discussed possible strategies for the development of conversion technology. Subcommittee members discussed how to best develop a scope of work and hiring a consultant to conduct a study on conversion technology. Mr. Alva explained that Subcommittee members also contemplated the possibility of having the consultant compile a report of previously conducted studies instead of

conducting a new study. Pursuant to the Puente Hills CUP, the study must be completed by November 1, 2004.

STATUS REPORT ON CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD'S PROPOSED SOLID WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLE RULE

Mr. Mike Mohajer stated that there have been no changes to the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) Proposed Solid Waste Collection Vehicle Rule since last month's report. He stated the draft regulations will be released at the end of January. Mr. Mohajer requested this item be placed on next month's meeting agenda.

VII. STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SB 20

A motion was made to add an item to the meeting agenda on the Status of the Implementation of SB 20. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Mohajer stated that he wants the item to be placed on future agendas also.

Mr. Mohajer explained the Waste Board had a meeting on January 9, 2004, to discuss monetary distribution to affected entities. He stated Waste Board staff proposed money be distributed directly to authorized recyclers who will be responsible for providing funding to collectors and transporters. The Waste Board staff proposal also stated cathode ray tube (CRT) recycling services should be free to consumers. Mr. Mohajer added the Waste Board has not defined who counts as an authorized recycler.

Mr. Mohajer stated the Task Force needs to ensure the Waste Board understands that local governments are bearing most of the responsibility for CRT collection since they currently hold public electronic waste collections without State funding. He explained that SB 20 is in the process of being modified. He reiterated the item should be placed on future agendas.

VIII. REPORT FROM THE CIWMB

No representative from the Waste Board was present. However, Ms. Karen Coca of the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, stated that jurisdictions must electronically submit their 2002 Annual Reports by February 2, 2004. She also added that the Waste Board approved the Los Angeles Regional Agency at its January Board meeting.

IX. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Alva stated there have been no major changes on which to update the Task Force. He explained that most legislative movement generally occurs between May and July.

Mr. Mohajer stated that AB 1466 is a Bill that would require every State agency to incorporate a unified litter prevention and recycling message into their signs and advertisements. He stated the Task Force should send a letter supporting AB 1466. Mr. Mike Miller stated the message should be incorporated gradually as agencies' documents are revised and reprinted. A motion was made to send a letter supporting AB 1466 and to recommend the message be incorporated gradually as documents are revised and reprinted. The motion carried unanimously.

X. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Mohajer distributed a copy (attached) of the Waste Board's response to the Governor which claimed the Waste Board does not have underground regulations. After Task Force discussion, a motion was made to draft a letter to the Governor stating the Waste Board's response is incorrect since they do have underground regulations. The letter is to also request justification from the Waste Board for their response. The letter is to be sent with the Waste Board letter to the Governor and a copy of the Task Force letter should be sent to the Waste Board. The motion carried unanimously.

Task Force members discussed the possibility of choosing alternate meeting dates for the March 2004 and June 2004 meetings as a result of potential scheduling conflicts. Alternate meeting dates will be determined at the next Task Force meeting.

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 19, 2004.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.