

Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Minutes of February 16, 2012

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Alva, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Suk Chong, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition
John Kaddis, Los Angeles County Public Health
Mark McDannel, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (LACSD)
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvement Association
Miguel Zermeno, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Jacques Franco, Department of Resource Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
Rafael Garcia, Republic Services
Ron Goodman, Southern California Gas Company
Alex Helou, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Kay Martin, Bio Energy Producers Association
Eugene Sun, Council Member, City of San Marino
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program

OTHERS PRESENT:

Becky Bendikson, Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Community Advisory Committee
William Gorham*, Cerrell Associates
George Gomez, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Susan Higgins, Alternative Resources Inc (ARI)
Corey Mayne, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

*designates participants over the telephone

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Paul Alva called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

II. INTRODUCTION OF MR. SUK CHONG AS THE SUBCOMMITTEE'S NEW CHAIRMAN

Mr. Alva elaborated on how the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee (ATAS) was established in 2004. He stated that since then, the ATAS has successfully met on a monthly basis for approximately 300 meetings, in which the ATAS has helped the Los Angeles County (County) moved forward with the Conversion Technology (CT) project development. In addition Mr. Alva announced his resignation from the Chairmanship of the ATAS and introduced Mr. Chong as the ATAS' Chairman.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 19, 2012 MEETING

Mr. Mohajer made a motion to approve the minutes, with specific corrections to Item VII. The motion passed unanimously.

Following approval of the January 19, 2012, minutes, Mr. Mohajer requested to make note in the minutes of the February 16, 2012, meeting that the motion for an update of the Public Outreach Action Plan was recorded in the minutes of July 21, 2011, which read as follows:

"Mr. Mohajer made a motion to request staff to return in 1-2 months with a work plan that would revise the current public outreach strategy to focus on conversion technology legislation. Mr. Jeff Yann seconded the motion. Mr. Paul Alva asked to clarify the motion, which Mr. Mohajer restated. The motion passed with Paul Alva voting no."

Mr. Mohajer further stated that the next time the item was mentioned, was at the October 20, 2011, meeting where Mr. Michael Hinrichs presented an action plan memo that included a summary of public outreach activities Cerrell and Associates has performed for Public Works. Mr. Mohajer stated that according to the minutes of that meeting, he had stated the following:

"Mr. Mike Mohajer asked if the summary of activities and action plan that Mr. Hinrichs is referring to was developed by County staff or by Cerrell. In addition, Mr. Mohajer stated that the motion made by the ATAS was to request the County staff to produce the action plan. Mr. Coby Skye responded that this action plan was developed by Cerrell in conjunction with County staff."

Mr. Alva recommended re-evaluating the action plan and re-submitting a revised version of the report for subcommittee review at the January 2012 ATAS meeting. A request was made for Subcommittee members to share any comments they have on the draft plan no later than the end of November.”

Lastly, Mr. Mohajer stated that in January 19, 2012, there was no update from staff as requested in the motion from July 21, 2011.

After much discussion, Mr. Jeff Yann made a motion to reintroduce the original motion from July 21, 2011. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wayde Hunter. The motion was carried with Mr. Suk Chong abstaining. Mr. Chong recommended re-evaluating the action plan and report back within 1-2 months.

IV. UPDATE ON PHASE III & IV CONTRACT

Ms. Susan Higgins provided the following updates:

- Alternative Resources, Inc. (ARI) in conjunction with the County is currently pursuing a California Energy Commission grant to fund the Conversion Technology Center, which will be hosted by the County’s Department of Public Works. The application will be filed early next week.
- Regarding the Calabasas Landfill project, Mr. Coby Skye and Mr. Pat Proano attended a meeting with the Sanitation Districts, County CEO and the City of Calabasas, regarding the financial situation at the Calabasas Landfill project. The meeting was successful; County explained the potential benefits of developing a CT project at the landfill. Additional information will be provided at the next ATAS meeting.
- The CT assessment for Avalon is ongoing; a draft report is anticipated to be complete by the end of February, for internal County review.
- Work continues on various tasks, including finalizing the RFEI database, completing the web-based economic model, and pursuing funding opportunities.

V. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES AND ACTION PLAN

Mr. William Gorham provided the following updates:

- The County had a strong showing at the VerdeXchange Conference.
- Cerrell and the County hosted a booth that had numerous visitors.
- On February 21, 2012, Cerrell Associates will participate in a meeting with the City of Carson Public Works Director. This meeting will help identify next steps for the City in developing a CT facility in their jurisdiction.
- Mr. Robert Sulnick and Gary Peterson continue the communication with environmental groups to garner public support for our CT efforts.
- A proposal was submitted for a statewide media campaign that will use the voice of key stakeholders to spread the positive message of CTs in important California markets.
- The efforts at developing a facility at the Calabasas Landfill have moved forward rapidly and outreach to entities near the landfill but outside the Calabasas Landfill, this includes cities such as Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, Culver City, and others on the West Side.

VI. RECAP ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS

Chairman Chong informed the ATAS, that Mr. Coby Skye is currently participating in the Renewable Energy World Conference and Expo, which is being held at Long Beach, CA. In addition, Chairman Chong stated that County staff will be participating in the following events:

- 2012 Good Jobs, Green Jobs Regional Conference - March 16-19, 2012. Los Angeles, CA.
- 26th Annual BioCycle West Coast Conference – April 16-19, 2012. Portland OR.

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION

No discussion.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 15, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.