

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2006
PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste
Management Task Force

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Mohajer, Integrated Waste Management Task Force; Glenn Acosta, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County; and Laura Cronin, City of Santa Monica

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Cynthia Vant Hul, Waste Management; Kenneth Murray, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services; Carolyn Meredith, City of Pasadena; and Ben Lucha, City of Santa Clarita

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ken Pellman, Melinda Barrett, Carlos Ruiz, Paul Alva, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works; Andrew Perry, City of Artesia; Vinson Carstensen, City of Pomona; Joe Maturino, City of Los Angeles; Angela Williams, City of Inglewood; and Josh Rosenbaum, City of Signal Hill

I CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 10:03 a.m. by the Chair, Mike Mohajer. Mohajer welcomed those interested in becoming new members of the subcommittee, explained how to join, and stated some of the expectations.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of November 17, 2005, were held for approval at a subsequent meeting.

III. NEWSLETTER ARTICLES, See Attachments

Discussion of who receives the newsletter, substantiating/verifying the information in the articles, and the newsletter process.

Melinda Barrett suggested a survey of newsletter readers.

City of El Monte – The article is on the Billion Bottle March. Last sentence should be changed. The paragraphs are long. Minor changes suggested.

City of Glendale – This article was about dedicating a building in honor of Ginger Bremberg. Melinda Barrett noted that the title of the article is too long. Ginger Bremberg was the Chair of the Task Force for about a decade and had many other roles, noted Mohajer. Mohajer stated that articles need contact information, and he should be the contact for this article. The article is a combination of the city's press release and Mohajer's observations.

Mike Mohajer requested DPW staff prepare additional articles covering the areas listed below for publication in an upcoming Newsletter:

- Waste Board activities
- New Chair and new members of the Waste Board
- Conversion technology legislation
- Illegal dumping
- Universal wastes

IV. TASK FORCE MEETING DEBRIEFING, Mike Mohajer

At the last Task Force meeting, the Task Force heard about universal wastes and about conversion technology. Glenn Acosta remarked that he thought the conversion technology bills died. Mohajer said that wasn't what happened, but that the explanation was too long and complicated to get into.

At the December meeting, the City of Los Angeles green waste composting was discussed; DPW provided a presentation on AB 1497, which was enacted in 2003. Among other things, the bill requires the Waste Board to define those

changes in the operation/design of a solid waste facility that should be designated as "significant change." Such changes would require the facility owner/operator to obtain a revised Solid Waste Facility Permit. The Task Force has some concerns about what the Waste Board is proposing and submitted a letter. The dispute is in the details regarding local land use permits. Universal waste was also discussed.

At the January meeting, there was another update on legislation & conversion technology; a presentation by the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County on holiday tree recycling; a presentation by the Waste Board on their database; a City of Los Angeles presentation of AB 929 compliance; City of Santa Clarita presented their recycling efforts; there was another update on universal waste and what the County Household Hazardous Waste program will be doing regarding the changes.

V. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Glenn Acosta asked if we should send the newsletter to anyone in the legislature or the staff. Mohajer indicated that they get too many pieces of correspondence as it is and don't even have time to read our formal letters.

Josh Rosenbaum wants to make sure that permanent collection centers are always listed in the newsletter, with their address and hours. He said that multi-family recycling is a huge issue for Signal Hill. He asked if such recycling can be promoted through the newsletter. Mohajer suggested submitting an article and contacting with City of Los Angeles about their program. The County started doing this program in Marina del Rey in the early 1990s. The program is on a voluntary basis and has been worked out between the hauler, the property manager, and the residents with assistance from the County Public Works. Mohajer suggests there can be an article on the Garbage Disposal Districts and their multi-family recycling.

Josh Rosenbaum mentioned that Signal Hill is a small city, but that they received multiple copies of the same letter from the Task Force. Mohajer said that is done on purpose based on previous comments from cities. Cities participation is very important.

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE

Next meeting will be tentatively scheduled for Thursday, May 18, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. or 10 a.m. in Conference Room B. Meetings are usually on the third Thursday of the month. This meeting was an exception.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Attachments