

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE
December 1, 2022, 3:00 – 5:00 pm (Via Zoom-Online)



Meeting Minutes

Present: Jack Dilles (SV), Jacques Bertrand (Cap), Bob Nelson (SC), Leslie O'Malley (SC alt), Lowell Hurst (Wat), Chris Lamm (SV alt.), Will Smith (Wat),

Absent: Ryan Coonerty (County), Jacob Guth (Coonerty alt.), Greg Caput (County) Tony Gregorio (Caput alt), Scott Hamby (Citizen rep.), Steve Palmisano (Wat alt.) Gabe Gordo (Wat alt.)

Task Force Staff: Kasey Kolassa (County), Beau Hawksford (County), Darcy Pruitt (County)

Agency Staff: Christine Horvat (County), Jessica Kahn (Cap), Mary Ann LoBalbo (County), Caylie Soon (SC), Tami Stolzenhaler (Wat)

Guests: Miles Klieman (Second Harvest Food Bank), Sally-Christine Rodgers (Trash Talkers)

1) Oral communications from the public

- None

2) Oral communications from Task Force members

- None

3) Changes to the agenda

- Introduction of Sally-Christine Rodgers as a representative of Trash Talkers.
 - Ms. Rodgers outlined the mission of Trash Talkers, a local volunteer organization formed to help clean up trash from the environment, whether found on public or private land. Trash Talkers has developed a logo and is organizing a website to increase their outreach to local, regional, and statewide communities to reduce illegal dumping, to clean up dump sites, and to improve the environment. Ms. Rodgers acknowledged the support of local government, local organizations and private individuals in coordinating multiple cleanups throughout the County in 2022.
 - Ms. Rodgers shared information about recent clean ups and outlined her goals for the future of Trash Talkers.

4) Approval of minutes from meeting of September 1, 2022

- Lowell Hurst of Watsonville moved approval on the minutes and Bob Nelson of Santa Cruz City seconded the motion.
- Minutes were approved unanimously.

5) Resuming In-Person Meetings

- Task force discussed resuming in person meetings. Questions arose as to whether a mix of in person and remote meetings would be allowed under State law. Membership directed staff to follow up with County Counsel and outline Counsel advice at next meeting on March 2, 2023.

6) 5-Year Plan

- Staff directed to determine status of 5-year plan update and report back at next meeting on March 2, 2023.

7) SB1383 Procurement

- Will Smith (City of Watsonville) in process of contractual agreement with Keith Day Co. to subsidize existing compost sales and will purchase 300 tons of compost to distribute to the Watsonville community.
- Kasey Kolassa (County) is also working on an agreement with Keith Day Co. to subsidize existing compost sales to make compost more affordable
- Bob Nelson (City of Santa Cruz) uses a direct service provider (local farmer) that composts and uses all of the City's recovered landscape organics. The City is also working on introducing food waste into the digester at the Neary Lagoon Wastewater Treatment Plant.

- 8) SB 1383 Organics Diversion Update
 - Leslie O'Malley (City of Santa Cruz) provided an update on the city's residential food waste collection program, including issues and resolution of roll out challenges.
 - Christina Horvat (County) discussed County's MORE plan compliance outreach efforts to complete multi-family and commercial organics training and final rollout of organics bins by December 31, 2022.
 - Tami Stolzenhaller (City of Watsonville) provided an update on the city's rollout completion. Also discussed challenges with ongoing participation rates among residential customers. Provided information to other jurisdictions about cart washing services.
- 9) Legislation Update
 - Darcy Pruitt (County) provided a summary of State legislation that passed and failed to pass concerning battery take back programs, expansion of container recycling laws, and legislation banning PFAS from consumer goods.
- 10) Set Meeting Schedule for 2023
 - Task Force proposed continuing with a quarterly meeting schedule in 2023 on the following dates: March 2; June 1, September 7, and December 7
 - Bob Nelson of Santa Cruz City moved approval of the proposed schedule and Chris Lamm of Scotts Valley seconded.
 - The 2023 meeting schedule unanimously approved.
- 11) Call for Agenda Items
 - Future agenda items proposed include:
 - Receive and deliberate advice from County Counsel on the possibility of holding mix of in-person and on-line meetings.
 - Update from staff on 5-year Plan
 - SB 1383 Procurement Update
 - SB 1383 Organics Diversion Update
 - SB 1383 Food Recovery Update
 - Legislative Update
 - Zolly v. City of Oakland case summary and risk management discussion
- 12) Adjournment
 - Meeting adjourned at 4:55