



**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE  
March 4, 2021**

**MINUTES**

Present: Mike Rivera, Lowell Hurst, Jack Dilles, Bob Nelson, Daryl Jordan, Noel Bock; Jacques Bertrand, Tony Gregorio

Staff: Tim Goncharoff, Kasey Kolassa, Beau Hawksford

Guests: MaryAnn LoBalbo, Hilda Peralta, Christina Horvat; Diana Suarez-Arguelles (CalRecycle)

1) Oral communications from the public

None

2) Oral communications from Task Force members

None

3) Changes to the agenda

None

4) Approval of minutes from meeting of December 3, 2020 (attached)

Moved: Noel 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jack Approved 8-0

5) Treated wood waste – Kasey

New DTSC regulations banning landfilling of treated wood waste.

County has applied for variance to continue accepting it.

Legislation introduced to fix issue. Currently doing staff training, informing the public.

Watsonville never accepted treated wood, not applying for variance – turning loads away.

Santa Cruz also applied for a variance.

Lowell stressed importance of informing the public.

6) Earth Day – Tim

Virtual this year. Each jurisdiction doing their own thing.

Watsonville offering trail cleanups, video on green businesses

County online April 19-26

Noel suggested sending info to schools

7) County Facilities Planning Update - Kasey

Kasey discussed planning for transfer station at Buena Vista – about 3 times the size of Ben Lomond

Also planning a compost facility est. cost \$13.5 million – may haul to MRWMD instead

Issuing RFP for environmental impact report

Watsonville in design phase to open cell 4 at landfill

8) SB 1383 Organics Diversion Update – all

CalRecycle webinar

Central Coast: March 25, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

GoToWebinar Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4574066640434628364>

Agenda:

1:00 PM -2:00 PM – Edible Food Recovery Program Requirements

2:00 PM -3:00 PM – Procurement Requirements

3:00 PM -4:00 PM – Collection Program Requirements

Diana – workshops

Hilda – Watsonville has 2 pilot sites, currently diverting about 2 tons/week

Mike – Watsonville planning to use 20 gallon carts, only 2 routes; waste lower than expected

9) Local ordinance updates - all

County: Bag ordinance back in effect. Cup ordinance probably delayed until January 1, 2022.

Restrictions on small plastic bottles of personal care products began January 1, as did requirements for optometrists to offer recycling for contact lenses

Watsonville – doing outreach on bags

Mixed policies on reusable bags

Santa Cruz – food packaging ordinance (includes cup charge) delayed until March 8, 2022

10) Homeless Encampment Issues - Bob

Problems with camp at Hwy 9 and Hwy 1; city spending about \$6k/month on trash service

Watsonville seeing much more trash in public areas, around homeless camps esp.

Tony shared ongoing discussions about tiny homes; 11 current shelters

Hilda reported problem with abandoned shopping carts

11) Drug and Sharps Program Changes - Tim

New sharps bins, more available from County Health.

2nd stewardship organization seeking permission to operate in County, called Inmar, operates in 32 states

12) Syringe Litter Cleanup - Tim

Challenging issue, expensive, strong feelings

County expanding cleanup activities; difficult work experience

13) Legislative Update - Tim  
Discussion of possible legislation for 2021  
Many bills  
Rivas memo  
SB 619 – landfill fees, organics diversion

Recycling Commission report prompted more than a dozen bills:  
Some call for better labeling of materials that can't be easily recycled or composted; others would ban certain materials, mandate manufacturing changes or encourage recycling markets. Some aim to improve the state's redemption system for beverage containers, which has been in trouble lately, and some focus on plastic microfibers.

Possible 2022 ballot initiative aimed at requiring all packaging to be recyclable, reusable or compostable by 2030.

Congress considering a national fee on plastics to help with recycling and a national bottle and can deposit program.

Here's a list of bills on plastics and recycling:

CA SB343 (21R), by Sen. Ben Allen (D-Santa Monica), would prohibit the use of the "chasing arrows" symbol on products unless the state determines the material is actually recyclable.

CA AB881 (21R), by Assemblymember. Lorena Gonzalez (D-San Diego), would change the state's definition of "recyclable" to exclude exported discards that are incinerated or dumped rather than being recycled.

CA AB478 (21R), by Assemblymember Phil Ting (D-San Francisco), would set minimum recycled-content standards for clamshell-type plastic containers.

CA AB622 (21R), by Assemblymember Laura Friedman (D-Glendale), would require all new washing machines sold in-state to contain a microfiber filtration system with a mesh size of 100 microns or smaller starting in 2024.

CA AB683 (21R), by Assemblymember Tim Grayson (D-Concord), is a spot bill that would direct the state to buy products with recycled content.

CA AB802 (21R), by Assemblymember Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica), would direct the state to write rules requiring industrial and commercial laundry facilities to capture microfibers.

CA AB962 (21R), by Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager (D-Los Angeles), would let beer bottlers receive the same payments for processing returned bottles as other recycling centers do.

CA AB1200 (21R), by Ting, is a spot bill that would ban the sale of plant-based food packaging that includes PFAS chemicals and require cookware manufacturers to disclose certain hazardous chemicals.

CA AB1201 (21R), by Ting, would prohibit companies from calling products "compostable" unless they meet specified standards and would allow the state to write product labeling rules.

CA AB1276 (21R), by Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo (D-Boyle Heights), would broaden the existing ban on single-use plastic straws to cover all food accessories at restaurants or in takeout deliveries, including utensils, napkins and condiment cups and packets, unless requested by the customer.

CA SB38 (21R), by Sen. Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont), would replace the existing state-run recycling program for beverage containers with an industry-run extended producer responsibility program.

CA SB451 (21R), by Sen. Bill Dodd (D-Napa), would extend the life of a state fund to pay for pilot projects that can serve as alternatives to the existing container deposit and redemption program.

CA SB580 (21R), by Sen. Ben Hueso (D-San Diego), would have the state study the feasibility of incorporating recycled plastics into asphalt.

CA AB1371 (21R), by Friedman, is a spot bill that she may amend to prohibit the use of plastic packaging by e-retailers, including mailing envelopes, plastic film and bubble wrap.

CA AB1454 (21R), a spot bill by Bloom, will be amended to reform the beverage container recycling system by raising payments to recyclers and allowing electronic payments for bottle redemptions.

Request for Recycling Commission Report.

14) Other issues

15) Adjournment

Next Meeting, June 3, County