

**Hazardous Waste Management Facility Allocation Committee
Draft Summary Minutes — October 28, 2005**

Attendance:

Members:

Laura Abrams, Councilmember, Orinda
John Gioia, Supervisor, Contra Costa County
Mark Green, Mayor, Union City
Mark Luce, Supervisor, Napa County
Michael Reagan, Supervisor, Solano County

Staff:

Gillian Adams, ABAG
Jennifer Krebs, ABAG
Ceil Scandone, ABAG

Alternates:

Rory Bakke, StopWaste.org/ACWMA
Robin Bedell-Waite, Contra Costa County
Rob D'Arcy, Santa Clara County
Eleanor Ratliff, Sonoma County
Narcisa Untal, Solano County

Guests:

Dianne Anderson, RecycleWorks, San Mateo Co.
Karen Smith, StopWaste.org/ACWMA

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:15 am.

Approval of Minutes of July 22, 2005 Meeting: Copies of the revised minutes from the July 22, 2005 meeting were distributed. Reagan commented that the minutes had been updated to reflect that the Solano County representative had abstained from voting, since Solano County does not make budget adjustments mid-year. Green moved for approval of the minutes, and the motion was seconded by Gioia. Minutes were approved as amended.

Universal Waste / Electronic Waste: Krebs distributed a memo outlining a proposed scope of work for FY 2005/2006. In response to direction by the Committee, the scope of work includes four project ideas developed by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) at its last meeting. The four tasks are:

1. Tracking regulatory and legislative development on Universal Wastes (U-Wastes)
2. Compiling (and/or editing) currently available educational materials on U-Wastes
3. Fact finding on local U-Waste recyclers
4. Providing information on Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) contracting issues as regards Electronic Wastes (E-Wastes)

Green asked whether the scope of work was designed to ensure the interests of all Committee members were addressed, or whether this was really deemed the best use of resources. Krebs answered that the scope was technically correct and that she expected to revisit the scope in a few months to make sure that they were on the right track.

Krebs circulated educational materials about electronic and universal wastes from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) that were distributed at its workshop about the Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator exemption that is scheduled to end in February 2006. In her report, Krebs also noted that DTSC indicated it would like the exemption to end at that time even though the details of the

collection program have not been completely thought out. DTSC staff also stated they do not have resources available to do public outreach. The issue of product stewardship was raised at the workshop, but there are currently no laws mandating this.

The discussion about electronic and universal wastes focused on the need to heighten public awareness about the scope of the problem and to educate people and local governments about the proper handling of these wastes (since there might be a liability issue for local governments).

D'Arcy questioned why this was a local government responsibility and noted the importance of involving the private sector and looking for alternative management methods. Reagan suggested looking at it as an unfunded mandate from the State and that local governments should work legislatively to get the State to do its part instead of stepping in to fill in the gap.

Krebs noted that there may be some budget available to shift to these tasks since there has been no information provided about when the 2004 and 2005 hazardous waste data will be available for analysis.

Green moved to adopt the scope of work with regular review, to include an update at the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Abrams and approved unanimously.

Letter to DTSC

Krebs presented the TAC's suggestion that the Committee send a letter to the DTSC about the scheduled sunset in February 2006 of the Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generation exemption. DTSC is asking for written comment as part of a public comment period about the proposed change.

Luce suggested the letter describe the steps the State would need to implement for the program to be successful and raise local governments' concerns about having to implement the change in a haphazard way because the State has no implementation plan. Reagan proposed speaking out against the end of the exemption as an unfunded mandate. Green highlighted the need to give a date for when the exemption would end and suggested a 1-year extension. D'Arcy also requested that the letter focus on using extended producer responsibility to deal with these wastes.

There was general support for writing the letter to DTSC in support of the extension of the exemption. It would be sent to Chair Luce for review. In addition, it was suggested that Committee members contact sympathetic legislators to work on addressing this issue.

Bedell-Waite made a motion to write the letter to DTSC. The motion was seconded by Reagan and approved unanimously.

Revised Budget and Work Plan 2005-06:

For the benefit of new members, Scandone provided background on the creation and duties of this committee, which consist of tracking treatment capacity, developing plans for managing waste and reducing hazardous waste generation. The tasks in the budget are the same as those presented in July, and include analyzing and reporting on 2004 hazardous waste data, creating a regional consumer-oriented marketing strategy for the Green Business Program, and undertaking a project to address electronic waste, universal waste or another source reduction/pollution prevention topic.

Reagan mentioned that in considering the revised budget, the Solano County Board of Supervisors needs to review the increase since they have a policy against mid-year increases. Green motion to approve the budget and work plan was seconded by Abrams and approved with acknowledgement that the Solano County funding issue needs to be resolved.

Green Business Program Updates: Scandone reported that the program has certified just under 600 Green Businesses. She expressed her pleasure working with the county coordinators because of their dedication to the Program and their efforts to improve the way it works with businesses. She noted that the Program continues to be viewed as a model and has developed important partners in every county. The Program has recently started to get unsolicited press, including mention in Sunset Magazine.

Green asked about trying to increase the number of manufacturers involved in the program. Scandone replied that the Program's emphasis is on small- and medium-sized businesses with relatively simple operations. This focus helps minimize the burden on the regulatory partners that must inspect the businesses. Bakke noted that it is also directed at businesses that are consumer-oriented.

In response to a question from Gioia about marketing efforts beyond the window decals and printed directory, Scandone mentioned the website, efforts by coordinators to work with Chambers of Commerce and provide networking opportunities, the hiring of consultants to develop a regional marketing strategy to complement local efforts, and staffing of booths at events such as the recent Green Festival.

Green inquired whether the Program has ever been the focus of an ABAG General Assembly. Scandone stated that ABAG has been discussing the possibility of making green business, green building, climate protection and other environmental topics the subject for the fall 2006 General Assembly.

Next Meeting: The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for February 4, 2006 from 10:00am to Noon at ABAG's office in the MetroCenter.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.