

**MARIN COUNTY HAZARDOUS & SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, April 22, 2021
Meeting Online Only via Zoom
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Greg Chanis, Tiburon
Joe Chinn, Ross
Todd Cusimano, Corte Madera
David Donery, San Anselmo
Dan Eilerman, County of Marin (Alt.)
Craig Middleton, Belvedere
Dan Schwarz, Larkspur
Garrett Toy, Fairfax

MEMBERS ABSENT

Cristine Alilovich, San Rafael
Adam McGill, Novato
Alan Piombo, Mill Valley
Marcia Raines, Sausalito

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Devine, Program Manager
Liz Lewis, Interim Exec. Director
Melody Mitchell, Admin Assistant I
Kishanna Townsend, Admin Services
Associate

LTF MEMBERS PRESENT

Heather Abrams, LTF TCSD
Greg Christie, LTF Alt. BCRS
Belle Cole, Biomass Recovery Project
Patty Garbarino, LTF, MSS
Renee Goddard, LTF Chair Ross Valley
Ruben Hernandez, MSS
James Iavarone, LTF MVRS
Dee Johnson, LTF Vice Chair Nov. San.
Vicki Nichols, LTF, Marin Cons League
Jason Rowley, MSS
Garth Schultz, R3 Consulting
Terri Thomas, LTF Environmental Org
Justin Wilcox, MSS

OTHERS PRESENT

Cory Bytof, City of San Rafael
Belle Cole, Biomass Recovery Project
Ruben Hernandez, MSS
James Iavarone, LTF MVRS

1. Open Time for Public Comment

Ms. Kutter, Aide to Supervisor Rodoni, District 4, shared that their office has been working on litter reduction in the County's coastal environment. They are currently in the process of drafting a resolution, working in collaboration with Sonoma County, especially Supervisor Linda Hopkins, and possibly involving Mendocino County, as well. The resolution would call to sponsor an education campaign to increase stewardship and enforcement to help eliminate trash in the environment in coastal Marin. The resolution could eventually incorporate all of Marin, but she reiterated that they are in the early stages of drafting. As part of the effort, they want to ensure that they will be coordinating with not only local Counties, but also local jurisdictions and non-profits, as many of these organizations already have many efforts and campaigns underway. She

expressed Supervisor Rodoni is very passionate about this as he was instrumental in starting the Coastal Cleanup Days decades ago. His office welcomes any questions that you may have.

2. Approval of the JPA Board Meeting Minutes from February 25, 2021

Motion: by Mr. Donery to approve the JPA Board Meeting Minutes from February 25, 2021. Second: by Mr. Eilerman. Vote: Unanimous.

Consent Calendar

3. Receive and File – FY 2019-20 Audit

Mr. Maher of Maher Accountancy delivered a brief presentation and shared that they have completed the audit and the financial statements are presented according to generally accepted accounting standards for governments. There are no exceptions and there is a clean opinion in the report. He shared quick highlights of the report, as well.

Motion: by Mr. Chinn to receive and file the 2019-20 Audit. Second: by Mr. Middleton. Vote: Unanimous.

Regular Agenda

4. Receive report from JPA Board Budget Subcommittee (Chair Toy, Alilovich, Donery and Eilerman) and Staff on Draft FY 21-22 Budget. Provide Direction to Staff for Final Draft

Mr. Devine delivered a presentation on the draft, proposed budget for FY 2021-22. He stated that the JPA Board adopted a budget development schedule and process at its last meeting on February 25, 2021, which included appointing a Budget Subcommittee consisting of Chair Toy, Ms. Alilovich, Mr. Donery, and Mr. Eilerman. Staff worked with the Subcommittee to develop the draft proposed budget that is presented today. Mr. Devine gave a brief overview of : 1) The relation of the Budget to the associated Assessments and who pays them, 2) An overview of how those assessments translate into the rates seen by the residential rate payers in the Cities and Towns, and, 3) A detailed discussion of the JPA Budget, the three funds that comprise Agency operations, with a focus on specific items that are different this year from last. He then opened the floor for questions from the Board and the public.

Chair Toy asked if SB 1383 compliance costs should be considered one-time costs or ongoing? Mr. Devine answered that there will be both one-time and ongoing costs. The newly proposed Compliance Reimbursement Fund will certainly help support the Members and Special Districts in this first year of preparations and implementation. There will, however, be different costs on an ongoing basis, which are not determined yet and will vary by jurisdiction depending on needs, capabilities of their particular hauler, and ratio of commercial accounts to residential and other factors.

Ms. Abrams, General Manager of Tamalpais Community Services District, expressed her support and appreciation for any support that the Board can offer and for the efficiencies afforded by working cooperatively.

Ms. Johnson, Vice Chair of the Local Task Force and representative of Novato Sanitary District, had a few questions regarding the proposed budget; 1) Would the Compliance Reimbursement Fund be available in in May 2022? 2) Is the intention to create MOUs or contracts for the Recyclist Software?

Mr. Devine answered yes to the first question and that the expectation is that the Board will consider submitted reimbursements in May 2022 for Board review and authorization. Procedures have not been established yet for this process but would be presented at the next meeting. In regard to Ms. Johnson's second question, Mr. Devine stated that the MOU process is undetermined at this time. Negotiations with Recyclist software have not yet begun. Additionally, as noted in the Staff Report, some complexities are forecasted in Marin, particular with five haulers and 24 franchising entities. Haulers typically have concerns about proprietary data which will have to be addressed.

Motion: by Mr. Chanis to direct staff to return with the Draft FY 21-22 Budget for approval at the May 27, 2021 JPA Board meeting. Second: by Mr. Cusimano. Vote: Unanimous.

5. Report from R3 Consulting on Draft Zero Waste Plan Update and Solicitation of Feedback and Comments from Local Task Force and General Public

Before Mr. Schultz delivered the presentation, Ms. Lewis had members of the Local Task Force introduce themselves; Ms. Goddard, LTF Chair, Ross Valley Cities, Ms. Johnson, Vice Chair and Novato Sanitary District; Ms. Abrams, Tamalpais Community Services District; Terri Thomas, Conservation Corps North Bay; Greg Christie, Bay Cities Refuse Service; Jim Iavarone, Mill Valley Refuse Service; Patty Garbarino, Marin Sanitary Service, and Vicki Nichols, Marin Conservation League. The LTF members introduced themselves and expressed their gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Schultz for his presentation, and to Board and staff, as well, for their efforts.

Mr. Schultz from R3 Consulting introduced himself and delivered his presentation on the Update to the Zero Waste Plan Feasibility Study. He stated that the Update is the same as the one delivered in the February meeting, and the intention of this presentation is to provide an opportunity for the Board, LTF, and general public to provide comment on the Draft Zero Waste objectives. He also shared that the "Organizational Assessment" portion of the project will appear before the JPA Board of Directors at a later date.

Belle Cole shared on behalf of the Biomass Recovery Study Project Group and stated that the group has been following this study closely and noted that it would be beneficial to have a goal of reaching zero net carbon emissions, and provide feasible pathways to achieve this goal, such as converting organics into compost

renewable electricity and biochar. She echoed President Biden's announcement today that America will aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50%, well below 2005 levels, by 2030, and stressed that this goal should be a priority for all groups and agencies.

Ms. Abrams commented that the Plan appears to be a very reasonable one. Tamalpais Community Services District has been working hard to achieve these goals but is stuck at 40% landfilling when they need to be at no more than 25% and have been there for quite some time. She is faced with questions from their elected Board on how they will achieve these goals, and this update can help provide a clear, reasonable plan.

Ms. Nichols asked if there was any estimation on cost recovery in Phase 4, which appears to be the most expensive and comprehensive. Schultz answered that the projects are more intended to decrease landfill disposal and minimize costs through intelligent selection of diversion projects – but are not necessarily cost recovery projects.

However, keeping organics out of the landfill, and potentially extend the life of local landfills, such as the Redwood Landfill would provide significant long term cost savings. There will also be the benefit of greenhouse gas reduction, therefore the achievement comes in the form of climate action plan objectives and mitigation of the greenhouse gas global warming effect being met.

Ms. Garbarino expressed appreciation to the Board for including LTF members in this process. She shared that Marin Sanitary Service is quite dependent on volatile, PG&E biomass markets for woody debris. MSS has been doing a lot of research and vendor investigation and is looking to implement a technology that will allow them to maintain biomass chips onsite and produce local energy. This would also support Measure C fire fuel reduction efforts. She stated that they are happy to answer any questions, and they look forward to addressing Phase 4.

Ms. Johnson stated that she highly encourages LTF members to submit comments and questions on the Zero Waste Plan Update to R3. She also discussed Phase 4 of the report regarding expanded compost facilities and noted that anaerobic digestion will be also be very important. She echoed Mr. Schultz's comments that although there may not be revenue gained from certain projects that they might also include important energy production benefits.

Mr. Iavarone, from Mill Valley Refuse Service, reported that in a phone conversation with R3 yesterday he endorsed the idea that facilities should remove as many organics out of the regular trash as possible. He asked that if rate payers know that there will be a facility that will separate the trash onsite, would the public then get the impression that they do not have to recycle or compost anymore and become less diligent? Mr. Schultz answered that this is a common question presented and that they certainly do not want to create a perverse incentive that forces more of the material to be processed at a high rate

of expense, though it will be recovered, are you going to disincentivize curbside recycling and composting. It may rely on how the hauler publicizes or not publicizes this service. Looking to Palo Alto as an example, it is a known and stated City Council policy goal that they still require, encourage and educate on curbside source separation – with a longer-term vision of being able to discontinue with the garbage processing in the future.

Mr. Christie, from Bay Cities Refuse Service commented that with all of the changes going with the past year that they are completely flexible and prepared in their operations to accommodate any necessary changes in the future due to SB 1383.

Ms. Goddard noted that representatives on the LTF represent haulers, environmental groups, residents from the Cities and Towns, Special Districts and all have a different stake in this – and that this meeting is a great opportunity for the LTF members to come together and meet with the Board in its advisory role. She asked how the LTF can work with the City Managers and R3 as this process moves forward.

Ms. Lewis stated that she was hoping to hear from the Subcommittee on this, and if any of the Directors would like to weigh in on how the LTF could assist more with finalizing the recommendations. Chair Toy spoke on behalf of the Board that they appreciate all that the LTF members do and recognized the need of a more defined role for the LTF.

Ms. Thomas echoed Ms. Garbarino's comments about working with the wood chips recycling and also what Belle Cole mentioned. She and Belle have been working with the new Wildfire Prevention Authority, who is working specifically to figure out how, with all the wood that is being removed, to treat it in an ecological fashion and reduce carbon emissions. She was also hoping this could be implemented into the final plan, and that reaching out to that particular group could be beneficial.

Mr. Eilerman thanked everyone for all the hard work in the presentation and also wanted to thank members of the LTF and the general public for their feedback and input.

Mr. Cusimano echoed Mr. Eilerman's thoughts and stated that the objectives look good. He said that he assumes the JPA Agreement will need to be updated and acknowledged there would be no organizational changes during the upcoming fiscal year—but hopes for future discussion on this.

Mr. Schultz responded that the R3 Consulting is not recommending any programmatic changes in the upcoming fiscal year, but they do see the need for organizational change. He asked that if it would be beneficial to the group, he could bring up the organizational assessments, which lays out the pathways. They are in a two-part process, which is, "what does Zero Waste Marin want to

be when it grows up?” And then make the changes that would help the Board enact. With the completion of that phase of the project, they will have an indication of what kind of future mission and vision of the Agency should be. They will then reflect back to the Board the organizational assessment report what it will take to achieve that and some of critical choices the Board will have to take. He referred to the Organization Assessment portion of the presentation and then the tentative timeline to show the group what that process would look like.

Concluding this presentation and discussion item, Mr. Schultz reshared the presentation slide with the Stakeholder Engagement Next Steps portion of the Draft Zero Waste Plan Update so that the Board, LTF members, and general public could take note. Ms. Lewis also shared that staff will also post this information on the Zero Waste Marin website.

6. Adjourn

The next scheduled JPA Board Meeting will be May 27, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.

Board Chair: Please confirm the vote on this item by reading the following items out loud after the vote.

Motion: Dan Eilerman Second: Todd Cusimano

Ayes Greg Chanis , Joe Chinn, David Donery, Craig Middleton

Dan Schwarz

Noes: None

Abstentions: None