

**MONTEREY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

9:30 A.M., Friday  
April 18, 2003

Boardroom  
Marina Landfill  
Marina, CA

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dan Albert, Chair  
Jack Barlich, Vice Chair  
Gary Bales  
William Gianelli  
Edith Johnsen  
Tom Mancini  
Sue McCloud  
David Pendergrass

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jim Perrine

**STAFF PRESENT:** J. David Myers, General Manager  
William Merry, District Engineer/Assistant General Manager  
Rob Wellington, Legal Counsel  
Richard Norton, Administrative Services Manager  
Don Prescott, Finance/Information Systems Manager  
Heidi Feldman, Public Education Coordinator  
Jim Griffith, Site Superintendent  
Harry Hunzie, Materials Recovery Facility Manager  
Rebecca Aguilar, Administrative Support Supervisor  
Julia Partida, Administrative Support Specialist  
Rodney Barber, Assistant Mechanic/OE3 Shop Steward

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Richard Leggett, Carmel Marina Corporation/Waste Management Inc.  
Chris Moss, Monterey County Water Resources Agency  
Curtis Weeks, Monterey County Water Resources Agency

**ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Notice having been duly given and the presence of a quorum established, the April 18, 2003, Regular Meeting of the Monterey Regional Waste Management District Board of Directors was called to order by Chair Albert at 9:30 a.m.

**PRESENTATION BY CURTIS WEEKS, GENERAL MANAGER OF THE  
MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY RE: SALINAS RIVER RUBBER DAM**

Curtis Weeks, General Manager of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) addressed the Board and introduced Chris Moss, Project Manager for the Salinas Valley Water Project (SVWP). Mr. Weeks stated that the MCWRA intended to develop a partnership with District staff, who thus far had been very cooperative. Chair Albert congratulated Mr. Weeks on shepherding the project to a successful vote by Salinas property taxpayers. Mr. Weeks replied that the success was to be shared between the Board of Supervisors, the MCWRA Board of Directors, and staff, since it was their combined efforts that had moved the project forward.

Mr. Weeks proceeded with his presentation, which depicted the amount of water resources in Monterey County, and causes, threats from, and contamination levels of seawater intrusion. The MCWRA has been working hard to minimize the impacts of seawater intrusion. He stated that the EIR for the SVWP was completed in 2002, going through a very extensive cost allocation process, which was a key component in getting the measure passed. The MCWRA had built the Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs to minimize the pumping that causes seawater intrusion and to provide additional water. The SVWP would provide additional infrastructure to help manage the surface and groundwater supplies. The idea was to try to reduce pumping on the coast and allow the groundwater levels to rise. A "V-Notch" spillway modification at the Nacimiento Dam was planned to accommodate the Probable Maximum Flood which would allow the storage of additional water that would be released to the rubber dam during the summer months therefore reducing pumping and seawater intrusion. The concept of raising groundwater elevations to stop seawater intrusion was simple, but the execution will be difficult because the MCWRA will have to manage the flow from a facility 100 miles away.

Mr. Weeks explained that the MCWRA had sited the rubber dam at the easterly edge of the District landfill property to eliminate or minimize any impacts. The MCWRA will compile existing groundwater data provided by District staff, drill more wells to obtain more information, do some additional modeling, and continue to monitor the groundwater elevations. The MCWRA would mitigate any problems before the groundwater rises and impacts the landfill site. The MCWRA is prepared to develop a groundwater dewatering system that would take out the water and put it back in the reservoir if necessary.

Mr. Weeks stated that the capital cost for the projects is \$18.8 million with the actual operational cost of the dam to be borne by the Zone 2C ratepayers. The MCWRA will continue the permitting process for the next six months and will continue to work with District staff on the development of the design of the dam over the next year. The MCWRA expects to begin construction in 2005 for completion in 2006.

Director Gianelli asked what percentage of the year the dam would operate. Mr. Weeks replied that the dam would operate during irrigation season, which is April through September, and from October through March the dam would be lowered to allow the river to flow. Director McCloud asked how quickly the dam could be deflated and where the funds would come from if there were any problems that needed to be mitigated. Mr. Weeks responded that the dam could be deflated within minutes and money had been allocated as part of the mitigation plan.

Board discussion followed regarding zoning, overlap, and responsibilities of other water districts. Chair Albert stated that there were many questions concerning water since many jurisdictions have problems with water supply. He asked General Manager what was the District's next step. General Manager stated that the sale of property and future water rights were issues that still needed to be clarified, but the biggest concern was the groundwater levels and potential impacts to the District site. He stated that if the additional modeling indicated that there was a problem that could not be mitigated, the District would ask the MCWRA to move the dam further upstream. Mr. Weeks stated that the dam could still be moved further upstream if necessary in order to develop a facility that was equally viable for the MCWRA and the District. Legal Counsel questioned when that determination would be made. Mr. Weeks stated that additional groundwater monitoring to get a baseline on the existing groundwater levels was necessary in order to understand how the river operates. Additional modeling was also necessary to determine whether the impacts were consistent with the preliminary modeling, and if so, the MCWRA believed those impacts could be mitigated. Director McCloud asked what were the potential impacts. General Manager explained that the District site was very close to groundwater and if the groundwater were to rise, in some areas it could come in contact with the garbage. There is also some concern regarding the stability of some areas of the landfill, especially if there was a significant rise in the groundwater level.

Director Johnsen commented that after watching Mr. Weeks' presentation, it was important to realize that the process had been very public and productive. Input was provided by those involved to try to develop a solution that was the most inexpensive and practical. The MCWRA is willing to work with the District to mitigate any impacts and she invited all the agencies to work with the MCWRA since the SVWP was an effort that would benefit the communities. She stated that she was impressed with the simplicity of the rubber dam, although there were some complicated problems that could result from it.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Director Barlich and seconded, the Board approved the following actions:

- 1) Approve Minutes of March 21, 2003 Regular Meeting.
- 2) Approve Warrants #40134 - #40345.

### ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION, DISCUSSION AND ACTION

#### **3) Authorize Three-Year Extension of Agreement with South County Regional Wastewater Authority to Accept Gilroy-Morgan Hill Biosolids**

The Board reviewed a proposed amendment to the agreement between Monterey Regional Waste Management District and South County Regional Wastewater Authority (SCRWA) and a memorandum from Senior Engineer. General Manager stated that the District had been accepting biosolids from the cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill for the past seven years and the current contract would expire May 14, 2003. He also stated that this was a great opportunity to generate additional income for the District since the biosolids were either used as alternative daily cover or composted. He stated that the SCRWA had agreed to an increase in the disposal fee from \$20 to \$25 a ton for the three years of the agreement and at the current market rate during the 4<sup>th</sup> optional year.

It was moved by Director Gianelli, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Authorize General Manager to Sign Three-Year Agreement with the South County Regional Wastewater Authority to Accept Gilroy-Morgan Hill Biosolids.*

**4) Authorize Purchase of New Microsoft Great Plains Accounting Software from Scotty Consulting Group**

The Board reviewed a memorandum from Finance/Information Systems Manager requesting authorization to purchase Microsoft Great Plains accounting software from Scotty Consulting Group at a cost of \$93,829.69. General Manager stated that the auditors were anxious for the District to upgrade its accounting software. Finance/Information Systems Manager had researched other software and recommended the purchase from Microsoft.

Director Bales' asked if the auditors had approved the software. General Manager responded that the auditors marketed another software, but one of the reasons that the Microsoft software was being recommended was its ability to interface with the software used by the auditors.

It was moved by Director Mancini, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Authorize Staff to Purchase and Implement Microsoft Great Plains Accounting Software from Scotty Consulting Group for \$93,829.69.*

**5) Authorize Issuance of Request for Proposals to Provide Uniform Service for District Employees**

The Board reviewed a memorandum from Site Superintendent regarding uniform service for District employees. General Manager stated Mission Linen has provided uniform and laundry service to the District since 1986, but recently had not been very responsive. Staff wanted to issue a request for proposals from other area laundering companies before the end of the contract with Mission Linen on August 1, 2003. Staff will return to the Board with a recommendation and final approval at the June meeting.

It was moved by Director McCloud, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Authorize Staff to Solicit Bids from Local Professional Uniform Rental and Laundering Services.*

**6) Review Employee Safety Committee Meeting Minutes for March 19, 2003**

The Board reviewed Safety Committee Meeting Minutes for March 19, 2003. General Manager stated that this had been the last meeting chaired by Senior Engineer, Rick Shedden, who had been responsible for coordinating District safety programs for the past 15 years. The new chair would be Rich Norton, Administrative Services Manager. Rick will continue to stay involved with the safety program along with other members of the management team. The Board recognized Rick for doing a good job during his tenure as chair of the employee safety committee.

It was moved by Director Barlich, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Accept Safety Committee Meeting Minutes for March 19, 2003 and Acknowledge Rick Shedden for his 15 Years of Service as Chair of the Safety Committee.*

**7) Discuss Monterey County Health Department Fee Increase**

The Board reviewed a fact sheet regarding the Monterey County Environmental Health Department (MCEHD) proposed fee increase which is due largely to California's current budget crisis, the elimination of the County general fund subsidy, and garbage permits that were paid by the franchised haulers throughout the County which would now be applied towards the County recycling programs.

General Manager stated that the MCEHD intended to collect \$450,000 from the District and the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority (SVSWA) yearly. For site licenses, \$100,000 will be collected depending on number of facilities, which would mean that the SVSWA would pay a higher portion since they have more facilities

compared to the District. He stated that the District currently pays \$0.51 a ton or about \$114,000 a year toward the cost of operating the solid waste division of the health department and would now be paying about \$190,000 depending on incoming tonnage under the proposed fee structure.

District Engineer inquired about the tire grant included in the MCEHD's 2003-2004 budget in relation to potential future increases. Mr. Jennings addressed the Board and stated that the tire grant was an annual grant provided by the California Integrated Waste Management Board for the inspection of tire facilities. Chair Albert inquired exactly where the increases would be applied. Mr. Jennings replied that the proposed increases were to reduce the number of programs that were reliant on the County general fund. There was currently a position in the Environmental Health Department that was partially funded by the general fund that would, under the proposed fee structure, be fully funded by tipping fees. The new formula would also reduce the inequity of how the fees are billed to the District and the SVSWA.

General Manager reported that under the new fee schedule, the County would be devoting more time to inspecting garbage trucks which could result in less litter and leakage on streets and highways.

#### **8) Report on Status of Big Sur Recycling Bin**

General Manager reported that an April 19, 2003 meeting with State Parks resulted in the letter reviewed by the Board from Dr. Mark Schrader, State Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Deputy Director of Acquisition and Development giving the District 30 days to remove the Big Sur recycling bin. Dr. Schrader mentions in his letter that the removal is necessary because reductions in State budgets have reduced staffing levels making it impossible to clean up around the bin. General Manager offered to reimburse the State Parks for staff's clean up time, but they said that staffing would not be available, period. General Manager stated that Mark Arsenaault of Waste Management, Inc. (WMI), and Fairlight Newman of the MCEHD have agreed to talk to Big Sur businesses to see if one of them is willing to set aside an area where blue recycling bins can be placed and made available to the public in exchange for subsidized garbage rates.

General Manager stated that with the MCEHD new disposal fee income, the responsibility for providing a recycling program to the Big Sur area should be theirs or that of WMI as part of the Carmel Marina unincorporated area garbage contract.

Board discussion followed regarding WMI's responsibility to provide recycling service to residents. General Manager responded that part of the problem was the ability to operate the garbage trucks in many rural areas with limited access to houses.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

#### **9) Status Report on Fort Ord Demolition Projects**

General Manager reviewed information on the Monterey Bay Military Housing Project that was not included in the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) variance application because the buildings being demolished do not have a high lead content. The Board also reviewed an article from *C&D Magazine* regarding the decommissioning of the former Fort Ord, and Kroeker Inc. taking that material to their own demolition facility in Fresno, CA. General Manager stated that the District has had to compete with Kroeker for the material.

District Engineer attended a meeting with FORA on April 11<sup>th</sup>. He reported to the Board that the DTSC was concerned over the lack of samples. Over the past week, another 70 locations were sampled, slowing down the process, but providing the DTSC with the necessary information that they needed in order to proceed with the variance application. Staff is hopeful that DTSC will make a decision by the end of the year.

District Engineer stated that another issue that was discussed at the FORA meeting was the Second Avenue Project consisting of 15 buildings that need to be taken to a Class I landfill because of the high lead contamination. California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) has also been busy trying to deconstruct several buildings, but it has been a slow process because the lead-based paint has permeated the wood. The CSUMB has set up a materials recovery center funded by the Army and wants to hire a contractor to see if they can deconstruct the buildings and market the material.

#### **10) Recycling, Operating, and Financial Reports**

The Board reviewed the recycling, operating, and financial reports for the month of March. Tonnage and diversion rates are up compared to February 2003 and March 2002. The District had another good month financially with net income of \$12,813. Staff plans to present the preliminary budget for fiscal year 2003-2004 to the Board for their consideration at the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Board reviewed several articles including an article from the *California County Magazine* entitled "E-waste Basics: What Local Governments Should Know" by Lesli Daniel, the Household Hazardous Waste Program Manager for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency; an article by Jerry Powell, editor and publisher of *Resource Recycling Magazine* in which he discusses the use of life cycle analysis in analyzing the value of recycling and the use of recycled materials; and an article about the District from the Rancho Rio Vista Property Owners Association Neighborhood Newsletter. Director McCloud also passed out an article on "Single Stream Recycling" in the Carmel Pine Cone.

#### **OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **11. Letter from Chair Albert to General Manager Myers Re: Process for General Manager Replacement**

The Board reviewed a letter from Chair Albert to the General Manager regarding the desire of the District Board to solicit an outside search firm to conduct the recruitment process for the replacement of the General Manager upon his retirement at the end of 2004. General Manager asked the Board if staff would solicit requests for qualifications or proposals and by what dates. Chair Albert asked that this issue be placed on the May meeting agenda in order to further discuss the timeframe.

#### **12. Letter to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Re: Sale of Power to PG&E**

The Board reviewed a letter from the General Manager to Dennis O'Keefe, Deputy Director of the Office of Market Oversight and Investigations for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding the sale of power to PG&E. FERC is investigating organizations that took advantage of the power crisis in California in 2000-2001. As stated in the letter, the District sold all of its power to PG&E during the power crisis.

**13. Letter from Intelliwaste, Inc. Re: Request to Accept Solid Waste Collected by Norcal Waste Systems, Inc. in Southern Santa Clara County**

The Board reviewed a letter from Intelliwaste, Inc. regarding the acceptance of solid waste collected in Gilroy and Morgan Hill by Norcal Waste Systems, Inc. General Manager stated that the letter had only been recently received and staff had not had the opportunity to discuss or make any recommendations to the Board, but he wanted to get some direction from the Board as to whether or not serious consideration should be given to the request. Intelliwaste, Inc. has also approached the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority (SVSWA) which is considering accepting the waste at the Crazy Horse landfill until it closes in another three or four years. If an agreement is reached with the SVSWA, the District could accept the waste for the remainder of the 10-year contract.

Chair Albert stated that if acceptance of this wastestream for 10 years would only reduce the landfill site life by 3 years, he would be interested in further discussing the possibilities of accepting the waste from the Gilroy/Morgan Hill area and asked that this issue be placed on the May meeting agenda. He also asked that staff provide the Board more information regarding potential impacts to the landfill.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board was given a copy of the memorial service program for longtime Board member Else Wickham who passed away on February 27, 2003. Else represented the unincorporated area of Monterey County from 1981 until 1999.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the April 18, 2003, Regular Meeting of the Monterey Regional Waste Management District Board of Directors was adjourned to May 16, 2003 by Chair Albert at 10:47 a.m. in memory of Else Wickham

**RECORDED BY:**

**AUTHENTICATED BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca G. Aguilar  
Administrative Support Supervisor/  
Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
J. David Myers  
General Manager