

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

9:30 A.M., Friday  
August 15, 2003

Boardroom  
Monterey Peninsula Landfill  
Marina, CA

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dan Albert, Chair  
Gary Bales  
William Gianelli  
Tom Mancini  
Sue McCloud  
David Pendergrass  
Jim Perrine

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jack Barlich, Vice Chair  
Edith Johnsen

**STAFF PRESENT:** J. David Myers, General Manager  
William Merry, District Engineer/Assistant General Manager  
Robert Wellington, Legal Counsel  
Rick Shedden, Senior Engineer  
Richard Norton, Administrative Services Manager  
Don Prescott, Finance/Information Systems Manager  
Jim Griffith, Site Superintendent  
Richard Petitt, Assistant Site Superintendent  
Harry Hunzie, Materials Recovery Facility Manager  
Heidi Feldman Public Education Coordinator  
Julia Partida, Administrative Support Specialist  
Cheryl Hall, Public Education Assistant  
Jack Cook, Assistant Materials Recovery Facility Manager  
Baldo Trujillo, Senior MRF Operator/OE3 Shop Steward  
Rodney Barber, Assistant Mechanic/OE3 Shop Steward  
Suzan Fine, Recycling Attendant/SEIU Shop Steward

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Bjorn Lundegard, City of Seaside  
Bob Roach, Monterey County Assistant Agricultural Commissioner  
Karen Schkolnick, Monterey County Health Department

**ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Notice having been duly given and the presence of a quorum established, the August 15, 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.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- 1) Approve Minutes of July 18, 2003 Regular Meeting.**
- 2) Approve Warrants #40993 - #41192.**
- 3) Authorize Preparation of Resolution of Appreciation for Outgoing Director Jim Perrine.**

**ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION, DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

**4) Provide Direction to Staff Re: District Recycling and Other Waste Diversion Operations**

General Manager reported that District staff had been planning to come to the Board to discuss Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) system modifications. Staff is recommending replacement of the current system which requires residue from the sortline be loaded into compactor boxes with a system that loads into trailers so that more material can be hauled per trip to the landfill and fewer problems with the current compactor system will occur. A second screen should also be added in order to remove more of the fine material which would provide an increase of approximately 18% in the sortline diversion rate. The use of truck trailers would require that the MRF Operators obtain Class A licenses.

As stated in the Manager's Report, the District cannot process all the material that is taken into the MRF, especially during the summer months. This does not affect diversion rates for member jurisdictions, although some very good material is taken to the landfill. General Manager stated that staff has discussed extension of the MRF operating hours, which are currently 5:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., but are concerned that it would be disruptive to employees overall. General Manager stated that staff needed direction from the Board regarding whether the current diversion rates were acceptable, should plans be made to expand the MRF in order to increase diversion rates, or should operations be decreased in order to save money especially since a rate increase is planned for January 1, 2004.

Board discussion followed regarding the District's role in recycling, requesting employee input with regards to operations, and providing the Board with positive and negative impacts of increasing or decreasing MRF operations. General Manager responded that employees have provided input as well as the employee unions. He also stated that staff needed direction from the Board because it would not be possible to increase diversion while decreasing operations. Director Perrine stated that staff needed to find a balance and provide more information to the Board. Director Pendergrass commented that by looking at the District's diversion rates for member jurisdictions, he did not see a need to make any changes. Director McCloud agreed with Director Perrine that more information needed to be provided by staff including recommended modifications and impacts to District diversion, operations, and revenue. Director Bales stated that the District has incurred many increased costs including employee benefits and workers compensation, and could possibly need a rate increase every year. He suggested that the Board consider what level of diversion rate was acceptable and at what cost to the District.

General Manager commented that it was hard to find an even balance between all member jurisdictions since not all cities have the same recycling programs. Boardmembers expressed concern that this should be an issue since the District should provide a level of service that is best for all member jurisdictions at an acceptable cost overall.

General Manager reported on the operations of the Last Chance Mercantile and the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program. Staff has been reduced by one at both operations in an effort to reduce costs. General Manager asked the Board if they had any opinions on initiating a fee for the disposal of HHW. The Board agreed that the Last Chance Mercantile was a great program. The Board also agreed that if a fee was implemented at the HHW, the program would no longer be valuable since most people would find other illegal ways to dispose of the HHW.

It was moved by Director Pendergrass, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Direct Staff to Report Back to the Board and Make Recommendations for Changes to MRF Operations to Include Impacts, Costs, and Implementation Schedule.*

**5) Schedule Public Hearing on September 19, 2003 to Consider Fee Increase Effective January 1, 2004**

The Board reviewed the proposed fee increases effective January 1, 2004. General Manager reported that the public hearing should be scheduled on September 19<sup>th</sup>, not September 15<sup>th</sup> as erroneously listed on the agenda. He stated that the rate increase had been discussed and included in the 2003-2004 budget.

It was moved by Director Mancini, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Schedule Public Hearing on September 19, 2003 to Consider Fee Increases Effective January 1, 2004.*

**6) Select New Representative to Monterey County Special Districts Association**

As stated in the Manager's report, Director Mancini agreed to serve as the District's representative to the Monterey County Special Districts Association. Chair Albert thanked Director Mancini for his willingness to serve.

It was moved by Director McCloud, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Elect Director Mancini as the New Representative to Monterey County Special Districts Association.*

**7) Consider Request for "Sudden Oak Death" Material Collection Yard at District Site**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the July 30<sup>th</sup> meeting held with representatives of the SODBusters Project and from the cities of Carmel, Monterey, and Seaside. The meeting was held at the request of Director McCloud so that discussion could be held between city foresters and SODBusters representatives. General Manager reported that, unfortunately, city foresters were unable to attend the meeting, but other city representatives were there. He contacted the foresters after the meeting and they all agreed the District site was the best location for a collection yard since most infected trees would most likely come to the District site anyway. At the meeting, it was agreed that the State would schedule a meeting with local tree trimmers to educate them on the proper handling of diseased trees and that the District should only create a collection yard if it was necessary. District staff was requesting Board approval to establish a collection yard immediately if there was a need. Director McCloud suggested that a press release be issued after the meeting with the tree trimmers about proper disposal methods and fees.

Board discussion followed regarding fees, the determination process for infected trees, and ensuring proper disposal. General Manager stated that the fees would be subsidized by the State initially and a reduced rate charged later. Bob Roach, Monterey County Assistant Agricultural Commissioner, addressed the Board and stated that foresters can usually determine, depending on the type of tree and symptoms, the disease of the tree. Monterey County does not regulate movement of quarantined material within the County so the Agricultural Commissioner is interested in working with the District, tree trimmers, and others to ensure proper disposal of the infected trees.

It was moved by Director Gianelli, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Designate a "Sudden Oak Death" Material Collection Yard at the District Site if necessary.*

**8) Consider Revisions to Management & Confidential Employee MOU to Include Assistant MRF Manager and to Allow Shift Differential Pay**

The Board reviewed a memorandum from Administrative Services Manager regarding the proposed changes to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Management and Confidential Employees Unit to include the position of Assistant MRF Manager. General Manager reported that when the MRF Manager is gone, the current Assistant MRF Manager, Jack Cook, has been in a difficult position of having to manage a large number of employees including fellow Operating Engineers (OE3) union members. This change has been approved by OE3 and management employees. The District's 2003-2004 budget is not affected by the inclusion of the Assistant MRF Manager in the Management and Confidential Unit, but in order to ensure that Jack remains in the same salary range, staff is requesting that the 2.5% shift differential pay be added to the MOU. There are no other members of this unit who would be currently eligible for the shift differential pay.

It was moved by Director Mancini, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Accept Revisions to the Management & Confidential Employee MOU to Include Assistant MRF Manager and to Allow Shift Differential Pay.*

**9) Adopt Resolution (2003-08) Declaring that Minor Change to MRF Permit is Categorically Exempt from CEQA and Authorize Permit Application to County Allowing Increased Traffic into MRF**

The Board reviewed a memorandum from District Engineer regarding a minor change to the Materials Recovery Facility Solid Waste Facility Permit and Permit application to the County allowing increased traffic into the MRF. The Board also reviewed Resolution 2003-08 declaring that the minor change to the facility permit is categorically exempt from CEQA. The change would combine the MRF daily vehicle count of 399 and the landfill daily count of 528 for a total maximum daily count of 927. General Manager reported that staff has discussed the change with the California Integrated Waste Management Board staff and they agree that it is categorically exempt from CEQA.

Director McCloud asked what method was used by staff in order to project the number of vehicles in the future. General Manager responded that this was only an interim change combining the existing daily MRF and landfill traffic of 927. He stated that staff intends to initiate a solid waste facility permit revision process, which will take up to one year, to combine the MRF and landfill solid waste facility permit into one joint technical document and one solid waste facility permit. At that time, projections will be made for increased vehicle traffic in the future and a CEQA process will also be necessary.

It was moved by Director Perrine, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Adopt Resolution 2003-08 Declaring that Minor Change to MRF Permit is Categorically Exempt from CEQA and Authorize Permit Application to the County Allowing Increased Traffic to the MRF.*

**10) Authorize Issuance of RFP for Design and Construction of Landfill Gas Collection Pipeline**

The Board reviewed a memorandum from District Engineer requesting authorization to issue a request for proposals to design and build a new landfill collection header to Module 4 and to relocate the landfill gas header to Module 3. General Manager stated that upon anticipation of approval of the sliver fill by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, the landfill gas collection line will need to be moved and extended to Module 4. As stated by the District Engineer, there are only two firms, EMCON/OWT and SCS Engineers, who are well-qualified to do this work. Funds for this item are included in the 2003-2004 budget.

Board discussion followed regarding the current revenue from the landfill gas project and increased revenue with the new collection headers. General Manager stated that there is a potential for increased revenue from the gas project with the new headers, and revenue from the landfill gas project was higher in fiscal year 2002-2003 because of an extra payment.

It was moved by Chair Albert, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Authorize Issuance of RFP for Design and Construction of Landfill Gas Collection Pipeline.*

**11) Accept Employee Safety Committee Minutes for June 25, 2003**

It was moved by Director McCloud, seconded, and *Unanimously Carried To: Accept Employee Safety Committee Minutes for June 25, 2003.*

**STAFF REPORTS****12) Status Report on South Santa Clara County (Norcal) Waste Negotiations**

General Manager reported that negotiations between Norcal and the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority (SVSWA) continue regarding the acceptance of Santa Clara County Waste. The SVSWA cancelled their August Board meeting. Staff will continue to keep the Board advised as more information becomes available.

**13) Status of Fort Ord Demolition Projects**

General Manager reported on the status of the Fort Ord demolition projects. He stated that Clark Pinnacle had notified him that they are ready to bid on the demolition contract for 1,700 Single Family Units in the US Army Enclave and 600 Single Family Units for the Naval Postgraduate School.

Director Mancini asked which city had received the diversion credit for the 14 stable buildings demolished by CSUMB. District Engineer responded that the majority of the buildings had been highly contaminated with lead and were taken to a Class I landfill so there had been no diversion credit. General Manager stated that District Engineer had met with the Chadmar Group, the developer of the Marina Heights and Cypress Knolls, in an effort to ensure that the demolition material is brought to the District site. Staff has encouraged FORA and the cities of Marina and Seaside as well. He also stated that Clark Pinnacle, as well as other developers are searching for the lowest disposal rate. In the future, staff may request that the Board authorize a lower disposal rate for the Fort Ord demolition waste so that it is brought to the District site.

**14) Financial, Operating, and Recycling Reports**

The Board reviewed the financial, operating, and recycling reports for July.

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

General Manager stated that the Board may want to cancel the October Board meeting that was rescheduled to the 24<sup>th</sup>, if there are no pressing items that require Board action. This will be considered at the September 19th meeting.

Chair Albert stated that the September Board meeting will be the last meeting that Director Perrine will attend.

General Manager reported that staff had purchased a used Scarab compost windrow turner authorized by the Board at a cost of \$85,000, \$40,000 less than budgeted.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the August 15, 2003, Regular Meeting of the Monterey Regional Waste Management District Board of Directors was adjourned to September 19, 2003 by Chair Albert at 10:20 a.m.

**RECORDED BY:**

**AUTHENTICATED BY:**

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Julia Partida  
Administrative Support Specialist/  
Recording Secretary

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J. David Myers  
General Manager