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# MONTEREY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

*Home of the Last Chance Mercantile*

## Monterey Regional Waste Management District/Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority July 20, 2009 Meeting Summary

A meeting between representatives of the Monterey Regional Waste Management District and the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority was held on June 20, 2009. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss solid waste and recycling matters of mutual interest and to explore areas for working together.

**Attendees:** MRWMD: Chair Laska, Vice Chair McCloud, Director Bales, Assistant General Manager Tim Flanagan, General Manager William Merry

SVSWA: Chairman Calcagno, Boardmember Donohue, Boardmember Ortiz, General Manager/CAO Patrick Mathews, Assistant General Manager Jose Gamboa

### Action Items

- Meet again in 60 days or so, General Managers to select one discussion topic for meeting.
- Work together to study alternative rate structures to accommodate a new business model that anticipates declining tipping fee revenues from increased diversion.
- North County trash could be considered for delivery to Monterey Peninsula Landfill (MPL), if SVSWA remains whole financially. Staffs create "pros and cons" list for next meeting, then bring report to Boards.
- Share Strategic Plans between SVSWA/MRWMD.
- Look for opportunities to work together to avoid duplication of capital spending/programs.

### Discussion Points from Meeting

1. Two collection franchises cause challenges to County, disparities in services/costs.
2. May make sense to have just one landfill in County; what would cost be to run just one landfill? Or have just one landfill for North County; use Johnson Canyon Landfill for South County area.
3. SVSWA is working on future without landfills; economic development opportunities for entire Salinas Valley. Want time to execute SVSWA Game Plan, need to hear more about what that means in terms of SVSWA programs, before making decisions that might cut short good initiatives.
4. SVSWA long range financial planning under way.
5. SVSWA believes a transfer station is needed in City of Salinas to serve residents.

6. It was generally agreed that North County waste could come to MPL since travel distance is significantly less than going to Johnson Canyon Landfill, as long as SVSWA is whole financially in the process.
7. Execute visions to not duplicate or impede each others efforts.
8. There appears to be an interest in working together on certain matters, staff to investigate further areas.
9. Public and private merger discussions are premature. There is no interest in merger now, but not off the table for future. Focus more on joint areas of interest and mutual benefit.
10. Next meeting: continue discussions on future plans, finances. Staff selects one topic as priority for discussion.

Salinas looking at “economic development” associated with SVSWA facilities including wind, solar, trash to energy. San Jose technology is just up the road and could be brought to the Salinas Valley economic development zone. MRWMD pursuing waste reduction, increased recycling, composting and renewable energy production.

It was agreed this is a good time for discussions, without looming deadlines.