



Memorandum

MONTEREY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Reviewed by Wmm Date 1/8/10
General Manager

DATE: January 8, 2010
TO: General Manager
FROM: Public Education and Recycling Manager
SUBJECT: Summary of 2009 District Accomplishments

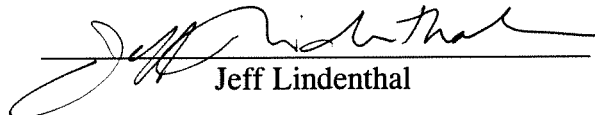
Summary of 2009 District Accomplishments

The year 2009 will be remembered for many things including a continued decline in disposal tonnages at the District and across the country, and the ensuing discussion throughout the solid waste industry of the long-term imperative to identify and implement alternative funding mechanisms.

Closer to home, the wide range of programs carried out by District staff play a major role in the environmental stewardship of the Monterey Bay region. District managers compiled the attached summary of key accomplishments achieved in 2009. Most of all, the Summary of 2009 Accomplishments is a real tribute to the employees of the District that carry out these activities and programs throughout the year on behalf of our member agencies and the public.

Strategic Planning Impact

Ab: Program focus on public awareness, increased diversion of organics and commercial wastes, proper management of hazardous and prohibited materials, litter abatement, and sustainability.


Jeff Lindenthal

Attachment

SUMMARY OF 2009 DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)

- Since April of 2009, MRF employees diverted and transported to market 2,125,170 lbs (1,062 tons) of scrap metal and CRV materials for approximately \$206,000 in revenue while saving \$20,000 in transportation charges by hauling ourselves. This was made possible by having the new roll-off trucks and drop-boxes.
- In a joint effort with Last Chance Mercantile (LCM), the MRF began a scrap wire (house wire, appliance cords, computer cords, etc.) recycling program which has resulted in additional revenue of approximately \$2,500/month.
- With the installation and improved grinding capabilities of the new electric grinder, the MRF has been able to implement an asphalt roofing material diversion and recycling program. The material is diverted on the tipping floor, cleaned up for processing, including recovering the scrap metal, and then processed through the new grinder. Once processed, the material is used by site operations for roadwork and temporary repairs. Approximately 500 tons of the material has been diverted since starting the program in July.
- The sort line operation was reorganized in order to maximize the recovery of high revenue material types such as scrap metal, California Redemption Value (CRV) materials, OCC, etc. A small modification was added to A-room (on the sort line) to better distribute CRV materials for easier and more efficient recovery during the bi-weekly high grading of this type of material on the sort line.

LCM, Recycling Drop-off, Household Hazardous Waste Program (HHW)

- The LCM had another record year for sales and for the first time revenue covered its cost to operate: \$690,000 in sales, \$92,000 in CRT revenue. (\$782,000 combined, with a \$772,000 cost to operate.)
- Received and recycled 830,000 lbs of e-waste, an increase of 115,000 lbs over 2008.
- Increased the number of customers through a local campaign utilizing Facebook.
- Working with the MRF, added additional recycling drop-off area boxes to allow customers to segregate CRV material (instead of commingling) and greatly increase efficiencies in recovery and high-grading operations.
- Exceeded 10,000 customers and accepted more than 560,000 lbs of hazardous waste.
- Reused or recycled 60% of all materials received.

Landfill, Site Operations, Scales

- Successfully completed final cover on sliver fill which encompassed the largest acreage (3.8 acres) in its 4 year history in 2009. Since 2006, over 11 acres of landfill slopes have been steepened and closed under this initiative.
- Improved preparation for the wet winter months.
- An RFI amendment was completed allowing expansion of the Landfill Gas (LFG) monitoring probe network and collection system.
- The first baseline surface emissions monitoring study was complete in advance of regulatory requirements; these studies become mandatory on a quarterly basis in 2011.
- Working with a reduced staff, continued to maintain District facilities, clean-up litter, provide maintenance and support to public education program, and all other departments.
- Has efficiently educated and enforced the “no tarping” double charge, reducing the frequency of non-compliant customers.

LFG Facility and Information Technology (IT)

- Installation of new Jenbacher 1.4 megawatt engine/generator.
- Addition of second gas skid to provide redundancy and improved capacity to dry the gas.
- The LFG to Energy Program was registered with the Climate Action Reserve, one of the only landfills in California to achieve this registration, which will allow the District to sell carbon offset credits.
- Power sales revenue was increased following a new interim agreement negotiated with PG&E for the energy produced by engine units #1 and #4.

MRF/Shop Maintenance

- Successfully completed the maintenance to the sort line, reducing of number of downtime hours by finishing a week ahead of schedule.
- Continued to maintain the level of timely maintenance to the MRF equipment, along with assuming janitorial responsibilities, with 3 fewer staff.
- 100% participation in monthly safety meetings and online training.
- Conducted in-house complex repairs, thus reducing the need to outsource them, saving thousands of dollars, and reduced staff by 1.

Accounting

- Issued over 2,350 accounts payable check and over 2,900 payroll checks.
- Processed over 6,500 personnel leave slips.
- Prepared and sent out over 3,500 customer statements
- Complied with all regulatory reporting requirements, e.g., sales and use taxes, quarterly and annual Federal and state payroll taxes, used oil, etc.
- Prepared monthly Financial Statements, Annual Budget and Annual Audit.

Public Education

- The LCM Facebook page was launched and now has more than 1,000 fans, and a District page was introduced that has attracted more than 500 fans.
- Video “virtual tours” of the Landfill, LCM, LFG and MRF operations can now be viewed from the District website, and more tours are in production and coming soon.
- 49 tours of the District facilities were provided to over 1,500 local students ranging from 1st graders to college students.
- The Bag Monsters were introduced, sending a highly visible message to reduce, reuse and recycle, to thousands of people while participating in 5 local parades, as well as the Monterey County Fair and Earth Day at Monterey Peninsula College.

Safety

- Documented benchmarks for staff include higher completion percentages of monthly safety inspections of all facilities and bi-monthly safety meetings.
- In order to increase accessibility of safety training, computer-based training was provided, increasing participation by 14%.

Administration

- Day in and day out, Administrative Support staff help keep the business of the District moving forward. Each day is different. Each day is a challenge. Each day is performed to District standards, with multiple projects to organize and prioritize, all while working with a wide range of attitudes, with calmness and a genuine willingness to help.
- Frustrated with phone menus and transfers when you call other businesses with a question? Not when you call District – the phone rings and the administrative support staff answers. Over the years the public has become accustomed to calling the District first to find the answer they need, whether it’s a question about what to put in their recycling bin, or where to drop off their Christmas tree for recycling.
- In so many ways, the administrative support staff is the glue that binds District operations together!