

Monterey Regional Waste Management District

Technical Advisory Committee

Minutes of June 12, 2019 Meeting (9-11 am)

Attending: Representatives from Carmel, Pacific Grove, Pebble Beach, Sand City, Seaside, Marina, and MRWMD staff. Agencies Not Represented: Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, Monterey County.

Update on recycling markets and District MRF operation

MRWMD Operations Director Tim Brownell provided an overview of recycling support being provided for the US Open. The District has joined the California carpet recycling (CARE) program and expects to divert 150 tons of carpet, 300 tons of wood, plus recyclables and food waste from the Open. The approximately 250,000 sq ft of carpet used at the event will be transported to the District and made available for reuse at the LCM or diverted to carpet recycling. Overall, the goal is to achieve 70% or greater diversion from the event.

Recycling markets continue to be challenging especially for mixed paper which currently has a -\$25 per ton value. Stable markets exist for plastic containers coded #1, #2, and #5 along with mixed rigid plastics. Approximately 25% of the materials received in single stream recycling deliveries are not recyclable. The District will conduct a second recycling characterization study this summer and the results will provide an indication of whether contamination levels are trending up or down and will help staff evaluate the effectiveness of education and outreach programs.

Update on District Budget and removal of \$40 per ton single stream recycling credit

MRWMD Finance Director Peter Skinner provided an overview of the District preliminary budget for FY19/20.

Major budget elements include:

- Operational costs and staffing are largely unchanged.
- New MRF processing fee of approximately \$40 per ton will be assessed to single stream recycling delivered from outside the Monterey Peninsula area
- The \$40 per ton credit for single stream recycling currently provided to GreenWaste Recovery (GWR) for the agencies they serve will be removed. Removing this credit which GWR receives as a credit against their disposal fees, will have an estimated impact of a 2-3% increase on residential and commercial rates changed by GWR.
- No disposal fee increases are proposed; minimum charges for disposal and yard waste will increase from \$15 to \$20, and \$7 to \$10 respectively.

Overall, disposal revenue represents 70% of budgeted revenues, the goal is to drive this down to 50% in future years by continuing to diversify the revenue base.

Update on Anaerobic Digestion pilot project and Organics

General Manager Tim Flanagan described recent changes in the economics of the Anaerobic Digestion (AD) project operation. Due to a permitting issue with PG&E, the utility is not allowing Monterey One Water to receive and purchase the electricity produced in the AD project. The District is contractually obligated to purchase this electricity from AD project owner Zero Waste Energy for 12 cents per kW (the price Monterey One Water formerly paid). This puts the District in the position of selling the power back to PG&E under its own contract at a sale price of < 5 cents per kW, a significant loss. As the AD project is at capacity with incoming tonnage, our composter on site, Keith Day Company, has implemented an aerated static pile compost process (ASP) and excess food waste tonnage is now delivered to the ASP compost area.

Status of GWR financial submittal and cost-based rate review by HF&H; timeline to implement rate adjustments

Rob Hilton provided the following written update for the committee:

- “GWR has not submitted complete information yet (we have a narrative basis for allocations of costs, but no numbers or calculations demonstrating the allocation was performed in that way); and the cost info we have doesn’t reconcile (their rate applications don’t tie to their income statement).
- We are working with GWR staff to get them into compliance and are working ahead of them where we can to minimize any further delay. That said, we can’t do our work without accurate and complete information and we don’t have that yet.
- At this point, we will shoot to have the rate adjustment and Council processes done in time for an October 1 rate adjustment. In the meantime, rates stay where they are until we can complete the process.”

Review of Q1 GreenWaste Recovery business metrics by jurisdiction

The first quarter of 2019 demonstrated significant growth in food scrap compost program participation and tonnage across all jurisdictions. Overall, diversion is slightly up, however while MSW tonnage is lower and yard waste and food waste tons have increased, a decrease in recyclables tonnage has offset some of these diversion gains.

Del Rey Oaks, Pebble Beach Community Services District, and Sand City all made great strides in AB1826 compliance with 15%, 35%, and 13% increases in food scrap compost program participation respectively.

Drop Box revenues continue to come in lower than anticipated for the majority of Agencies.

Dave Hilton provided the following written comments to the committee:

- “I still have outstanding questions/items for confirmation for GWR. These pertain to the increase seen in yard trimmings tonnage, increase in debris box tonnage and resulting diversion, and the decrease seen in solid waste tons, particularly Del Rey Oaks and Seaside commercial sectors.
- We have asked for clarification about how they are calculating some of their participation metrics. This quarter, I have asked with a particular example demonstrating the issue: The Marina report states that 56 of the 182 customers that fall under the 2019 threshold for AB1826 are participating in organics recycling. However, in this same timeframe there are at most 50 total food waste or yard trimmings containers for all MFD and Commercial customers. As you can see those two figures are hard to reconcile and I think we need to dig deeper into this issue as we rely on their reports and the figures therein for monitoring and CalRecycle reporting purposes.”

Household Hazardous Waste COLLECTION EVENT

Saturday, June 29, 2019
9 AM – 2 PM

ONE DAY ONLY!

Monterey Peninsula College - Parking Lot A
980 Fremont St, Monterey, CA 93940

Sponsored by the
Monterey Regional Waste Management District



Clean out the garage, under the sink and bring your unwanted or unused toxic household products to this collection event.

Products considered HHW contain hazardous ingredients and are labeled with words such as danger, poison, flammable, corrosive and toxic. It is illegal to dispose of HHW in the trash, sewer or storm drain, so bring them to us!



Turning Waste
Into Resources

ACCEPTED ITEMS INCLUDE:

- **Household Products**
cleaners, aerosols, solvents, pest control, adhesives
- **Paint Products**
paint, stain, varnish, thinner
- **Outdoor Products**
pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, pool chemicals, cements
- **Auto Products**
fuel, motor oil, filters, cleaners, antifreeze, fluids, batteries
- **Health & Personal Care Products**
over the counter medications, medical sharps (in approved containers), beauty supplies
- **Universal Waste**
household batteries, fluorescent light bulbs / tubes, mercury thermostats and thermometers
- **Electronic Waste**
monitors, TVs, VCRs, phones, microwaves, computers & peripherals, office machines, stereo equipment

NOT ACCEPTED:

- Business waste
- Asbestos
- Radioactive waste
- Compressed gas
- Large appliances
- Tires
- Explosives / ammunition
- Medical / laboratory waste
- Air conditioners

DO package in sturdy, non-leaking, tightly closed containers, no larger than 5 gallons.

DO keep products in their original packaging, or label products that no longer have original labels

DO place items securely in a box, in ventilated space, away from passengers (such as truck bed or trunk) – We'll unload them for you!

DON'T mix products together

DON'T transport more than 15 gal. / 125 lbs.

For more information about this event, please visit www.mrwmd.org or call (831) 384-5313.

If you can't make it to this event, you can bring your HHW to the MRWMD collection facility Tuesday – Saturday, 9 AM – 4 PM, 2 miles North of Marina.