

# MINUTES



The Finance Committee met on January 4, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., at the District administrative offices and via Zoom virtual conference. Committee members in attendance were Directors Laska, Shirley. Staff members in attendance were Felipe Melchor, Guy Petraborg, Helen Rodriguez, Zoe Shoats, Jay Ramos, Garth Gregson, Berta Torres, David Ramirez, Randy Evanger and Ida Gonzales. Legal counsel Rob Wellington and Mayo Ryan of Sitos Group were also in attendance.

## **1. Approve November 2, 2022 Finance Committee Minutes**

The Committee approved the minutes of the November 2, 2022 Finance Committee meeting.

## **2. Discuss Landfill Equipment Guidance System**

Staff presented information on a landfill equipment guidance system. The system will provide information about the landfill staff about site elevations, compaction rates and equipment locations on the landfill. This will result in improved waste fill build quality and reduced rework on the landfill. Staff has been in contact with vendors and has obtained pricing and implementation information. The price the system including implementation and training is less than \$400,000. The F2023 budget includes \$500,000 for the purchase of this system. There was discussion and the Committee recommended this item be presented to the Board at the January meeting for approval.

## **3. Discuss Sitos Group's Biochar Technology Pilot Study**

Staff presented information about a proposed pilot project to repurpose wood and green waste material and biosolids into a stable carbon called biochar. This product can be sequestered in soil or construction materials. Mayo Ryan, the CEO of Sitos Group was present at the meeting and he provided additional about the pilot project. Sitos proposes to set up pyrolysis equipment on District property that would use food and green waste material the District receives to convert to biochar material. The pilot study would operate for one year from about June 2023 to June 2024 after which time the results would be evaluated to determine if it was practical to permanently install pyrolysis equipment on District property. Sitos Group will supply, install and maintain all the equipment at the District. There was discussion and the Committee recommended this item be presented to the Board at the January meeting for approval.

## **4. Declaration of Surplus Equipment**

Staff presented information about three pieces of mobile equipment that are considered surplus. The original cost of the equipment was \$444,800 and they were acquired between 1999 and 2006. The equipment has no value in the District financial records. Staff expects that two of the items (loader and bull dozer) have some market value and the third item (truck) should be scrapped. There was discussion and the Committee recommended this item be presented to the Board at the January meeting for approval.

## **5. Update of Joint Feasibility Study for Organic Waste Processing, Microgrid, and Renewable Energy**

Staff presented an update on the status of the joint feasibility study with Monterey One Water (M1W). GHD has been selected to complete the feasibility study. The study is being co-

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*Let's not waste this.*



managed by the MRWMD Director of Engineering and the Assistant General Manager of M1W. This item was presented for information and updates will be given at future meetings.

#### **6. General Manager Communications**

The General Manager gave information on the following items:

1. The District Social Committee raised \$3,500 during the Holiday season that was donated to the Salvation Army
2. Customer feedback from the early site closure on December 3. Overall customer feedback was positive.
3. The District passed its inspection by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Board.
4. The District received recognition from the Special Districts Risk Management Association for having five years of no paid business and liability insurance claims.

The Committee went into Closed Session at 10:20 a.m.

**Next Meeting Date:** February 1, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.