

GLENN COUNTY
WASTE MANAGEMENT REGIONAL AGENCY
A JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

MINUTES
January 25, 2024

*****THIS MEETING WAS RECORDED AND FURTHER DETAIL CAN BE HEARD ON THE
GLENN COUNTY WEBSITE*****

1. CALL TO ORDER

Member Arnold called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS:

Tom Arnold, County of Glenn

Grant Carmon, County of Glenn

Bruce Roundy, Orland

Forrest Sprague, Willows

Gary Hansen, Willows - Alternate

ABSENT:

Evan Hutson, Willows

COUNTY STAFF PRESENT:

Don Rust, PW Director

Talia Richardson, PW Deputy Director

Jolene Swanson, PW Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT:

Diana Ramirez, Waste Management Public Sector Manager

Tony Prochaska, Waste Management Recycling Education Representative

Susie Smith, Glenn Resident

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4. ELECTIONS OF CHAIRMAN & VICE-CHAIRMAN

MATTER 4.1: Nominate 2024 Chairman & Vice-Chairman

Documents: None

Proceedings: Member Arnold introduced the item, calling for nominations of Chairman.

Alternate Member Hansen nominated Member Carmon. Hearing no further nominations, Member Arnold asked those in favor.

Order: Approve Member Carmon as 2024 Chairman.

Yea: Unanimous

Proceedings: Member Arnold called for nominations of Vice-Chairman.

Alternate Member Hansen nominated Member Arnold. Hearing no further nominations, Member Arnold asked those in favor.

Order: Approve Member Arnold as 2024 Vice-Chairman.

Yea: Unanimous

Member Carmon took over as Chair to continue meeting

5. MINUTES

MATTER 5.1: APPROVE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 26, 2023

Documents: Minutes of October 26, 2023

Proceedings: Chair Carmon introduced the item, calling for corrections or additions. Hearing none, Chair Carmon asked for a motion.

Motion/Second: Member Arnold / Member Sprague

Order: Approve minutes of the October 26, 2023 meeting, as presented.

Vote: Unanimous

(Member Roundy abstained as he was not on the committee at the time and did not read the minutes).

6. UNSCHEDULED ITEMS

Talia Richardson shared request from WM to create Ad-hoc Committee.

Glenn County resident, Susie Smith, inquired how to find the WM Collection service calendar and if they offer any senior discounts.

Chair Carmon shared there will be a senior fair in June that WM will be attending to share this type of information.

Mrs. Richardson added we will post the WM service calendars on the Glenn County website.

Ms. Smith stated seniors are not always on the website as some don't have or use computers.

Mrs. Richardson shared there is a Public Education Plan in place and shared a handout with the committee members regarding this.

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7. ACTION ITEMS

None

8. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

MATTER 8.1 SOLID WASTE OPERATIONS UPDATE

Documents: Glenn County Solid Waste (GCSW) Update – 01/25/24

Proceedings: Chair Carmon introduced the item.

Mrs. Richardson went over the GCSW Update and touched on the following:

Tonnage – 2023 tonnage received through December 31, 2023 was 28,735, sent to Anderson Landfill is 26,740, tonnage recycled is 1,307. Currently working on public education to inform them that mattress and carpet recycling is free. Consumers pay a recycling fee up front when purchasing mattresses.

Beverage Contain Recycling Cities/County Payment Program – Working with Joe Bettencourt, City of Willows, and county General Services staff on their park projects; getting water stations and recycling containers. If you hear of any needs from the school districts, city parks departments, etc., please have them reach out to us. We still have funding available for trash & recycling containers and water filling stations.

Household Hazardous Waste Discretionary Grants – Carl's Feed and Orland Ace Hardware are now exchange centers for the 1 lb. reusable propane cylinders. We have done radio ads, social media campaigns, advertisement on the website, we handed out flyers at the Transfer Station event, and both exchange centers have signage.

Local Government Waste Tire Amnesty Grant – Had an event last November which we collected 644 tires and event in December which collected 1,239. We have funding available and have reached out to CalRecycle for approval to hold an Ag waste tire event. The Ag events are a little more difficult as vouchers are required due to the cost of recycling these large tires and we have to put a cap on how many we can take in. Member Hansen inquired if there is still a limit per load. Mrs. Richardson confirmed there is a limit of nine (9) per load. If you plan on hauling more than 9 at one time, you must obtain a permit to haul from the Environmental Health Department.

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Used Oil Payment Program (OPP) – Although we do have multiple certified collection centers, currently the Transfer Station is the only “Ag oil” collection center. We are looking at adding an additional tank, with available funding, as we reach capacity fairly often.

Community Clean Up Day – Mrs. Richardson wanted to open with conversation on thoughts for locations. The cities of Orland and Willows have specific locations that seem to work out very well. The county has had events in Hamilton City and at the Transfer Station, which have been very successful. The Transfer Station is very centrally located for most. Member Hansen inquired on Butte City, as it has been brought up in the past. Mrs. Richardson stated we have looked into this but, unfortunately, haven’t found a location that is safe with all the traffic that it created by these events.

SB 1383 Local Assistance Grant Program – Environmental Health continues to work on the edible food recovery, which is the largest portion of the grant right now. We met with CalRecycle at the end of 2023 and they reminded us that they will begin audits to confirm our record keeping and implementation of their programs is being done properly. Member Roundy inquired where the edible food recovery is now, as he has been very involved in the food banks and wondering if we are there yet. Mrs. Richardson replied yes, Environmental Health is responsible for managing that portion of the program, enforcing this program when doing their regular health inspections. We did a site visit, with CalRecycle, to a food bank, to get feedback on issues they may be having getting food, the types of food, and how they are storing the food. CalRecycle will be putting out grants in the future to assist the food banks on collecting the types of food needed. We face difficulties in the rural areas with getting food from the tier 1 and tier 2 businesses to the food banks, as the food banks are not open 24 hours. Member Sprague inquired what tier 1 and tier two meant. Mrs. Richardson replied it is the size determination of the business and how much food waste is created, which determines their requirements of donation versus disposal. Member Hansen inquired when the rural counties will be required to follow the edible food recovery requirements. Mrs. Richardson stated 2026. Diana Ramirez shared WM was granted a ten-million-dollar (\$10,000,000) grant from CalRecycle to build a compost processing facility at the Anderson Landfill. The largest grant WM has ever received in history. This will be a huge help and WM would like to thank the agency for the letters of support last year...IT WORKED! Mrs. Richardson followed up that part of the SWMP will intel how we collect and process this waste and get it to Anderson Landfill.

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Member Sprague inquired if the organic waste would be mixed with or separate from the green waste. Mrs. Ramirez responded the idea is to mix the two. Currently, the green waste is an add-on option for the cities of Willows and Orland but, WM is looking to possibly make it part of the bundle once the organic waste begins. At that time the county residents will also be given the same bundle option, as they don't have the green waste option currently. WM left room in the contract as they weren't sure how the infrastructure was going to work. The biggest change will be for the commercial customers that generate food waste; it will require a bit more effort on their part. Member Sprague commented the green waste is picked up every other week currently, would this change. Mrs. Ramirez stated it would have to be picked up weekly at that time.

Illegal Dumping 2023 – County resident, Ms. Smith, inquired the responsible way to dispose of dead animals. Mrs. Richardson replied, legally, we can not accept dead animals at the Transfer Station; you need to reach out to a rendering plant, as they have to be direct buried. Also, Neal Road Landfill in Chico will accept dead animals. Mrs. Richardson continued report on illegal dumping as Public Works continues to receive a number of calls each week for illegal dumping. Another issue is un-tarped loads that come to the Transfer Station; we are having a very high occurrence. The county code states “all loads being transported for disposal must be tarped”. There is a fifteen dollar (\$15) fine, however, staff is receiving a lot of push back from customers. We are actively working on a public education plan to get out in both English and Spanish. It may be time, at the next Master Fee Schedule update, to consider an increase to this fine to discourage those who continue to fail to tarp their loads, as this is how a lot of the debris is lost on the side of the road. Member Hansen suggested working with the Sheriff Department as they can issue citations to offenders; not sure of the current cost of that moving violation. Maybe they can place a deputy in the area, especially Saturdays. Member Roundy commended the Public Works department. He has been a citizen for fifty years and has definitely noticed a decrease of trash/mattresses along the roads. Member Hansen added, unfortunately, it's not that there is less trash being lost/dumped, it's the Public Works department that is doing a good job at keeping it picked up at the tax payer's expense. Member Sprague shared that many years ago we use to charge the fine while also giving out inexpensive tarps to offenders; we may want to consider that again.

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- MATTER 8.2** **MCR – Mandatory Commercial Recycling 2024 Compliance**
Documents: AB 341 – Letter of Compliance, Certification, Recycling Flyer
Proceedings: Mrs. Richardson reviewed the above documents with the members stating these items will be mailed out to those out of compliance, once we receive the Q4 report from WM. Those that do not respond will receive a second notification from us. If they still don't respond, then WM will reach out to bring into compliance. This year we are down to twenty-five companies that are out of compliance.
- MATTER 8.3** **CalRecycle Annual Visit**
Documents: None
Proceedings: Mrs. Richardson reported that in December Public Works, Planning and Community Development, Environmental Health, and WM staff attended the annual CalRecycle meeting. Discussions were had on diversion rates, SB 31 compliance, and we toured the Willows Food Bank and Transfer Station. It was a great time for us to discuss any issues each were facing. Adding, she received an email afterwards from CalRecycle letting us know how much they appreciated the work we are all doing together and how impressed they were with the Transfer Station and the cleanliness.
- MATTER 8.4** **Solid Waste Master Plan Update**
Documents: None
Proceedings: Mrs. Richardson reported we advertised for SWMP and received no formal proposals. However, that means we were able to sole source. We reached out to known consultants requesting proposals and are awaiting those which, we should have in the next couple of weeks for further update. Once reviewed, we will submit to BOS for approval.
- MATTER 8.5** **Transfer Station Generator Update**
Documents: None
Proceedings: Mrs. Richardson reported we have tasked Lawrence & Associates to provide the engineering and consultant services to prepare the preliminary designs and specifications for the Transfer Station. That should be out by the end of this week. We will then bring to the BOS for approval to advertise. Hoping to have someone in before the end of this fiscal year to install the larger generator. The small generator we currently have will only run the gate shack during power outages; we are unable to open or close the roll up doors to the Transfer Station and have no fire suppression. When there is a “known” power outage (also

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known as a Public Safety Power Shutoff or PSPS), we stage an additional water truck and reach out to the fire department to inform them that we have no fire suppression in the event of a fire. We do have Ag/Air come out annually for inspections which includes making sure we have the required fire break areas.

MATTER 8.6

Franchise Fee Follow Up

Documents:

None

Proceedings:

Mrs. Richardson briefly reported on how the franchise fee revenue effects the tipping fee. Once the Q4 reports are received from WM, she will have more accurate information at the next meeting in April. Looking at the 2022/2023 budget actuals, we received one hundred thirty-one thousand dollars (\$131,000) in state aid for disaster and the SB 1383 grant. This was unanticipated revenue. Currently, one hundred percent (100%) of the revenue the county receives from the franchise fee is put back into the solid waste fund but, the revenue the cities receive is not. If we were to remove the franchise fee revenue the county puts in, we would have to increase the tipping fee by six dollars and 80 cents (\$6.80) per load, minimum, to break even.

Member Sprague reiterated, for clarification, what you are stating is, if the two cities were to contribute a portion of their franchise fee revenues to the solid waste fund, we would not have to increase the tipping fee. Mrs. Richardson replied correct. Next meeting we will come back with a presentation showing where the trash is coming from in terms of quantity from each city and the unincorporated area.

Chair Carmon requested if we can also, within the presentation, suggest what each city would need to contribute to avoid a tipping fee increase. She reiterated to the members the franchise fee revenues are ten percent (10%) of the gross revenues that WM receives under its Collection Franchise Agreement.

Diana Ramirez offered an additional perspective, WM offers subscription service for Glenn County and the city of Willows but, it is mandatory for the city of Orland. She ran a report discovering there is approximately 200 households in Willows that do not subscribe for services and approximately 300 in the unincorporated area that do not. The conversation of illegal dumping has come up inquiring where the funding is coming from for that. With Orland having mandatory services, WM connects with the city annually and residents that don't pay, the city covers the cost then issues a lien through their property taxes. Last year the cost covered was forty-five hundred dollars (\$4,500). This just gives an idea of the difference the cost would be if services were made mandatory. Member Roundy commented that the

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mandatory service has made a big difference in the city of Orland and agrees that the city of Willows should look at doing the same.

Mrs. Richardson reminded the members the county does charge every parcel with an inhabitable residence on it a Solid Waste Parcel Fee of forty-two dollars and forty-seven cents (\$42.47). However, that has been dedicated to the repayment of the forty (40) year loan the county received from the USDA to close the landfill.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mrs. Richardson commented WM has asked to amend the Master Franchise Agreement to change the due dates for financial statements; It is suggested to form an Ad-hoc committee for this. Members expressed concerned this may be an issue with the Brown Act since it would take 3 members, one from each jurisdiction. Mrs. Richardson stated she would look into this with County Counsel as there was an Ad-hoc committee for negotiating the original agreement.

10. NEXT MEETING

Date: April 25, 2024 10:30 a.m.

Location: Willows Memorial Hall, Board of Supervisors Chambers
525 W Sycamore Street, Willows, CA.

11. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 a.m.