

Humboldt County

Solid Waste Local Task Force

Cities of:

Arcata
Blue Lake
Eureka
Ferndale
Fortuna
Rio Dell
Trinidad

County of Humboldt

Humboldt Waste Management Authority

*The Humboldt County
Local Task Force
serves in an advisory
capacity to individual
agencies and the
HWMA towards the
implementation of the
integrated management
of solid wastes and
recyclables.*

*The Local Task Force is
also responsible for
assisting in the
coordination, review
and implementation the
county and cities 5-Year
CIWMP Report.*

MINUTES

Wednesday, December 16, 2020 (1pm-2:30pm)

Virtual Meeting-Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87004527930>

Meeting ID: 870 0452 7930

Call in: 408-638-0968

Copies Available: Copies of the agenda materials are available electronically upon request by emailing dwood@ci.eureka.ca.gov

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Eureka – Donna Wood, Robin Praszker

Arcata – Emily Benvie

Blue Lake – Not present

Ferndale – Jay Parrish

Fortuna – Kevin Carter

Rio Dell – Kyle Knopp

Trinidad – Not present

County of Humboldt – Tom Mattson

2. October 12, 2020 Minutes (attached) – Review & Approve

Arcata – Aye

Blue Lake – Not present

Ferndale – Abstain

Fortuna – Aye

Rio Dell – Aye

Trinidad – Not present

County of Humboldt – Aye

Eureka – Aye

Tom Mattson, County of Humboldt, makes a motion to approve minutes from October 12, 2020 meeting as presented. Kevin Carter, Fortuna, seconds. Motion passes.

3. Jurisdiction Representative Reports – *Receive updates and take action as appropriate.*

Eureka – Staff is continuing to navigate CRV challenges and receiving many phone calls. Staff are looking to create a FAQ page and will be happy to share with others for their use and adaptation.

Arcata – CRV is still an issue. Staff is interested in seeing Eureka’s FAQ. Staff are still chipping away at the food waste grant and have paused on the single use ordinance due to COVID-19. Julie and Mark are retiring so Emily will be LTF representative for City of Arcata.

Blue Lake – not present

Ferndale – The communal recycling bin has worked well but they are experiencing folks from all over with garbage showing up. The bin has been moved to help curb this issue.

Rio Dell – The recycling bins are filling up faster but no one is ~~going through them~~ to emptying them. They are working with Recology and Fortuna to look into universal pickup. Fortuna is exploring as well. A larger partner is needed to make it cost effective. Rio Dell has a new position, a Community Services Officer, who is dedicated to nuisance abatement, code enforcement, animal control, and other assistance to police. Garbage has been piling up in people’s yards and the officer is already making progress.

County of Humboldt – CRV is still of serious concern and treated wood waste that might be dumped due to hhw classification. No measure z funds for dumping and it is becoming overwhelming. Still looking to rebuild redway transfer station.

Fortuna- big cleanup occurred with various partners on Rohnerville rd. also concerned about treated wood waste. Dealing w. thru parks and public works and stay ahead of it. Concerned it will lead to dumping issues.

4. Ongoing Discussion Items

- 1. CA Redemption Value Buy Back Centers- *Receive update from Jill Duffy, Executive Director of HWMA; Take action as appropriate.***

Aug 21 CalRecycle required centers to reopen, be fined, or decertify. Hum San and Recology decertified, and HWMA reopened. Tried to do appointments and were told no. Closed after 3 days due to overflow of traffic. HWMA was looking into pilot program which would allow appointments. The problem was the program wasn't designed for this situation. It was to expand and enhance existing operations. There were only 5 projects allowed, 3 had been taken, and 4 active applications. Worked with Recology and Hum San to potentially apply and do appointment's and allow higher load limits to help with the back log of material. Also extra handling fees and reverse vending machines. Put together a proposal and on Nov 6th CalRecycle announced the last remaining slots were awarded. HWMA board then sent a letter to state reps requesting that there be some form of emergency legislative assistance including appointments. There has been no update from the state on this request. Hambro from Del Norte has expressed interest in evaluating operating in Eureka. They will not be able to due to uncertainty of cost and future of the bottle bill. Has been working with grocers and trying to support them. Grocers received letters about compliance. Grocers are unsure of how to operate a program. A new bill 372 was introduced to reform the bottle bill to help establish stewardship program.

The Co-Op is working with local grocers to ask the Governor to reinstate the emergency order and allow appointments for our local center to start again. They hope jurisdictions will sign the letter.

ZWH has found that CRV has become a social service program. Folks who are economically at the bottom really rely on this program. Could turn to social services organization as allies

County very concerned that people are paying a free and not getting it back. This is the crux of the issue.

Send as many letters as possible from as many jurisdictions as possible.

2. "Mandatory Organic Recycling" (AB1826) and "Short Lived Climate Pollutants" (SB1383) (attached)-Receive update from Spencer Fine, CalRecycle Representative; Take action as appropriate.

Spencer is the north unit 2 rep for Cal Recycle. Marshall is his supervisor. They provided a presentation on SB1383:

Why the law exists- it is a methane reduction statute- covers 2 sectors- waste and dairy sector

Food waste has short life span and a pollutant in landfills. Quicker we can get them out, we will have more immediate impact on climate change. The focus on organic waste since it is 2/3 of waste stream. Edible food is an issue as well. Hunger issues is important and covid has exacerbated that. Methane is much more powerful than CO2. Climate change is not far out, we are dealing with issues now such as wildfires.

By 2020 CA needed to have a 50% reduction in landfilled organic, we are not there. Second goal is 2025 which is 75% reduction. And third goal is 2025 which is 20% of recovery of currently disposed edible food. These are not jurisdiction requirements, these are statewide goals. The statute prohibited the statute from putting burden on jurisdictions and could not do a landfill ban. These regulations are prescriptive. There is no good faith effort like AB939. These are state minimum standards. Regulations have been built to achieve the goals mentioned. They do not take effect until Jan 1 2022. But we don't have plenty of time, a lot has to be done. Some benefits of successful implementation include decreased landfill waste, more jobs, more meals, and renewable fuels.

Waivers and exemptions:

Rural exemption- does not apply to Humboldt County must be less than 70,000 people. Allow them exempt through 2026.

Low Population-2 different ways- for a jurisdiction such as city, the other is for unincorporated counties. City has to be less than 7,500 and 2014 disposal of less than 5,000 tons. Unincorp area- based on census tract data and if it has a population density of less than 70 people per square mile. Must be reevaluated every 5 years.

High Elevation-entire city is above 4500 ft or unincorp areas- above 4500 feet. This has to do with vectors including bears.

January 1 2022 is when waivers can be approved.

They figure out waivers based on 75% goal. This helps determine the thresholds for waivers while still meeting state goal.

Folks are welcome to request more info about the formulas used to create the waivers

Low pop- what regulations are waived?

You can be exempt from all or some of the requirements

Article 3 explains collection service requirements

Article 4 is education

Article 7 covers self-haul requirements

Article 11 is capacity planning

Jurisdiction responsibilities for each article:

Compliance is expected on Jan 1 2022, plan now. Annual compliance reviews of the commercial businesses to ensure they have service. Monitoring requirements for

contamination through route reviews and feedback mechanism to the generators on that route. Also monitoring at the processing level, they are trying to ensure quality of materials being collected. Must maintain record of reporting requirements for audits. There must be collection services of organic waste for all residences and businesses, must establish food recovery, do education and outreach, procure recyclable and recovered organic products, must have recycling and edible food capacity, and monitor compliance of collection and edible food recovery. Any waivers or exemption still must have an edible food recovery program SB1383 is different than other mandates. It effects all government departments such as city council, city manager, finances, purchasing etc. It overlaps on all functions of local government.

Edible food recovery requirements:

Tier 1 generators must participate in an edible food recovery program by Jan 1 2022

Tier 2 generators must participate in an edible food recovery program by Jan 1 2024

Tier 1 typically already participates in this behavior and may need to solidify contracts

Tier 2 may not as typically do this so they have more time.

CalRecycle has a team of people committed to edible food recovery and they can help with questions

Requirements:

Must have an ordinance and enforcement mechanism by Jan 1 2022. Enforcement can come in later at 2024.

Annual compliance reviews, route reviews, and inspections.

2022-2024 do not need to enforce, but monitor and educate

2024 enforcement must begin

State enforcement:

Authorize waivers

Emergency circumstances

Oversee and monitor including an implementation record

Violations- has mechanism to assist correcting violations

If a problem generator goes over jurisdiction lines, calrecycle can step in to help

Model implantation tools available for jurisdictions to use

Lots of resources online

3. Curbside Collected Recycling Contamination/Oopsie

Tag- *Receive Update from Linda Wise, General Manager of Recology; Take action as appropriate.*

Recycling contamination:

Recycling processing has had higher contamination due to covid, pinched budgets, at home more

Totes on back order for people who want to upgrade

25% was highest agreement

Oops tag seem to help some with 20% contamination

Might need ordinance update for enforcement

5. Treated Wood Waste (attached)-*Receive update on disposal of treated wood waste from Jill Duffy, Executive Director of HWMA; Take action as appropriate.*

Now handled and disposed of as HHW

County issued press release

HWMA sent letter to Cal EPA that we cannot handle this capacity

HWMA received a response from Cal EPA and are looking into work around

Concerns that there was abuse of program and not following it

Maybe send out to hardware stores letting people know

6. Potential Formation of Local Task Force Subcommittees

No action or discussion

7. Non-Local Task Force Organization Reports

This is a standing agenda item for non-member organizations to provide reports to the SWLTF on their respective waste management topics.

1. HWMA (attached)

Jill will be retiring in the next 6 months. They are beginning recruitment.

2. Recology

None

3. Zero Waste Humboldt

Announcing business training opportunities and heads up that they will call jurisdictions with refills stations for an update on bottle saved count

8. Proposed Future Tasks/Actions

County would like to talk prop 218 challenge for franchise fees.

The LTF will identify tasks or action items to be addressed at a specified LTF meeting.

9. Oral and Written Communications

- a. This time is provided for people to address the Task Force or to submit written communications concerning matters not on this agenda. Task Force Members may respond to statements, but any request that requires action will be referred to appropriate agency staff for review. Reasonable time limits may be imposed on both the total amount of time allocated for this item, and on the time permitted to each individual speaker. Such time allotment or portion thereof shall not be transferred to other speakers.

10. Adjournment

2:46 PM