

**NOVATO SANITARY DISTRICT
SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING
March 10, 2016**

MINUTES

Members Present:

Jean Mariani Carole Dillon-Knutson

Others in Attendance:

Sandeep Karkal Dee Johnson Steve McCaffrey Tina Balderamma Sonia Tanner
Casey Williams Scott Pariani Delyn Kies Jim Salyers

1. Approve agenda: The agenda for March 10, 2016 was approved as submitted.
2. Public Comment: There was no comment from the public.
3. Review of Minutes: The minutes of October 20, 2015 were approved as submitted.
4. Updates/Routine Business Items:
 - a. City of Novato. There was no update from the City.
 - b. Redwood Landfill. Ramin Khany provided an update on Redwood Landfill's programs. He indicated that they were not accepting commercial food waste due to the problems with contamination of commercial sources. Currently Redwood is producing a high quality certified organic compost from its food/green waste mix and it doesn't want to jeopardize that product. Although they could produce a non-organic product with commercial food waste, they are not considering this until 2018 or later. Also, although they are permitted to receive commercial food waste, if they were to keep it separate from the organic product, it would require additional permits for a separate location. Carol Dillon Knutson asked if Redwood would be willing to educate commercial customers regarding the contamination issues. Ramin agreed, but said there would be no way to enforce this. He indicated that the haulers, District and producers should be involved with this education. Carol asked if their compost product is for sale to residents. Ramin indicated it was. Jean Mariani asked who is producing organic compost from commercial food waste. Ramin didn't know. Carol asked about complaints re: odors at the landfill and who should a resident call. Ramin indicated they should contact County Environmental Health and also Redwood Landfill.
 - c. Novato Disposal quarterly report. Steve McCaffrey reviewed the quarterly report. Disposal has increased; green waste has decreased and C&D has increased. Currently commercial food waste is being delivered to Richmond. The 20 gallon can customer count continues to increase. Contamination in the recycling cart continues to be an issue. Bulky waste pick ups are limited to 3 cubic yard maximum, 4 times per year. In addition, Christmas trees can be cut up and put in the green cart anytime.
 - d. Marin County JPA and Local Task Force (LTF). Dee and Delyn Kies indicated that the LTF had recently reviewed a report on school recycling. In addition, Dee indicated that she was re-elected vice-chair of the LTF for the following year.
5. Tentative Meeting Schedule: Committee members agreed on the next dates for meeting in 2016: Wednesday, June 1; Monday, August 29 and Tuesday, October 18. All meetings to begin at 3:00 pm at the District.
6. Disposal/Diversion Report 2015: Steve and Dee reviewed the diversion numbers. Steve explained that in 2010, green waste diversion was increasing. Since then, we experienced the drought, which impacted the green waste numbers. Commercial food waste collection fell behind schedule and the recycling markets have decreased significantly since 2014. The market issues with China - putting restrictions on types of recycled material accepted - is a long term problem. Certain markets have entirely dried up, such as plastic bags. With low oil prices it is cheaper to produce plastic bags from original material. In addition, over the years the waste stream has changed – less newsprint; more plastic. Steve indicated that Extended

Producer Responsibility (EPR) could help resolve some of these issues by placing more responsibility on the packaging industry.

7. Zero Waste Programs Calendar/Timetable Status: Dee and Novato Disposal staff reviewed the Calendar with Committee members and made some suggested changes.
8. Household Hazardous Waste Programs:
 - a. 2015 HHW programs report. Dee indicated that participation at the HHW facility continues to increase. Attendance in 2015 was 20% higher than 2014. Additional information on amounts of wastes and costs will be available at the next meeting.
 - b. E-Waste Event scheduled. The next E-Waste event is scheduled for April 23-25 from 10 am-3 pm. It will be advertised in the District and Novato Disposal newsletters as well as newspaper ads.
9. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.