

*Approved  
November 12, 2008*

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING**

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2008**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:**

Ed Arnold, City of Arroyo Grande  
Chuck Ashton, City of Grover Beach  
Ellen Beraud, City of Atascadero  
Dave Brooks, Authorized Districts  
Ted Ehring, City of Pismo Beach  
Bruce Gibson, County Supervisor  
Jim Patterson, County Supervisor  
Christine Mulholland, City of San Luis Obispo

**Board Members Absent:**

Katcho Achadjian, County Supervisor  
Melody DeMeritt, City of Morro Bay  
John Hamon, City of Paso Robles  
Jerry Lenthall, County Supervisor  
Harry Ovitt, County Supervisor

**Staff Members Present:**

William A. Worrell, Manager  
Carolyn Goodrich, Board Secretary  
Ray Biering, IWMA Counsel

**Others Present:**

Betty Winholtz, City of Morro Bay council woman

**2. Public Comments.** None.

**3. Manager's Report.** Bill Worrell provided an update on municipal programs and presented the 2008-2009 School Year Newsletter. To date the IWMA Battery program has

brought in 725,000 batteries (354 retailers), 52,000 fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescent bulbs, while the new sharps programs has been set up at 46 area pharmacies. The pharmaceutical take back program is delayed pending the outcome of AB 966 in November. The 2008 California Resource Recovery Association (CRRA) awarded Bill Worrell Recycler of the Year and the IWMA was awarded Product Stewardship for the take back programs.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to approve the Consent Calendar.**

Those items approved are as follows:

4. **Draft Minutes of the May 14, 2008 IWMA Board Meetings (approved).**
5. **Draft Minutes of the August 27, 2008 Executive Committee Meeting (receive and file).**

### **REGULAR CALENDAR**

6. **Grand Jury Report.** Bill Worrell gave an overview of the May 27, 2008 Grand Jury Report which said, in part, "It appears that San Luis Obispo County has safe, quality facilities and effective governance that will meet the needs of at least the next three decades", "waste management in San Luis Obispo County is operating effectively". Bill noted that is a response is not required.

7. **Department of Conservation Grant.** The Department of Conservation released a \$25 million grant program to promote increased recycling of beverage containers at multi-family units. The IWMA prepared a grant application totaling \$443,900. The grant application includes 400 blue front loading recycling bins to be provided to all the franchised waste haulers and 6,000 small blue recycling containers for residents of multi-family units. Bill added the final award hasn't been processed and cited the State budget delay.

**Motion was made by Board Member Gibson, seconded by Board Member Brooks and unanimously passed 8-0-5 absent to authorize the Manager to sign the Department of Conservation Grant Agreement and amend the FY 08-09 budget to reflect the grant.**

8. **Introduction of a Proposed Mandatory Recycling Ordinance.** At the March 12, 2008 Board Meeting, the Board approved in concept a mandatory recycling ordinance. The ordinance would require residential and commercial customers to participate in a curbside recycling program if it is offered by their franchised hauler. The purpose of this ordinance would be to insure that if a recycling program is available that the customer takes advantage of the program and uses it. Because of the rate structure, the customer's garbage bill would likely be reduced by participating in the recycling program. This ordinance is similar to the Arroyo Grande

mandatory recycling ordinance.

The ordinance would also require that recycling containers be provided at special events. In addition the ordinance would require those who self haul material to the landfill to use the available recycling programs at the landfill.

**Motion was made by Board Member Brooks, seconded by Board Member Patterson and passed 8-0-5 absent (Achadjian, DeMeritt, Hamon, Lenthall and Ovitt) to waive reading of the ordinance.**

Public comment: Mike Hoover, General Manager of Chicago Grade Landfill inquired about enforcement and record keeping. Linda Seeley, member of the public, suggested the board include mandatory recycling of food scraps, if not as part of the proposed ordinance then in a later ordinance.

Board Member Patterson requested public outreach be included. Board Member Beraud requested clarification on "public events" and Bill Worrell stated that any public event that requires a permit will have to satisfy the ordinance recycling requirements.

**Board Member Ashton moved to introduce the proposed Mandatory Recycling Ordinance and schedule the public hearing for November 12, 2008. Seconded by Board Member Beraud and passed on the following roll call vote:**

**AYES: Arnold, Ashton, Beraud, Brooks, Ehring, Gibson, Patterson and Mulholland**  
**NOES: None**  
**ABSTAIN: None**  
**ABSENT: Achadjian, DeMeritt, Hamon, Lenthall, Ovitt**

9. **Legislative Update.** Bill Worrell provided an update and requested the Board authorize the President to sign a letter of support for AB501 which requires that pharmaceutical manufacturers provide a postage prepaid, mail-back sharps container or a sharps container. **Motion was made by Board Member Brooks, seconded by Board Member Patterson and passed 8-0-5 absent (Achadjian, DeMeritt, Hamon, Lenthall and Ovitt) authorizing the IWMA President to sign a letter of support for AB501.**

10. **Plastic Bag Management.** The Board reviewed a Plastic Bag Management strategies:

(1) Continue to wait for a statewide approach to managing plastic bags.

(2) Adopt a recycling fee of 5 cents per plastic bag. This fee could be split as follows: 2 cents per bag would go to a fund that would subsidize the cost to recycle plastic bags by providing a payment to recycling facilities that process recyclables from the franchised garbage collectors, 2 cents per bag would be paid to the Cities and County to fund a litter abatement program, 1 cent would go to the IWMA to pay to administer the program and provide education/outreach. Note that for those stores included in AB 2449 they would have the option of paying the recycling fee

in lieu of a prohibition on the use of plastic bags.

(3) Prohibit the use of plastic bags.

Public comments: Brad Goodrow, Mid-State Solid Waste and Recycling reported that he tested plates and bags made out of cornstarch and found they do not break down therefore, the items are treated as a contaminant. Mike Hoover, General Manager of Chicago Grade Landfill spoke in support of entirely banning compostable and plastic bags. Mr. Hoover reported both commodities are an ongoing litter problem more than a landfill problem. Mr. Hoover stated on windy days the bags get blown upward and get stuck in the trees so his staff has to manually retrieve each bag. Linda Seeley, member of the public, noted the public can adjust to no plastic carry out bags; banning plastic carry out bags would present an opportunity for local entrepreneurial groups to offer cloth bags made out of recycled plastic bottles; the IWMA can add a Q&A page to the website on the problems with plastic bags and what to do; and supported a ban of Styrofoam.

The consensus of the Board was to direct staff to prepare an ordinance banning carry out plastic bags and return with a draft for the Board to review at the November 12, 2008 Board meeting.

**Motion was made by Board Member Ashton, seconded by Board Member Brooks and passed 8-0-5 absent (Achadjian, DeMeritt, Hamon, Lenthall and Ovitt) directing the Manager to draft an ordinance with the main focus being a total ban of plastic bags and provide minimal exceptions to the ban, and schedule the item for consideration at the November 12, 2008 meeting.**

**11. IWMA Correspondence. Motion was made, seconded and passed to receive and file the IWMA correspondence.**

**12. Member Comments and Future Agenda Items. None.**

**13. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned to the next regular meeting of the IWMA scheduled for November 12, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. in the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisor's Chambers, County Government Center, San Luis Obispo, CA.**

**THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL NOR A PERMANENT PART OF THE RECORD UNTIL APPROVED BY THE IWMA AT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING.**