



MINUTES

**SOUTH BAYSIDE WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
September 14, 2023 at 2:00PM.**

San Mateo County Transit District, 1520 San Carlos Ave. 4th Floor Dining Room, San Carlos CA 94070

Call to Order: 2:03PM

1. Roll Call

Agency	Present	Absent	Agency	Present	Absent
Belmont	X		Redwood City	X	
Burlingame		X	San Carlos	X	
East Palo Alto		X	San Mateo	X	
Foster City	X		County of San Mateo	X	
Hillsborough	X		West Bay Sanitary District	X	
Menlo Park	X				

2. Public Comment

Persons wishing to address the Board on matters NOT on the posted agenda may do so.

Each speaker is limited to two minutes. If there are more than five individuals wishing to speak during public comment, the Chairman will draw five speaker cards from those submitted to speak during this time. The balance of the Public Comment speakers will be called upon at the end of the Board Meeting.

If the item you are speaking on is not listed on the agenda, please be advised that the Board may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed as allowed under The Brown Act (Government Code Section 54954.2). The Board's general policy is to refer items to staff for attention, or have a matter placed on a future Board agenda for a more comprehensive action or report and formal public discussion and input at that time.

None

3. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director La Mariana welcomed the TAC to the meeting and gave the following updates.

He gave a reminder of the remaining calendared meetings in 2023 and the highlighted agenda items for each meeting.

- He announced that Joanne Nghiem has been promoted to an Associate Engineer position on the facility team, and staff is working internally to fill the Management Analyst position.
- He congratulated the public team for winning an award at the CRRA conference.
- Lastly, he noted that if any member agencies are seeking RethinkWaste staff support at their rate setting council meetings, he and Sr. Finance Manager John Mangini are available.

4. Approval of Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar item(s) are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless members of the TAC, staff or public request specific items be removed for separate action. *Items removed from the Consent Calendar will be moved to the end of the agenda for separate discussion.*

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the August 10, 2023, TAC Meeting
- B. Approval of the 2024 TAC Meeting Calendar

Motion/Second: Tong/Lee

Voice Vote: All in favor 9-0-0-2

Agency	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Agency	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Belmont	X				Redwood City	X			
Burlingame				X	San Carlos	X			
East Palo Alto				X	San Mateo	X			
Foster City	X				County of San Mateo	X			
Hillsborough	X				West Bay Sanitary Dist.	X			
Menlo Park	X								

5. Review of the SBWMA Draft Report Reviewing the 2024 Recology San Mateo County Compensation Application

Staff Mangini gave a presentation on Recology’s 2024 compensation application. He noted that the compensation indices are higher than have been over the past few years, but reflective of higher inflationary period that the economy is in. He noted that the compensation application doesn’t include an additional \$744K request for Covid compensation.

Executive Director La Mariana noted that there is a dispute in contract language interpretation between the Agency and Recology but, based on legal advice, staff is not recommending moving forward with the Covid reimbursement request. Recology will be making their case to the Board at the September meeting, at which point the Board may decide to grant reimbursement and those numbers would be in addition to the compensation application presented to you today.

Staff Mangini noted that there has been one minor change since the committee looked at preliminary numbers last month, one member agency made some changes to their compensation that have been incorporated into the report.

Member Johnson asked for a follow up on the use of the rate stabilization fund to soften the blow of the large increase in rates this year.

Staff Mangini noted that he hasn’t yet done the analysis, but using the fund would be a one-year fix and the revenue would still be there at the end of the year, so it would just kick the can down the road.

Member Johnson agreed but noted that he would like the Board to be educated about how much is in the reserve, how it could be used and the downside of using it and let them make the decision.

Executive Director La Mariana said that the current reserve is \$5M, and it would be the Board’s decision how to use it. He noted that if the Board decides to use it any amount it would be across all member agencies and applied through the same allocation process as the compensation.

There was a general consensus among the TAC members that this is the year for using the rate stabilization fund.

Staff will confirm the current rate stabilization fund amount and distribute the reserve policy to the TAC and confirm the methodology for allocation.

Member Clark asked staff to look at costs that are outside of these contracts to reduce costs within the administrative staff or the full disposal system.

6. Review of the SBWMA Draft Report Reviewing the 2024 South Bayside Industries Compensation Application

Staff Mangini gave an overview of the staff report and noted that there was a handout with the detail for the operations and maintenance line item in the report. He noted that this will be the base costs jumping off point going forward with the SBI contract and that the numbers presented here are what were agreed to in the contract negotiations.

Member Cooke noted that there are a couple of items in the report that costs haven't been confirmed, so they are not included in the report, one is for CBA and another for the organics-to-energy operations, so she wanted to know how big these costs might be in the future.

Staff Mangini noted on the organics-to energy program, analysis needs to be done on the financial feasibility long term of the full program before we can know what that number is going to be.

Executive Director La Mariana added that the pilot program was a break even, but we're not sure that it is going to be the case going forward, right now SBI has submitted a proposal to run the program, and Silicon Valley Clean Water has submitted a proposal to receive the material, and currently those costs are higher than expected. Staff is hoping to resolve these issues prior to 2024 so the program can be up and running again in 2024. He also noted regarding the labor negotiations, those could have big cost ramifications for the Agency, and that labor negotiations discussions have begun, so that one will play out quickly.

7. Senate Bill (SB) 1383 Program Implementation Update

- Presentation by Lauren Beauban, Sustainable Materials Management Specialist, SCS Engineers on RethinkWaste Technical Assistance

Staff Carter introduced the SCS team, and Lauren Beauban who presented on the services SCS has been providing on SB 1383, outreach and education, waivers and route reviews. He noted that SCS' contract is ending and there will be a handoff to Recology, so he wanted to give SCS an opportunity to present to the TAC on the work SCS has been doing for the last two years in helping us build out the methodology for meeting these regulations going forward.

Lauren Beauban the project manager for this project gave a presentation on the work SCS has been doing to support SB 1383 mandated implementation.

The committee asked to see the information presented by jurisdiction.

Member Brown noted that Belmont can only approve waiver requests in Belmont, so if any Belmont accounts are applying for waivers they need to go to the City of Belmont.

Member Clark noted that she would like to see workshops for MFD residents, so that they understand the law and why they need to comply, because we don't want to see them fined because they can't afford it.

Staff Carter noted that he would be open to trying to get more engagement, but that is what the letters and phone calls are intended to do. Recology has also been making calls to make engagement connections, but was open to a town hall format.

- SB 1383 Local Assistance Grants

The group then discussed the SB 1383 local assistance grants.

Staff Carter gave the background and noted that this year CalRecycle is allowing JPAs apply on behalf of the member agencies and have the grant funds applied to the service area, rather than each member agency applying. He suggested enforcement assistance and procurement as areas where grant money could be applied agency wide if RethinkWaste applied for the grants. He noted that the Resource Conservation District MOUs are ending in the Spring of 2024, so the grant monies could be used towards RethinkWaste having the MOU with the Resource Conservation District. He also noted a minimum of two member agencies would need to participate in the process in order for the RethinkWaste to apply on their behalf, and that a new resolution from each of the member agencies would be required in order to receive the funds, and the RethinkWaste Board would need to approve a resolution in order to receive the funds from CalRecycle.

The group discussed the need for more details on what was being proposed to use the grant money for service area wide before knowing if they were interested in participating. And, noted that with enforcement starting January 1, the grant funds may not line up, and the County will likely continue to work with the Resource Conservation District. The TAC agreed that they were interested in RethinkWaste managing the grant but needed some kind of options.

TAC members will send ideas to Staff Carter on program ideas, and staff will work with a subcommittee of the chair and vice chair to refine ideas for a group grant project.

The TAC members asked staff to put together an assessment of how the Agencies are doing with compliance to know where to focus the grant money in the coming year.

8. Contractor Updates

- Recology

John Zirelli General Manager of Recology noted that customer service has had a Covid outbreak, so they are unexpectedly working from home, but they are planning to be back in the office on Wednesday.

- SBR

The SBR Operations Manager resigned, and the MRF Supervisor Phil Mathison has been promoted to Operations Manager. SBR continues to work with SBI on the transition. SBR has also had a Covid

outbreak, with 6 currently out sick.

9. Committee Member Comments

Member Tong announced that they have hired Lizzie Carrade to work on food recovery programs, so Member Agencies will be working with her.

Member Ramirez announced that West Bay Sanitary District has been given direction by their Board to reassign our 2,000 franchise customers to the County, collections is not West Bay Sanitary District's core competency, and the Board is pushing to make this change.

Executive Director La Mariana noted that this is not an exit from the JPA, it is reassigning the management of the accounts. He also invited TAC members to the Rethink Recycling Day at the Shoreway Facility on October 21.

10. Adjourn 3:45PM