



Department of Public Works

Kim MacFarlane, P.E.
Director

48 W. Yaney Avenue, Sonora
Mailing: 2 S. Green Street
Sonora, CA 95370
209.533.5601
www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov

MINUTES

APPROVED

Board of Supervisors Solid Waste Committee (BOSSWC) Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 1:00p.m.

AIRPORTS

Airports Manager
Benedict Stuth
209.533.5685

BUSINESS

Senior Accountant
Janelle Kostlivy
209.533.5972

ENGINEERING

Supervising Engineer
Blossom Scott-Heim, P.E.
209.533.5904

FLEET SERVICES

Fleet Services Manager
Mike Young
209.536.1622

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

GIS Coordinator
Madeline Amlin
209.533.6592

ROAD OPERATIONS

Road Superintendent
Mike Cagnetti
209.533.5609

SOLID WASTE

Solid Waste Director
Jim McHargue, REHS
209.533.5588

SURVEYING

County Surveyor
Warren Smith, L.S.
209.533.5626

PRESENT: Supervisor Ryan Campbell; Supervisor David Goldemberg
Jim Garaventa; Sonora City Council, Monique Holcomb;
At-Large Public Committee Member.

STAFF: Kim MacFarlane, Director of Public Works; Jim McHargue, Solid Waste
Director; Diane Green, Solid Waste Specialist; Monique Figueroa, Solid
Waste Administrative Technician; Pam Hughes, Administrative Assistant
Relief.

GUESTS: Vanessa Barberis, Waste Management.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ryan Campbell called the meeting of April 13, 2022 to order at 1:01 p.m.

Supervisor Campbell suggested we introduce ourselves first then address Assembly Bill
361 Consideration of Adopting Resolution 2021-01 Making Findings in Support of Allowing
Remote Meetings Pursuant to AB361 (Modified Brown Act Procedures During a Declared
Emergency).

Supervisor Campbell asked if there was any public comment. None noted.

It was moved by Councilman Garaventa and seconded by Supervisor Goldemberg.

Supervisor Campbell called for the vote: Ayes 4; Noes 0; abstain 0

Motion carried 4 – 0 – 0

PUBLIC FORUM

Supervisor Campbell asked if anyone had any public comments.

Jim McHargue, Solid Waste Director informed the Committee of the Clean California
Coupons that we would be distributing at the Sonora Home and Garden Show on
Saturday April 23, 2022 as part of the CalTrans Clean California initiative. The coupons
would allow any Tuolumne County resident to dispose up to 2 (two) cubic yards of regular
household waste at the Cal Sierra/WM Transfer Station located at 19309 Industrial Dr. We
are very excited to offer this program to the residents of Tuolumne County as it allows us
to provide a convenient and safe way for everyone to dispose of their garbage anytime
during the month of May.

Supervisor Goldemberg agreed that this was an excellent idea and also a way to avoid some of the issues we had seen in the month of January at the previous CalTrans Clean-Up Day event where residents were turned away after waiting hours in a line that was up to a mile long to be turned away without being able to dispose of their debris. Supervisor Goldemberg wanted to know other than the Home and Garden Show how would Solid Waste be advertising the Clean California Coupons.

Mr. McHargue explained that we would be utilizing social media, public service announcements, radio, and the local newspaper to get the word out to the public. Mr. McHargue also stated that we would be distributing coupons at the front counter of the Public Works department. CalTrans is also excited about this idea, we hope to launch this program frequently during the year depending on the funding on a trial basis so that we can improve and perfect for the future.

Supervisor Campbell asked how many coupons we would be giving out and Mr. McHargue answered 200.

Supervisor Goldemberg asked how we would keep residents from receiving more than one coupon per household. Mr. McHargue stated that each coupon would be assigned to a resident once they provide verification that they are in fact a resident of Tuolumne County. Those coupons are numbered, and physical addresses will need to be provided and logged.

Councilman Jim Garaventa expressed concern about residents using the same address. Mr. McHargue stated that Solid Waste will track and do the best they can to regulate those trying to use duplicate addresses.

Pam Hughes introduced herself as administrative relief for Public Works.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. Consideration of the Minutes of the meeting of January 12, 2022.

It was moved by Councilman Garaventa and seconded by Committee Member Monique Holcomb to approve the Minutes of the January 12, 2022 meeting.

Supervisor Campbell called for a vote: Ayes 3; Noes 0; abstain 1

Motion carried 3 – 0 – 1

B. Updates/Staff Reports

Illegal Dumping

Mr. McHargue informed the Solid Waste Committee that there was a training on illegal dumping and enforcement that took place back on February 2, 2022 but that it was limited to district attorney's, and law enforcement only. He then stated that the 2nd Annual Statewide Conference on Illegal Dumping would be taking place next week on Tuesday the 19th, Wednesday the 20th, and Thursday the 21st of May. This conference is free and open to everyone. Education, Eradication and Enforcement is what the conference is going to be focusing on. Mr. McHargue stated he just learned about the conference but would send out the link for anyone who was interested in joining.

Solid Waste Agreements

Mr. McHargue gave an update on all six of the County's agreements, he reported that the Solid Waste department has completed the agreement with Moore Bros. Scavenger Co. for operations at the Groveland Transfer Station as well as their extension. We are now working on two additional agreements with Cal Sierra/ Waste Management, both their transfer station and their collection agreement. Very productive meetings have occurred between Solid Waste and Vanessa Barberis, Waste Management. The hope is to complete the agreements and bring them back to the Solid Waste Committee next month in May then head to the Board of Supervisors for approval. In addition, there are two remaining agreements pending with Burns Refuse who have at this time sent in a written request for an extension to their agreement and, The Moore Bros. Collection Company as well.

Clean CA Caltrans and SB 1383 Grants

We are hoping to receive funding from grants later this fall to help with the implementation of SB 1383 for both the County and the City of Sonora. The Clean California Caltrans Grant is a combined grant that Public Works currently is involved with two separate projects, while Solid Waste is involved in one project regarding education and outreach. We have not yet received notice to move forward at this time but do expect to hear soon.

Supervisor Campbell asked exactly how much the grants are for and how will they be used. Mr. McHargue explained that we applied for the maximum allowed to the County and the City of Sonora totaling around \$80,000. Our plan is to use these funds from CalRecycle's Local Assistance Division for the implementation of SB 1383 requirements that will help us meet the requirements including the edible food recovery program and working with the Tier 1 food Generators. Funding will also be used for education and outreach to the commercial food generators. Even though we do have an exemption from the collection, we still have a significant amount of requirements that must be met.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. Cal Sierra/Waste Management weather-related truck information and service contingency.

Ms. Barberis wanted to let everyone know that Waste Management had a meeting with staff and county counsel regarding the service during the difficult weather months. Ms. Barberis stated that they did in fact reach out to other operations directors and haulers to see how they handle service during the snowy months and the feedback they received is that customers are prepared for the service interruptions and that they expect these delays and rarely question the service. Other regions do not have the same challenges as we have here in Tuolumne County. In the Midwest the land is flat while we have winding narrow roads. Waste Management wanted to do their due diligence, and at the County's request they did investigate purchasing smaller trucks and this is what market research found. Pickup trucks that were equipped with a hopper in the back could only hold about 6 cy of garbage at a time. To service the number of residents that are impacted by the weather Waste Management would need 7 of these pickup trucks plus an additional standard rear end truck to follow them around so they could dump their trucks out in the field and not travel back and forth to the transfer station. Each truck would only be able to service about 12 homes at a time with a 6 cy capacity before it becomes full. Waste Management shared in their meeting

that they did not feel it was a viable option for the County nor would it solve the problem. There is still a safety issue, more trucks would be out on the roads. The cost as well would be an issue, the price tag would be about 1.5 million dollars to purchase, maintain and store these new trucks. This would impact our residents bill by 6% which comes out to about \$3.00 per household and Waste Management does not feel that the residents would be happy knowing they are all paying a higher rate for a service that is affecting only a few. The real deal breaker however is the labor that it would take to operate 7 new trucks. Hiring new drivers who would have to be permanent employees because Waste Management's drivers are unionized. They would not be able to hire temps for the season. They would have to be permanent full-time staff. Based on this information, Waste Management feels it would be better to work on and update the current Weather Contingency Plan. Since Waste Management has hired a new district manager in 2019 they have already begun to see a lot of progress in their processes and what Waste Management would like to continue to do is move forward and set new procedures on how they will handle certain situations.

Mr. McHargue stated that discussions are currently happening where there is going to be a section in the new Cal Sierra/Waste Management agreement that will stipulate how they will handle different weather conditions.

Supervisor Goldemberg questioned if the current full-size trucks that Waste Management operates are all wheel drive. Ms. Barberis responded that they are, and they are also equipped with chains. Supervisor Goldemberg stated that he does not receive very many complaints regarding the service of Waste Management due to weather conditions because his district is not of high elevation and not really impacted. The question that he gets the most is how propane trucks and fire trucks can operate in the same weather.

Kim MacFarlane, Director of Public Works chimed in to answer Supervisor Goldemberg's question. Propane trucks, fire trucks, and snow plows are all moving until they get to their destinations, where as a garbage truck that makes frequent stops and, on an incline, combined with heavy wet debris will cause the truck to slide and then this now creates a safety issue for everyone.

Everyone agreed this was important information to get out to the public. Although everyone may not be happy with the information, they will at least have a better understanding of how operations for Waste Management works.

Supervisor Goldemberg asked if the voucher program was being utilized for any missed pickups. Ms. Barberis stated that they did send a voucher to all customers who had reported an interruption to service due to weather. She also informed the Solid Waste Committee that Waste Management encourages all their customers to keep their information updated with an online account to receive the fastest information regarding service interruptions.

Ms. Barberis went on to say that in the past Waste Management has had a plan on how to service during the winter months and in the past few years they have had many changes all to improve communication and service. A 2019 customer service survey rated them as a 5 in customer service whereas in 2022 they were rated between an 8/9. So, they have made the effort and will continue to do so.

- B. Consideration and direction on filling at-large member of the public to the Solid Waste Committee.

Mr. McHargue informed the committee that the process has changed a little since the last time we accepted applications for the at-large member of the public for the Solid Waste Committee. We now need to get a recommendation from the Solid Waste Committee and then submit a memo to the board clerk so we can get on the consent calendar for the next Board of Supervisors meeting. There is some clarification needed as to what the correct procedure is but for now the Solid Waste Committee will vote on a recommendation.

It was moved by Supervisor Goldemberg and seconded by Councilman Garaventa..

Supervisor Campbell called for the vote: Ayes 4; Noes 0; abstain 0

Motion carried 4 – 0 – 0

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Councilman Gareventa mentioned that commercial accounts in downtown Sonora are still having an issue with their garbage and recycle receptacles being moved on service day resulting in no service for these accounts. The City of Sonora thought they had a plan but unfortunately, they ran into some issues and will continue to work on this issue.

Monique Holcomb inquired about a previous discussion we had regarding increased fines for dumping in waterways and commercial dumpers.

Mr. McHargue stated that the revision to the County's ordinance code is still in process but that we have requested an increase in fine levels.

Ms. Holcomb's main concern is that we increase fines for those who dump in our waterways which Supervisor Campbell stated that there are already state laws in place.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Campbell asked if anyone had anything further comment.

Seeing none, Supervisor Campbell adjourned the meeting at 2:04 p.m.

Next meeting will be May 11, 2022