EL DORADO COUNTY
SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

El Dorado County Environmental Management Department
2850 Fairlane Ct., Placerville, CA 95667
November 16, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Dickson Schwarzbach, Task Force Chairperson**
Jeanne Lear, South Lake Tahoe Refuse
George Turnboo, County Resident
Gary Pigg, City of Placerville
Don Nizolek, Task Force Vice-Chairperson
Nancy Spinella, County Resident

COUNTY STAFF: **Jon Souza, Environmental Management**
Jeff Rusert, Environmental Management
Dave Johnston, Environmental Management
Deana Watkins-Howey, Environmental Management

OTHERS PRESENT: **Jim Greco, Independent Consultant**
Jeff England, El Dorado Disposal

MEMBERS ABSENT: **Bill McCluskey, County Resident**
Livia Amidon, Cameron Park CSD
Rick Angelocci, City of South Lake Tahoe
David Kelley, South Lake Tahoe Resident
Sue Farris, El Dorado Disposal
Allison Hamaker, EDH CSD

1. **Call to Order**
   Dickson Schwarzbach called the meeting to order at 1:36 pm.

2. **Staff Announcements**
   None

3. **Approval of Agenda**
   No changes. Agenda approved.

4. **Approval of Minutes from July 13, 2009 and September 14, 2009**
   Minutes approved on a motion by George Turnboo and seconded by Nancy Spinella. Minutes approved by committee.

5. **Old Business / Action Items**

   A. **Solid Waste Plan Working Group Update-**
   The Board of Supervisors approved (5-0) a Methane Gas Facility to be installed out at the Union Mine Facility. The contract was awarded to STI Engineering to provide an injection system and a gas energy system. The contract is being worked on now; there are a lot of hoops that they will need to jump through, so it may be a few months before work begins.
   Three proposals were received for the Solid Waste Management Plan. The companies that submitted plans were: HDR, R3 and NewPoint Group. Each of these companies will now be ranked on a score sheet (short range goals and long range goals will be on the score sheet). Each company will be providing a presentation on their proposals on December 10, 2009. Dixon asked that hard copies of the proposals be provided to EDSWAC.

B. Facility SRRE Programs (01/09 – 09/09)-

Jon Souza passed out information on the two facilities (Western El Dorado Recovery and South Tahoe Refuse), the information was based on numbers from January of 2009 through September of 2009.

Western El Dorado Recovery	Inbound and Outbound: 73,000 + tons
South Tahoe Refuse	Inbound and Outbound: 88,517 + tons

A footnote for STR: Some of their direct recycling is a mixture of green waste and C & D.

Normally, you do not have the same inbound and outbound numbers because there is always material waiting for a complete shipment. On outbound you have disposal and recycling that is made up of C & D, green waste and the other recyclables. It was not broken down to show that Western El Dorado Recovery has curbside recycling and STR does not, so all the recycling numbers have been included together (self haul, curbside, buy back and off the line). There were 37 programs under the SRRE but there were not really enough that qualified to be included in this comparison.

STR (Jeanne Lear) stated that with the opening of their new facility they will be providing a report that shows the breakdown of the green waste. Jon suggested that these reports be provided only once a year, possibly at the July meeting.

Based on the numbers provided, the amount of diversion of recyclables equals 36% for STR and 39% for Western El Dorado Recovery, but total diversion is somewhere in the range of 64%. However, we are no longer looking at percentages, but it helps to show where we are (the new method is pounds per resident) in diversion rates. By March of 2010 we should be reporting for 2009. The recycling numbers should go up once the building industry recovers since the recycling figures include C & D, and possibly once or if AB 32 gets approved for instituting a mandatory business recycling ordinance.

George Turnboo discussed a Bio-Electrical plant that he visited in Ione. This facility should be up and running in a year and half. This may affect the recycling numbers because they are going to be accepting all types of green waste (including kitchen and agriculture waste).

Dixon asked that a copy of the Sacramento Business Recycling Ordinance be provided to EDSWAC since we might be looking at having to do this in the future. The City of South Lake Tahoe is also discussing a similar ordinance.

C. Surcharge Index / Rebate-

This is in response to Don Nizolek's questions about when the fuel surcharge will be removed from his Western El Dorado Recovery bill. Jeff Rusert stated that since there was no mechanism in place in the Franchise Agreement to reduce the fuel surcharge nothing could be done until the rate setting hearings were held in June. In June they were supposed to eliminate the fuel surcharge for Amador Disposal and El Dorado Disposal per a Resolution passed by the Board of Supervisors. Don Nizolek provided a copy of his November Western El Dorado Recovery bill which shows that a fuel surcharge was still being added to his monthly fees. The Resolution did not state when the surcharge was supposed to be removed (immediately or by a certain time frame).
Dixon asked that this get followed up on.

D. Status of meeting with Walt Harmon

George Turnboo stated that the committee decided not to meet with Walt Harmon at this time since the Methane Gas project is now happening. Dave Johnston reported that there have been phone conversations between STI and Walt Harmon to compare technologies.

6. Legislative/Regulatory Update -

All solid waste legislation was over in October. There will not be anything done until January when they come back. The first two months will deal with 2009 2-Year Bills. The Chesbro Bill that we had been following has been gutted. It would have required a state-wide goal of diversion to go to 75% and to increase the tipping fees. It will be back in January with a different number.

Jeanne Lear asked what was going on with the Waste Board. .Jon Souza and Jim Greco were at a rural counties meeting back in October where Mark Leary, Executive Director of the Waste Board and the acting Director of the Department of Conservation gave presentations. They feel the Waste Board will still have the ability to not only legislate but also to control the issues with ordinances. DOC has pulled the money that they normally would give to the collection facilities for administration costs, but they will still give them the money to pay out to the person bringing in the recyclables. This will directly affect the "mom & pop" collection centers. The money they pulled was given to the legislature to fund other expenses.

7. Meeting AB 939 Goals -

Jeff Rusert reported that the County received a new tire grant that will now have the County working with STR to collect tires at the South Tahoe Refuse site, and once the El Dorado Disposal contract has been approved we will also being collecting tires at the Placerville El Dorado Disposal site.

Don Nisolek stated that he thought that our five year annual review is due on November 15, 2010 and thought that we might want to start thinking about working on this since we have a number of new members who are not familiar with the process. There was some discussion as to when this review was actually due, so Dixon asked for it to be looked into.

8. Agency/Jurisdiction Reports -

A. Amador County –

No Report

B. El Dorado Disposal / Western El Dorado Recovery –

No Report

C. Cameron Park Community Service District –

No Report

D. El Dorado County –

In October there were four household hazardous waste collection events. There are two scheduled for November. Twenty-five thousand postcards were sent out to people of the West slope describing the upgrades to the El Dorado Hills Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site and letting them know what they can bring to the site. The mailings dramatically increased the amount of people bringing in their waste. The turnout went from 50 cars to 240 cars on the collection days.

E. El Dorado Hills CSD

No Report

F. City of Placerville

Mandatory collection is under way; the remainder of the residential customers are getting on board. There is an exemption clause in the requirement that was left pretty loose; you could get an exemption if you have too steep of a driveway for a truck to get up, or if you do not generate but a basket full of garbage over a certain period of time. The City looks to see if there are any Code Enforcement issues for the site before approving the exemption. There are still a lot of people that are self haulers that want to keep it that way. If their site starts to be a problem then they will go after them to get an account. The three-cart system is working great. People are starting to rotate into smaller trash cans. They had a fall clean up day, which took in ten tons of materials. The fall clean up day usually takes in half of what is brought in during the spring clean up events.

About 95% of the commercial businesses have accounts but there are discussions about a commercial recycling program.

G. City of South Lake Tahoe / South Tahoe Refuse Co., Inc.

Jeanne reported that they are looking into getting someone designated as an alternate to the committee since David Kelly could not make it to the meeting today.

The State permit came in for the new facility and they are about three signs away from their Certificate of Occupancy.

They have put together a proposal for school recycling, one unified program throughout the school district, which has gone to Dr. Charwater, the Superintendent of Schools.

The City and STR is also working on putting together a commercial, mandatory recycling program that will probably have some reasonable exemption worked into it.

9. Open Forum/ Public Comments

None

10. 2010 Meeting Schedule:

The 2010 EDSWAC meetings were discussed and a schedule was passed out. It was motioned by Nancy Spinella that the meeting time be changed from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by George Turnboo, and approved by the committee.

The next meeting is: **January 11, 2010 at 2:30 p.m.**

11. Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by Deana Watkins-Howey

Approved:_____

Date: _____

Chairperson