EL DORADO COUNTY
SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

South Tahoe Refuse Company
2140 Ruth Ave, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
September 14, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Dickson Schwarzbach, Task Force Chairperson
Jeanne Lear, South Lake Tahoe Refuse
Don Nizolek, Task Force Co-Chairperson
Rick Angelocci, City of South Lake Tahoe
Allison Hamaker, El Dorado Hills CSD

COUNTY STAFF:
Jon Souza, Environmental Management
Dave Johnston, Environmental Management
Deana Watkins-Howey, Environmental Management
Vicki Hallas, Environmental Management

OTHERS PRESENT:
Jim Greco, Independent Consultant
John Marchini, South Lake Tahoe Refuse
Mark Unquhart, HDR Engineering

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Bill McCluskey, County Resident
Nancy Spinella, County Resident
Livia Amidon, Cameron Park CSD
George Turnboo, County Resident
Gary Pigg, City of Placerville
David Kelley, South Lake Tahoe Resident
Sue Farris, El Dorado Disposal

I. Call to Order
Dickson Schwarzbach called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm.
Quorum not established.

III. Staff Announcements
None

IV. Approval of Agenda
No vote on approval of agenda taken since quorum not established. Agenda will be approved at the next meeting with a quorum.

V. Approval of Minutes from May 11, 2009
No vote on approval of minutes takes since quorum not established. The minutes will be approved at the next meeting with a quorum.

V. Old Business / Action Items

A. Solid Waste Working Group Update: Dave Johnston with Environmental Management reported that the last Solid Waste Working Group meeting was on September 2, 2009. Subcommittees of this Working Group have met to discuss grants, and alternative technologies. The County is applying for an Alternative Energy Block Grant that will provide approximately $812,000 to provide money to pay for facility upgrades (HVAC/electrical upgrades). A draft (6th or 7th version) RFP has been created and will go to the BOS on September 29, 2009 for approval. The working group is talking about taking tours of the Western Placer County solid waste facility and the solid waste facility in Anderson next month. Dickson requested that minutes from Working Group meetings and the Draft RFP be forwarded to EDSWAC members.

B. Status of C & D Pending Changes- Jon Souza reported that the CAO's office sent revisions to EMD. The EDC Builder's Exchange denied providing a letter of support for the proposed changes. The committee discussed the importance of getting this support from the Builder's Exchange and of not submitting the Ordinance to the BOS for approval without this support. If the Solid Waste Plan comes back and states that revisions to the C & D Ordinance should be made, this may help with going back to the Builder's Exchange. At this time, no direction has been given to follow up with the Builder's Exchange. Without support from the Builder's Exchange is changes to the C & D ordinance is on hold.

C. Status of meeting with Walt Harmon
There was no discussion on this item since there was no information on follow-up.

VI. Legislative/Regulatory Update
Jon Souza with Environmental Management reported that the two bills he's been following, AB479 and SB25. Jon reported that AB479 has been toned down quite a bit. AB479 originally had a diversion goal of 60% by 2015 for jurisdictions and 75% by 2020 for the State. The bill was also going to double the tipping fee and require that each jurisdiction set up a mandatory Commercial Recycling Ordinance. In the latest version, the State goal of 75% remains, and there's no increase in the tipping fee. Under Commerical Recycling, there only needs to be an educational component; an ordinance is no longer required. Jon is not sure about edits to SB25. As far as Jon knows both bills are in committees.

VII. Meeting AB 939 Goals -
Jon Souza reported that the annual reports for 2007 and 2008 were submitted this year. This is the first time two years of reports were required in one year.

El Dorado County's goal was to have 5.3 lbs per person but the actual number came in at 4.4 lbs. per person. The Employment goal was 23.2 lbs but we came in at 19.5 lbs. per employee.

Jon reported for Gary Pigg on the City of Placerville's goals. They had a population goal of 6.6 lbs per person and they came in at 5.1 lbs. For Employment the goal was 10.3 lbs, and it came in at 5.4 lbs.

Jeanne Lear reported that the City of South Lake Tahoe came in approximately a pound over their goal. There is a third clause in the Bill that states that jurisdictions can use an alternative method. Jeanne is researching if this alternative method can be used for the City due to the number of vacation homes in the area and the area being a tourist destination. This has made it extremely difficult to track numbers accurately. The State Board is not considering SLT as being out of compliance. SLT was extremely out with the numbers in 2008 due to the Angora Fires. The Waste Board has told them they will pull those numbers out, but Jeanne noticed they are still being reported on the State's website.

Dickson requested that a list of the Programs that the County said they would implement to meet the requirements of AB 939 be provided at the next meeting. Jon Souza pointed out that some of the programs (ie. backyard composting) that we said we would implement cannot easily be measured. Dickson also wanted to get a list of materials that are going in and out of the landfills for 2008.

VIII. 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
Environmental Management Department
Due to budget issues, the EMD has not been doing many outreach events. There are Household Hazardous Waste events scheduled for October, and November.

A five year extension was sent to the BOS for South Tahoe Refuse's Disposal franchise agreement.
There was a letter sent by Waste Connections to the County where they were protesting a denial to an increase to their rates (based on a CPI increase). This letter is now being reviewed by County Counsel where they have 45 days to respond.

Don Nizolek wants the fuel surcharge brought back up since he thought this should have been removed but finds that it is still being charged. Back in July, Don had asked at the EDSWAC meeting why this was still in place. He would also like to know: what was the documentation that allowed for implementing this surcharge. What index was used, when was the index reviewed, and if it has been reviewed; what was the outcome of that review?

The County is moving forward with an agreement with SCL Engineering to look into the feasibility of converting excess methane gas produced at the Union Mine Treatment Plant into a useable fuel. The energy saved would be sold back to PG & E and used to run the plant.

e. El Dorado Hills Community Service District –
Allison Hamaker is the new EDHCSD representative to EDSWAC. Diana Hillyer has been moved to Parks and Recreation. October 17, 2009 is the date for their Community Clean-Up Day. They are looking at revamping the green waste collection site on Latrobe Road. Heavy use of dumpsters by commercial landscapers is making it hard for use by residents. They are looking at charging fees to the commercial users and are in the process of holding hearings. They are going to try designating one of the dumpsters for strictly residential use.

There are multiple e-waste collection events that have popped up around the EDH's area, which the District is trying to stop because they have an exclusive contract for collection with Waste Connections. These types of events are somewhat of a problem because they pull away from the diversion numbers.

The committee suggested that we send a letter of appreciation to Diana Hillyer for all her expertise and work that she provided to EDSWAC over the years. Dickson will draft this letter.

f. City of Placerville
Jon Souza reported for Gary Pigg. The city has been monitoring four different pieces of legislation related to business recycling mandates. The City has been looking at implementing some type of business recycling program. They are also having a clean up day at the main county library on October 10, 2009 from 9 am to 3 pm. They will accept trash, general recycling and e-waste. Snowline Hospice will also be there to collect items.

g. City of South Lake Tahoe/ South Tahoe Refuse
They are also having problems with e-waste events happening around the community. They are working on an option for mandatory commercial recycling and trash pick up. They have put out a request to open a satellite buy-back center, since the current one has become too busy, causing long lines and traffic issues. The have received calls about people having their blue bags stolen presumedly to redeem the recyclable

items for money. They have their Air Fest, and a Harvest festival in September and Fire Fest on October 4th. They have two grants that are frozen in the State. The two grants that they have received are reimbursement grants. The State is not accepting any request for reimbursement at this time.

IX. Open Forum/ Public Comments

Jon Souza was approached by the UC Davis Master Composter at the County. They are starting a vermaculture composting program and want to start selling containers for the program. They are having a fundraiser where they will be selling plants. Debbie Harlow will be giving a vermaculture composting presentation at the Library next weekend. The UC Master Composter wants to come and speak to EDSWAC. Dickson asked if we could add information on vermaculture composting to the County's website, or a link to information.

The committee extended a thank you to South Tahoe Refuse for hosting the meeting and providing lunch to the committee members and visitors.

Next Meeting: November 16, 2009

VI. Meeting Adjourned at 1:58 pm

Submitted by Deana Watkins-Howey

Approved:_____

Date: _____
Chairperson