



San Benito County Integrated Waste Management Regional Agency Local Task Force

IWM Task Force Members: San Juan Bautista Councilmember & Local Task Force Chair **John Freeman**, San Benito County Board of Supervisor **Kollin Kosmicki**, City of Hollister Councilmember **Rick Perez**, City of Hollister Mayor **Ignacio Velazquez** (Alternate)

IWM Staff: County Resource Management Agency Interim Director **Mike Chambless**, IWM Manager **Celina Stotler**, IWM Recycling Coordinator **Jiane Dionisio**, IWM Recycling Intern **Monica Abonce**

Integrated Waste Management (IWM) Local Task Force

Special Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 22, 2021

9:00am

I. Call to Order

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Acknowledge Certificate of Posting
4. Approve minutes for September 16, 2021

Meeting was held in the San Benito County Chamber and by zoom.

Meeting was called to order at 9:10am

The following LTF members were present: John Freeman, Rick Perez, Kollin Kosmicki

The following IWM Staff were present: Celina Stotler, Monica Abonce

Acknowledge Certificate of Posting

JF made a motion to acknowledge certificate of posting. Seconded by RP and KK. Motion carried 3-0.

Approve minutes for September 16, 2021.

JF made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by RP and KK. Motion carried 3-0.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Presentations

1. VICO – Conceptual Proposal for SB 1383 Compliance

Details below.

IV. Adjourn



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LTF Chair, John Freeman made a motion to adjourn at 10:25am. Seconded by RP and KK. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting Details:

Presentations

1. *VICO – Conceptual Proposal for SB 1383 Compliance*

IWM Manager, Celina Stotler introduced VICO and presentation topic—to build infrastructure that will help San Benito County reduce its carbon footprint and comply with some of SB 1383’s requirements. The infrastructure plan being presented is a conceptual proposal for discussion.

VICO President & CEO, Brian Cullen introduces himself as well as VICO Vice President, Samuel Kramer, VICO Sustainability Analyst, Sue-Ling Choquette and GHD’s Waste Management and Energy Lead, Kenneth Lewis. Brian Cullen discussed VICO’s company mission.

Sam Kramer provided an SB 1383 overview, detailed the conceptual facility locations and the current waste flows in San Benito County. The proposed waste transfer station was discussed as part of a Phase 1.

LTF Member, Rick Perez asked question regarding what a transfer station would look like.

Sam Kramer answered that the waste transfer station would be located near the Hollister Wastewater Treatment Plant. The transfer station would provide a space to separate materials and consolidate before being sent to the landfill. Only commercial vehicles would then be taking materials to the landfill to reduce traffic and wear-and-tear on the landfill roads. Brian Cullen continued to share information about their project and listed items their team has completed to date, the data gaps, goals and objectives of IWM, current waste flows, phase 1 transfer station, phase 2 organics processing, Phase 3 organics processing and anaerobic digestion at the Resource Recovery Facility.

LTF Member, Kollin Kosmicki brought up the issue of sludge and what the cost implications are to solve this problem.

Resource Management Agency (RMA) Interim Director, Mike Chambless responded to Kollin Kosmicki and clarified that adding a transfer station close to the waste water treatment plant will greatly reduce the cost of transportation. Mike also explained how sludge is taking up landfill space when it could be turned into a product at a transfer station

LTF Member, Rick Perez added that City of Hollister passed a resolution recently where San Benito Foods is now taking charge of the wastewater facility operation.

RMA Interim Director, Mike Chambless added that the resolution that was passed was specifically for the industrial wastewater plant not the other Hollister plant.

LTF Member, Kollin Kosmicki added that landfill expansion may change tonnage numbers and asked how that impacts VICO’s plans.



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Sam Kramer answered that knowing the exact tonnage number and type of materials coming into the landfill is desired by their team so that they could best plan both phases and have the appropriate equipment size.

LTF Member, Kollin Kosmicki asked if the waste transfer station would be temporary.

Sam Kramer answered that the waste transfer station would be a permanent facility, but it would be a part of a phased implementation—where it would be a first milestone in building SB 1383 infrastructure that is needed. Currently, there is not enough data for building an anaerobic digestion facility, which is one reason why the waste transfer station and anaerobic digestion infrastructures would be built through two phases.

LTF Member, Kollin Kosmicki asked to clarify the rate impact and who is paying for the services.

Sam Kramer answered that there will be a fee to the citizen who is dropping off a load at the waste transfer station for the service of diverting their waste before going to the landfill. The exact amount of the fee is still undecided and will be finalized after VICO discusses with their engineering partners, contractors, and the County to figure out the capital costs to identify the fixed rate.

LTF Member, Kollin Kosmicki asked if the waste transfer station rate will be based on Recology's service rates.

Sam Kramer answered that the Recology's service rates will not impact their rates. The waste transfer station would specifically be used by private haulers and out of County haulers that are not already in a large commercial transfer station.

LTF Chair, John Freeman asked if there is going to be a materials recovery facility (MRF) built with the waste transfer station.

Sam Kramer answered that now they are only proposing to build an organics processing facility that would remove organics and preparing it for digestion. It may make sense for the County to have its own MRF down the road, however, currently, VICO is not certain if this is a wise investment for the County yet. VICO plans to have more information once they obtain additional waste characterization.

LTF Chair, John Freeman added that John Smith Rd. Landfill tipping fees are very low, leaving a lot of money on the table that could increase organic collection and recycling.

Sam Kramer answered that the tipping fees at the John Smith Rd. Landfill does not involve VICO. We are building a facility that would divert organics from the landfill and reduce trucking on the road getting to the landfill.

LTF Member, Rick Perez asked if there is going to be any part of the waste transfer station that will include a repurposing area such as the one in Marina.

Sam Kramer clarified that the waste transfer station will indeed have a similar area like the Marina Last Chance Mercantile in the infrastructure. It will be the reuse and salvage center shown previously. Sam Kramer continued to explain the Phase 2 advanced waste processing



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facilities and explained each step of the anaerobic digester infrastructure, the quantity and conversion of the biosolids to renewable natural gas, market value of digestate from anaerobic digestion processes, and advised IWM to mandate non-franchise haulers collecting source separated organics (SSO) to drop off their loads at the new Waste Transfer Station.

LTF Member, Rick Perez asked Sam Kramer to elaborate on what kind of facility would a digester facility be.

Sam Kramer answered that the facility will look like an industrial facility.

Sam Kramer elaborated on the Phase 2 advanced waste processing facilities and their next steps.

LTF Member, Kollin Kosmicki asked Sam to provide a dollar amount of potential revenue that the waste transfer station and anaerobic digestion will generate.

Sam Kramer answered that it is too early to say the dollar amount but added that some of the revenue would be going towards IWM Regional Agency programming. Sam Kramer carried on presenting the details of the conceptual map and processing of the waste transfer station facility.

Brian Cullen discussed schedule and project phasing, binding proposal, costs estimates, and project development and agreement summary.

LTF Member, Kollin Kosmicki asked a question regarding whether VICO is the best contractor for this service, and how is this determined.

RMA Interim Director, Michael Chambless answered that VICO is the only contractor who has reached out to San Benito County proposing this infrastructure to guide us with state requirement compliance.

LTF Member, Kollin Kosmicki added following question regarding the next process, whether this must be approved by the other jurisdictions such as the Council and the Board.

IWM Manager, Celina Stotler stated that a similar presentation and project development agreement would be brought to Board in November for Board approval to move forward with additional data needs and project development. However, any monetary commitment made by the Integrated Waste Management Regional Agency would need to be presented to each Regional Agency member.

LTF Member, Kollin Kosmicki asked what is going to be the cost of the waste transfer station infrastructure.

Brian Cullen answered that the preliminary design work will cost roughly \$100k-\$500k. VICO will have the final total cost to present to the Regional Agency members by the end of Task 1. By either February or March 2022, VICO will have the definitive number for Task 2, and they will not proceed to start construction unless the IWM Regional Agency agrees to it. The IWM Regional Agency may decline the project of Task 2. Task 1 will be about a two-year project. Sam Kramer added that the VICO team has drafted a project development agreement form that outlines the schedule of how they will go through the project with Task 1 and Task 2 preliminary design, and lastly Task 3 to start the project.



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LTF Member, Rick Perez asked IWM Manager Celina Stotler what would happen with the infrastructure if IWM Regional Agency decides to back out of the plan.

IWM Manager, Celina Stotler answered that this is a conceptual proposal with several phases to consider. The initial planning will be at no cost to the Regional Agency and we can walk away with no cost if the Regional Agency chooses to do so early on. However at a certain point, after a "notice to proceed" is provided to VICO by the Regional Agency, a cost to the Regional Agency would occur if at any point we choose to walk away from the project. This cost is not yet determined, but we will know in the coming months and at that time the Regional Agency members can choose to move forward in the process.

RMA Interim Director, Mike Chambless added that we currently do not have the data needed to build the SB 1383 infrastructure needed but VICO can support IWM. Mike also explained regardless of our decision to move forward with the project development agreement, we need the waste characterization data.

Brian Cullen added that if VICO can start December, they will have a much better data by March for Task 2 and what the cost of the project will be.

Sam Kramer reiterated that Task 1 will have no cost, based on what they spent for Task 1, will determine Task 2.

RMA Interim Director, Michael Chambless discussed next steps and setting up a second meeting

LTF Member, Kollin Kosmicki asked for VICO and IWM to reiterate what needs to be approved at this time.

Sam Kramer answered that they at the Board of Supervisors meeting, they are asking to have only the first three months of schedule to be approved, which is Task 1.

LTF Member, Rick Perez added that he is in favor of this project.

LTF Chair, John Freeman added that he agrees with Rick Perez that VICO shall move forward with the Waste Transfer Station.

LTF Chair, John Freeman made a motion to adjourn at 10:25am. Seconded by RP and KK. Motion carried 3-0.