



COMMUNITY MONITOR COMMITTEE

Altamont Landfill Settlement Agreement

Minutes of January 14, 2015

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Turner called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Laureen Turner; David Tam; Jerry Pentin, City of Pleasanton; Jamison Pfister, Waste Management Altamont Landfill and Resource Recovery Facility (ALRRF)

Absent: Donna Cabanne, Sierra Club (arrived 4:30 PM); Robert Cooper, Altamont Landowners Against Rural Mismanagement

Others: Marisa Gan, Livermore Recycling Specialist; Sarah Fockler, Waste Management

Staff: Judy Erlandson, City of Livermore Public Works Department; and Kelly Runyon, ESA, Community Monitor

3. Introductions

Sarah Fockler introduced herself as the environmental compliance manager for the ALRRF, replacing Jamison Pfister, who will continue working at the site, managing operations. Committee members and staff also introduced themselves.

4. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Tam had one correction for the minutes. With that correction, Mr. Tam moved approval, Mr. Pentin seconded, and the minutes were approved, as corrected, 3-0 with no abstentions.

5. Open Forum

There was no Open Forum discussion.

6. Matters for Consideration

6.1 Responses to Committee Members' Questions: Well E-20B Update; Dinoseb material quantity.

In response to Ms. Cabanne's request to be kept apprised of further developments regarding well E-20B, Mr. Runyon read from a letter to the ALRRF from the Regional Water Board, dated October 10, stating that (a) the

Regional Board staff has reservations regarding the ALRRF's assertion that groundwater impacts near E-20B are caused by landfill gas and not leachate; and (b) there remains the possibility that deeper aquifers near the landfill could be impacted, due to fractures in the rock that separated the shallowest aquifer from other water-bearing zones. Hence the Water Board will be requiring sampling from deeper wells, in the future.

At Committee Members' request, the complete letter has been appended to these minutes and added to the Committee web site.

Ms. Cabanne arrived at 4:30 PM.

Mr. Runyon also provided requested information on the quantity of material removed as part of the recent cleanup of potentially-dinoseb-bearing material: 384 tons of material were removed and incinerated. Ms. Cabanne expressed some surprise at the large quantity of material; Mr. Runyon explained that it had been deposited in such a way that it had mixed with a substantial amount of solid waste.

6.2 Review of Reports From Community Monitor (ESA)

Mr. Runyon presented information from site inspections in October through December of 2014, summarizing observations and tonnage data from that time period. Chairperson Turner asked if the windblown litter problem was improving. Mr. Runyon described some areas of improvement and some aspects of windblown litter that have not improved and require (and receive) continual attention. Mr. Pfister noted they added six casual laborers to pick up litter after a recent high wind event, and they are near their peak elevation for refuse placement, which subjects the working face to higher winds than in the past. The ALRRF expects the situation to improve when Fill Area 2 begins to be used. He also mentioned that the landfill and the CHP are actively enforcing the requirement that loads be covered when they arrive.

Mr. Runyon also mentioned bird control methods: the propane cannon, which is relatively ineffective and has not been in use during any recent inspections, and the small noise-making fireworks, which are more effective but were not in use during two of the last three inspections. He stated that there is room for improvement regarding bird deterrence, and other methods, including falconry and the displaying of dead birds to discourage other birds from remaining in the area.

Chairperson Turner asked if the bird situation is worse than in the recent past. Mr. Runyon replied that in general, no; but during the December site visit, on a foggy day after stormy weather, the number of birds on site seemed significantly greater than in other inspections. Mr. Pentin asked if the birds present a health issue or a nuisance issue. Mr. Runyon responded that the birds present health risks (bird flu, and carrying wastes off site) and are a nuisance for operations, customers and neighbors. Mr. Pentin also asked if

falconry clubs could be invited to deter birds from the site. Mr. Runyon responded that typically, landfill falconry is conducted by professionals, not clubs. Mr. Pfister added that he did not know of any falconry having been conducted at the site, by clubs or professionals; and he has been working on a depredation application (to display dead birds) and they now have permission to take up to 100 birds. The landfill is now considering the best way to safely cull those birds, but has not yet taken that step.

Mr. Runyon also described the effects of the December storms, including ponding and some damage to the gate of the asbestos area. He noted that erosion on the landfill was minimal, but a significant erosion problem did occur in the excavation for Fill Area 2.

Mr. Runyon also pointed out that minor discrepancies continue to occur occasionally in monthly tonnage totals, and he described the bar graphs that show monthly quantities of refuse and cover material being brought to the site. Mr. Tam asked if the tonnage of refuse had declined, compared to the previous year. Mr. Runyon responded that it remained about the same.

6.3 2014 Annual Report

Mr. Runyon took comments from Committee members on the draft Annual Report. Mr. Tam and Ms. Turner complimented him on the readability of the report. Ms. Cabanne asked about the status of the MRF fines study. Mr. Runyon reported that the study had concluded, MRF fines are being used routinely as an approved alternative daily cover, and the LEA continues to check the quality of the material, visually, from time to time.

Mr. Tam reported new information regarding Redwood Landfill: recently, the California Court of Appeal, First District, overturned the lower court's adverse decision, which had set aside the EIR for landfill expansion. He also stated that the latest decision is being appealed to the State Supreme Court. Mr. Runyon stated that he would correct the report.

Ms. Cabanne asked if the date for opening Fill Area 2 had changed. Mr. Pfister stated that the recent wet weather would require some repair to the excavation, and liner material is in the process of being ordered; June to July of 2015 is the target date for Fill Area 2 operations to begin. Ms. Cabanne mentioned the requirement for certain mitigations to occur prior to the use of Fill Area 2. Mr. Runyon noted that this year, the Annual Report provides a list of such mitigations, and he is expecting to see reports from the ALRRF documenting those mitigations, probably in time for the Committee's April meeting. Ms. Cabanne expressed particular concern about the requirement that noise controls be offered to neighboring residences.

Mr. Pentin made a motion that the Annual Report be accepted with the changes that had been discussed; Ms. Cabanne seconded that; and the Committee voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

7. Agenda Building

No items were suggested.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 8 at 4:00 p.m.** at the Livermore Maintenance Services Center at 3500 Robertson Park Road.