



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meredith Matthews, City of Arcata, **Chair**
Adelene Jones, City of Blue Lake **Vice Chair**
Leslie Castellano, City of Eureka,
Randy Cady, City of Ferndale
Steve Madrone, County of Humboldt
Frank Wilson, City of Rio Dell

Minutes

Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 5:30 PM

Eureka City Council Chamber

Present: Meredith Matthews, Frank Wilson, Leslie Castellano, Adelene Jones,
Randy Cady, Steve Madrone
Absent: None
Staff: Eric Keller-Heckman, Hilary Schwartz, Loral Uber

1. Call to Order and Roll Call at 5:30 PM

Chairperson Matthews called the meeting to order at 5:28 PM. A quorum was present and acting.

2. Consent Calendar

- a. Approve Minutes from the August 10, 2023 HWMA Board of Directors Meeting

Motion: **Director Jones** moved and **Director Castellano** seconded the motion to approve the Consent Calendar.
Action: Approve the Motion as made by **Director Jones** and seconded by **Director Matthews**
Ayes: Unanimous
Noes: None
Absent: None

3. Oral and Written Communications

Chairperson Matthews opened the floor to public comment regarding items not on the agenda. No public comment was received.

Chairperson Matthews closed the floor to public comment.

4. Review and Approve Recommendation to Award Transportation and Organics Processing Services to Cold Creek Compost

Executive Director Keller-Heckman Provided a presentation that summarized the responses to the RFP, identified key factors to consider if the contract is awarded to Cold Creek Compost and included an organics processing timeline highlighting key steps to achieving compliance with SB1383. Key future steps of the organics processing timeline include Facility Modifications, Negotiate & Approve Franchise Collection Amendments, Organic Waste Recovery Facility, Rate Development, Recommend Phased Implementation with full implementation in July of 2024.

Director Wilson requested a clarification if green waste would also be included in the materials sent to Cold Creek Compost. **Executive Director Keller Heckman** clarified that green waste disposal with Cold Creek Compost was TBD and explained that Cold Creek does not accept pre-processed slurry. Cold Creek provided some flexibility in how we implement collection programs as well as not require purchase of processing machine.

Chairperson Matthews requested a clarification if the organics waste materials would be leaving the County. **Executive Director Keller Heckman** clarified that the material indeed will be going to Ukiah for the duration of the agreement. He also explained it was highly unlikely that it would take more than three years to develop and permit a location in County to support our anticipated disposal volumes.

Chairperson Matthews requested if there was a significant cost savings of not having to buy a pre-processing unit. **Executive Director Keller Heckman** clarified the pre-processing had an estimate cost of 1.1 million for purchase and installation.

Chairperson Matthews requested if the proposed collection methods for residential customers would be affected. **Executive Director Keller Heckman** responded by saying that it would not impact how the residential collection was planned, but it could impact the timing of implementation. Easier for jurisdictions to implement because residential food waste and green waste could now go to the same location as commercial food waste.

Director Madrone requested if Nordic or other organic waste sources come online if the Authority is evaluating more long-term solutions for keeping the organics waste stream in County with a digester or some other technology. **Executive Director Keller Heckman** responded that discussion of long-term solutions has taken place but the current focus is scoping this first step in achieving short-term compliance with SB 1383.

Chairperson Matthews opened the floor for public comment. Frank Nelson-Recology was supportive of the Cold Creek RFP and glad to see the progress being made at the meeting. **Director Castellano** was supportive of the current waste stream as a short-term solution but prefers to keep organic waste in County for the longer term.

Motion: **Director Castellano** moved and **Director Madrone** seconded the motion to approve staff recommendation
Action: Approve the Motion as made by **Director Castellano** and seconded by **Director Madrone**
Ayes: Unanimous
Noes: None
Absent: None

5. Authorize Chair to Submit Letter to the State Governors Office Expressing Support for Little Hoover Commission Report 274, *Californias’s Landfill Methane Emissions: SB 1383 Implementation*

Executive Director Keller-Heckman provided background to the previous discussion of the Little Hoover Commission Report and presented a letter demonstrating HWMA’s support of the findings in the Little Hoover Commission report.

Motion: **Director Madrone** moved and **Director Jones** seconded the motion to authorize **Chair** to sign support letter and distribute letter to jurisdictions
Action: Approve the Motion as made by **Director Madrone** and seconded by **Director Jones**
Ayes: Unanimous
Noes: None
Absent: None

6. Standing Item: Board Member Reports

Director Madrone stated North Fork Lumber is in the process of permitting and developing a biomass plant that could potentially accept green waste disposal whenever the project comes online.

Director Jones informed the board of a large item and tire disposal event on October 28th in Blue Lake

7. Standing Item: Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Keller-Heckman informed board to expect FY 2022-23 finalized audit at October meeting with the support of new HWMA Finance Director and JJACPA.

8. Chairperson Matthews adjourned the meeting at 5:56 PM.