**Rural Counties Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority**

**Board of Directors & Technical Advisory Meeting Minutes**

**1215 K St., Suite 1650**

**Sacramento, CA 95814**

**Thursday, June 12, 2025**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jeff Gardner Amador County

Craig Cissell Butte County

Tedd Ward Del Norte County

Supervisor Lori Parlin El Dorado County

Jose Castaneda Imperial County

Supervisor Rhonda Duggan Mono County

Brad Torres Nevada County

Sean Graham Plumas County

Charleen Beard Shasta County

Narcisa Untal Solano County

Paul Freund Tehama County

Diane Rader Trinity County

Deborah Reagan Tuolumne County

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Staci Heaton, Deputy Executive Director Rural Counties ESJPA

Larry Sweetser, ESJPA Consultant Sweetser and Associates, Inc.

Sanjay Lee, Accounting Manager RCRC

John Kennedy, Senior Policy Advocate RCRC

Julie Lunn, Office Coordinator RCRC

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

Melissa Vargas, CalRecycle

Eric Payne, CalRecycle

Joanne Brasch, California Product Stewardship Council

Christine Messer, Mattress Recycling Council

Eric Humphreys, PaintCare

### Call to Order, Self-Introductions, and Determination of Quorum

Supervisor Lori Parlin, ESJPA, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. A quorum was determined at that time, and Staci Heaton, ESJPA Deputy Executive Director, gave an overview of meeting procedures in accordance with the Brown Act.

#### Business Matters

* + 1. The Board considered minutes from the March 27, 2025 meeting for approval. Ms. Heaton recommended approval with a correction to include Supervisor Mike Holland, Tuolumne County, in the attendees for the meeting. Motion/Second to approve the minutes by El Dorado County/Del Norte County. Motion approved unanimously.
    2. The Board considered the 2024 Audited Financial Statements for approval. Sanjay Lee, RCRC Accounting Manager, presented the item to the board. Motion/Second to approve by Del Norte County/Solano County. Motion approved unanimously.

1. **Public Comment**

Craig Cissell, Butte County, noted that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) was doing inspections of landfill emissions monitoring and levying fines for exceeding the 500 ppm standard. The fines are $12,500 days max, but those fines are for willful violations. Mr. Sweetser noted that CARB is revising their landfill methane rule, but that this is the first time we have heard of fines being levied.

1. **Presentations**
   * 1. Community Green Waste Collection Events – Deborah Reagan, Solid Waste Director, Tuolumne County

Ms. Reagan gave an overview of the county’s program. Supervisor Duggan asked that the slide deck be sent out to attendees after the meeting.

* + 1. Report from CalRecycle

Melissa Vargas, Local Assistance and Market Development Branch, noted several upcoming opportunities for training, including an EAR training webinar on June 25. She also offered that the recording of the January 2025 monthly SB 1383 chat is now available on CalRecycle’s YouTube channel. Ms. Vargas discussed a number of upcoming grants with due dates coming soon. Ms. Vargas also discussed upcoming workshops, including the Illegal Dumping Technical Advisory Committee.

Mr. Sweetser noted that the CalRecycle monthly meetings have been quiet on the compliance evaluation front and people are wondering what’s going on. Ms. Vargas noted that she is working with JACE , but was not sure where they are in the process and would investigate.

* + 1. Recycling and Disposal Reporting System (RDRS)

Eric Payne, Cal Recycle, presented the latest updates on the RDRS.

#### Member County Concerns/Comments

Valerie Meza, Butte County, noted that they received a surprise visit from Calrecycle to check tire manifests and see what they had on site.

Narcisa Untal, Solano County, asked if each jurisdiction could present on how they manage their waste.

#### Legislative Update

John Kennedy, RCRC Senior Policy Advocate, discussed a number of bills included in the supplemental legislative packet, including AB 337, AB 411, AB 436, AB 1046, AB 473, AB 973, SB 14, AB 672, SB 615, AB 998, SB 501, AB 1325, and AB 1153. Mr. Kennedy also gave a brief update on the industry effort to get a 5-year extension from CalRecycle to continue labeling certain products as biodegradable.

1. **Extended Producer Responsibility** 
   * California Product Stewardship Council Update – Joanne Brasch, Director of Advocacy and Outreach, CPSC

Ms. Brasch noted that the solar panel pilots are going really well, and that they are actually paying residents and gov’t entities to install used panels. The pilots are helping with negotiations on the solar panels bill. The first workshop on SB 707, the textile EPR bill from last year, is on July 17. She noted that AB 80 is moving with amends. AB 864 moving with amends as well, and language will be out soon.

* + Mattress Recycling Council Update – Christine Messer, Northern California Program Coordinator

Ms. Messer noted that they have taken a pause on new events, so they don’t have as many going as usual in abundance of caution for the budget. She also noted that they have added another site in Plumas County, which will be a seasonal site from May1-Oct 31.

* + PaintCare Update – Eric Humphreys, California Regional Program Coordinator, PaintCare

PaintCare had 815 active drop off sites at the end of 2024, and collected more than 3.5 million gallons. They have done 1052 large volume pick-ups in CA, and will be expanding that. They are working on a transition away from recurring over to a large volume. Well within convenience criteria, have a few new sites in Plumas. Lost a site in Quincy, so will be replacing it. They are actively researching aerosols and other products for program expansion.

1. **Solid Waste/Regulatory Update**

Discussion and possible action related to the following:

* + 1. Federal Update

Ms. Heaton gave an update on several federal issues that could impact California, including the One Big Beautiful Bill moving through the budget reconciliation process. Ms. Heaton also noted cuts to USDA Forest Service staff that could impact how national forest lands are managed in the near future. Supervisor Duggan noted that USFS staff are no longer providing garbage receptacles on national forest lands, assuming that local jurisdictions will take care of it.

* + 1. CalRecycle

1. SB 54 Implementation

Mr. Sweetser noted that the SB 54 regulations are out for second round of public comment, which RCRC did provide. The Advisory Board is meeting again. RCRC/ESJPA are still struggling to make sure that locals are made whole financially.

1. SB 1383 Implementation

Mr. Sweetser discussed the Electronic Annual Report, which is due August 1.

1. SB 1013 Dealer Co-Op Regulations

This item was covered in the Legislative Update.

1. Illegal Dumping

Mr. Sweester noted that the Illegal Dumping Advisory Committee would be meeting on June 18 and are focused on forming collaborative efforts.

1. Department of Toxics Substances Control
   * + - 1. Hazardous Waste Management Plan

Mr. Sweetser discussed the next hearing, which is scheduled for July 15.

* + - * 1. Program Updates

Mr. Sweetser noted that DTSC is doing pop-up inspections of facilities and household hazardous waste programs.

1. California Air Resources Board
   * 1. Advanced Clean Fleets

Ms. Heaton mentioned two legislative efforts to give CARB full fee authority, as well as discussed the status of CARB’s Advanced Clean Fleets regulations and RCRC’s sponsored bill, Senate Bill 496 (Hurtado).

* + 1. Landfill Toxic Hot Spots

Mr. Sweetser noted that ESJPA has been involved in efforts to figure out how to do testing, pooled testing, etc. The inventory will have to be submitted by 2028.

* + 1. Landfill Methane Outreach Update

Mr. Sweetser discussed CARB’s attempts to revamp regulations for this issue, and that they are meeting with industry.

1. Grant Program and Contracts Update
   * 1. CalRecycle Rural Zero Waste

This discussion was deferred to the Technical Advisory Group.

* + 1. ESJPA Ongoing and Potential Grants

Mr. Sweetser encouraged members to submit their applications for Tire Amnesty 7 grant. view the information in their packet. The tire grant is opening up, ESJPA will be submitting regional application.

* + 1. SB 1383 Local Assistance Grants

Mr. Sweetser did a brief check-in on grants and noted that ESJPA would be helping Del Norte County develop a GHG calculator.

1. Highlights of April-May 2025 CalRecycle Monthly Meetings

Ms. Sweester noted that Zoe Heller was confirmed as Director of CalRecycle. CalRecycle is working with locals on post-fire cleanup. SB 212 stewardship program is still undergoing review, and there are concerns with stewardship orgs about compliance. Mr. Sweeser asked members to let ESJPA know if they are having problems with pharms/sharps compliance. Covered electronics program.

1. Agenda Suggestions, Member County Presentation Volunteer, Workshop Topics for Next ESJPA Board Meeting Scheduled June 2025

None noted.

1. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.