



LASSEN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

(a California public agency)

Board of Directors:

Ralph Ellis – At Large, Chairman
Aaron Albaugh – County, Vice Chairman
Mike Scanlan - County
Russ Brown – City
Patrick Parrish - City
Mendy Schuster – City Alternate
Jason Ingram - County Alternate
Tom Neely - County Alternate

Staff:

Manager: Pete Heimbigner
Clerk of the Board: Christine del Llano
Counsel: Josh Nelson
Landfill Foreman:

LASSEN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, REGULAR MEETING

– AGENDA –

TUESDAY

April 22, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

707 Nevada Street, Susanville, California 96130

- ▶ Any person desiring to address the Board of Directors shall first secure permission of the presiding officer.
- ▶ The Public may address matters under the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors, and not on the Agenda, at the time provided in the Agenda under Public Comment.
- ▶ The Board of Directors will not take action on any subject that is not on the Agenda.

-
- A. CALL TO ORDER
 - B. ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 - C. AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS
 - D. CLOSED SESSION - No items(s) for consideration.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

(Any person may address the Board at this time to comment on any subject not on the agenda. However, the Board may not take action other than to direct staff to place the matter on the agenda at a future meeting).

F. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

1. Unagendized Reports by Board Members
2. Staff Reports
 - Update on Ground Water Monitoring Well Project

G. CONSENT CALENDAR –

1. Subject: Approval of and/or additions to and deletions for the following meeting minutes.
 - March 25, 2025 Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes.

H. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. Resolution 2025-02 and 2025-03 authorizing staff to apply for grants for the next five years and update purchasing policies required to apply for grants.

Action Requested:

- a) Approve Resolution 2025-02, update code, Title Three (3), establishing 3.01.021, Environmentally Preferable Purchasing and Practices Policy (need for grants but a base line to AB1383 for 2037 implementation of Procurement Policies more robust than this)
 - b) Approve Resolution 2025-03 providing staff authority to apply for grants for the next five years
2. Update Westwood Landfill (Transfer Station) hours of operation(s)

Action Requested: Approve Resolution 2025-04 amending the Westwood Joint Technical Document to update hours of operation(s).

I. ADJOURNMENT

Next Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting: May 27, 2025.



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(a California public agency)

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Jason Ingram, County Alternate
Tom Neely, County Alternate

Staff:

Manager: Pete Heimbigner
Clerk of the Board: Christine del Llano
Counsel: Josh Nelson
Landfill Foreman: Vacant

LASSEN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

– *MINUTES* –

TUESDAY

March 25, 2025 at 1:00 PM

- A. **CALL TO ORDER:** At 1:03 p.m., Chairman Ellis called the meeting to order.
- B. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Directors Ellis, Albaugh, Brown, Parrish, and Scanlan were present.
- C. **AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS:** Pete Heimbigner requested a change in the agenda to move H 1. - Regular Calendar before F - Reports and Information. Director Albaugh motioned to approve the agenda as requested. Director Brown seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- D. **CLOSED SESSION:**
There were no items for consideration.
- E. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
Amanda Garrett, District Manager of C&S Waste updated the Board on the tonnage from Westwood/48 tons, Herlong/50 tons, Bieber/17 tons, Spalding/4 tons. Garrett also reported on the current

construction projects in the county and the construction waste they are producing.

H. REGULAR CALENDAR:

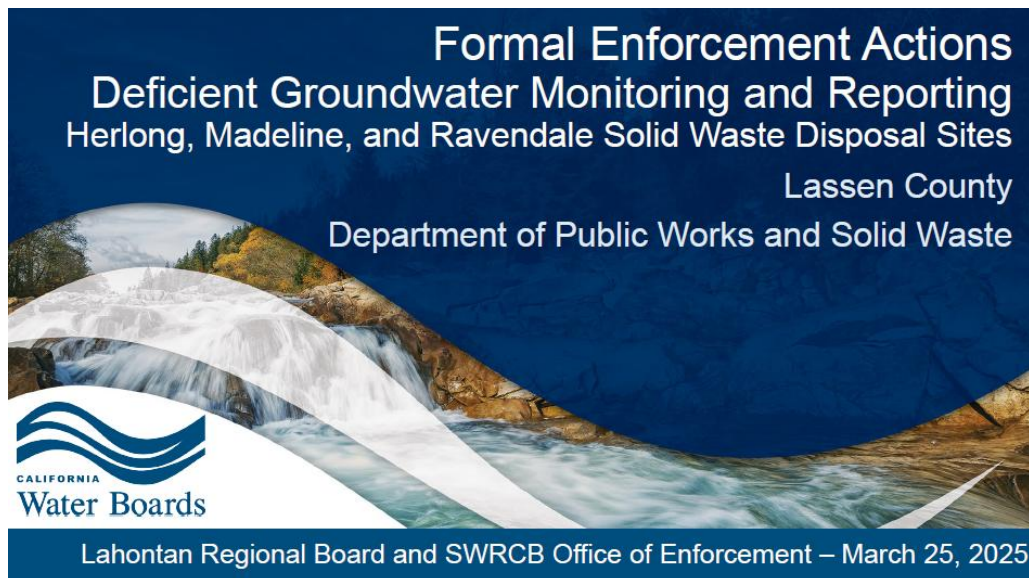
- 1. Subject: Presentation by Lahontan Regional Water Board concerning noncompliance, as it relates to installation of ground water monitoring wells, at Herlong, Madeline, and Ravendale closed solid waste landfills. Action: Receive Presentation.**

Pete Heimbigner opened the presentation by asking the Water Board staff to introduce themselves. Julie Macedo introduced herself as senior staff counsel with Office of Enforcement at the State Water Resources Control Board. Kerri O'Keefe introduced herself as the engineering geologist for Lahontan Regional Water Control Board and the case worker for the Lassen County landfills within her jurisdiction. At that time, they opened their presentation with the Board of Directors via PowerPoint which is made a part of these minutes.

Macedo commented that she and O'Keefe had met with Heimbigner and counsel, Anya Kwan, back in the fall of 2024 and believed they were brought to the meeting to be scary but after meeting and visiting with staff and seeing so few people at the meeting, she realized they would not be scary but instead bring cooperation and make some improvements on progress after the presentation review.

Macedo reviewed what they were going to talk about during their presentation. She reported that O'Keefe works for the Lahontan Regional Water Control Board and she works for the State Water Control Board in Sacramento. She represents the nine different regional boards across the state. She stated, like us, she works more locally and usually pushes back on a lot of the state directives that feel like they are "one size fits all" per county, per city per entity where everyone has different budgets, needs and staffing situations. In terms of looking at this matter, O'Keefe has been the case manager and knows the facts but they are going to discuss why we are having issues and what water quality and public health risks are at stake and move the county towards action that could prevent them from assessing penalties. They will be discussing the three landfills, Herlong, Madeline, and Ravendale. O'Keefe will go over what is required and then they will talk about the violations.

Macedo stated Lassen County has some public health vulnerabilities so they would like us to account for those. She stated this is as tough as it gets, but the state does not want the assessment of penalties, they want us to show progress and to get to closure. Even with the assessment of penalties, we will still be responsible for the work that needs to be done.



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Presentation Overview

- Landfill histories
- Board Order requirements
- Violations
- Sensitive receptors
- LRSWMA efforts
- Enforcement options
- Required next steps to avoid ACL
- Acceptable compliance options

California Water Boards

O'Keefe discussed the history of the landfills as presented below.

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History of Herlong Landfill

- **1949-1973:** Burning of waste
- **1973:** Trench and fill landfilling
- **1986:** Groundwater detection monitoring requirements
- **1988:** Groundwater monitoring network installed (three wells)
- **1993:** Revised Monitoring and Reporting Program
- **1996:** Ceased landfilling operations
- **2003:** Groundwater wells begin to go dry
- **2006:** Final cover installed and transfer station
- **2024:** One groundwater monitoring well

California Water Boards

History of Madeline & Ravendale Landfills

- **1973:** Waste disposal operations began
- **1989:** Groundwater detection monitoring requirements
- **1990:** Madeline required groundwater monitoring required
- **1993:** Ravendale groundwater monitoring required
- **1993:** Revised monitoring and reporting program
- **1997:** Ceased landfilling operations
- **2001:** Final cover installed and transfer station
- **2019:** PFAS Investigative Order
- **2024:** No groundwater monitoring network

O'Keefe reviewed the monitoring requirements as outlined below.

Monitoring Requirements

- Semi-annual groundwater monitoring
 - Volatile organic compounds
 - Metals (CAM-17)
 - Uppermost aquifer
 - Background water quality
 - Downgradient water quality
 - Groundwater elevation
 - Direction of flow
 - Gradient
- Five-year Constituent of Concern monitoring
 - Semi-volatile organic compounds
- Visual observations
 - Semi-annual
- Detection monitoring reports
 - Semi-annual
 - Annual
- PFAS sampling event

Macedo reviewed the violations as presented below.

Violations - Herlong

- **Deficient Monitoring** – Failed to maintain an adequate detection monitoring program. Violation of Board Order 6-86-32 (WDR section II.2 and MRP section I.B), Board Order 6-93-100-01 (section 13), and Title 27 (section 20420).
- **16 years of non-compliance**
 - Groundwater wells of 1988 network are dry
 - MW2 - dry since 2003
 - MW1 - dry since 2008
 - MW3 - dry since 2011
 - Only one well MW2R (installed 2004)
 - periodically dry (beginning October 2022)

Violations – Madeline & Ravendale

- **Deficient Monitoring** – Failed to install wells to maintain an adequate detection monitoring program. Violation of Board Order 6-89-81 and 6-89-82, section II.2, Board Order 6-93-100-03 and 6-93-100-04 section 13, and Title 27 section 20420.
- **Deficient Reporting** – Failed to submit semi-annual, annual and five-year COC monitoring reports. Violation of Board Order 6-86-81 and 6-89-82 (WDR section II.2 and MRP section II), Board Order 6-93-100-03 and 6-93-100-04 (section 13), and Title 27 (section 20080(d)(2)).
- **Over 30 years of non-compliance**

Macedo presented the sensitive receptors as presented below.

Sensitive Receptors

- **Drinking Water** – Groundwater (no access to public drinking water)
 - Herlong
 - Madeline
 - Ravendale
- **Residential land use**
 - Herlong – Within 1,000 feet
 - Madeline – Partially within privately owned land and federal
 - Ravendale – Immediately surrounding (non-developed), known residence within ~1,000 feet
- **Agricultural land use**
 - Herlong – Within 1,000 feet
 - Madeline – Partially within privately owned land and federal
- **Recreational land use**
 - Ravendale – Within 500 feet

Director Albaugh asked about the recreational land use for Ravendale. The sensitive receptor in the above slide shows Ravendale as recreational which is incorrect. This area is zoned for recreational use but not being used as such. Macedo responded and stated that area may not be used as recreational right now and it should not have future recreational use approved until we can get appropriate water monitoring results. Director Albaugh also asked about zoning for drinking water. The sensitive receptor slide does not include zoning for public drinking water. Macedo stated that he is correct that there is no zoning for public drinking water. The residents in these areas have domestic wells and because they are not zoned for public drinking water, they are not governed by the division of drinking water. Those domestic wells could be impacted because of a landfill discharge, a liner that has a leak, stormwater that could come into contact with leachate. What she is saying is that the county is responsible for the water bodies the residents come into contact with and they should be clean and healthy. The county has liability until the orders are complied with and the landfills are closed. Director Scanlan asked if water samples can be drawn from the domestic and/or ag wells within the 1000 feet of the landfill. Macedo responded that the orders require certain monitoring for a period of time once the landfill has closed to make sure there are no current or ongoing issues with the landfill. The county is responsible for operating the landfill and then cleanup efforts which are ongoing. If this is considered county property, the county is liable for monitoring to be done until we are off the hook. This is something we should discuss with our counsel, Josh and Anya. Macedo proceeded to explain that the Water Board needs samples and understands the wells are dry and understands they have not been constructed. She reported the state is not asking us to spend millions of dollars on penalties and they are not asking us to spend millions of dollars on wells if they are going to assume to be dry, which is not the best use of our money. The Water Board is asking what could we do, what do we want to do and what order should we do it. She stated if they could get a sample consistent to the order we would be in compliance.

Director Ellis asked about the orders. Macedo responded that the orders are public. They are from Lahontan Regional Water Control Board 6, out of Lake Tahoe. The orders were passed in 1986. On slide #6, the order numbers are listed.

O'Keefe continued their presentation with the following slides regarding the efforts for compliance by LRSWMA.

LRSWMA Efforts – Budget Approval

- Board approval of workplans for Herlong, Madeline, and Ravendale
 - November 26, 2019
- Workplans submitted for Madeline and Ravendale
 - February 4, 2020
- Workplan submitted for Herlong
 - March 9, 2020

LRSWMA Efforts – Budget Denial

- Board denies budget for well installation and sampling
 - Resolution 2020-01 for FY 2020/2021 (June 23, 2020)
 - Eliminated monitoring at Madeline and Ravendale landfills
 - Deleted survey costs for new wells at Herlong, Ravendale, and Madeline

LRSWMA Efforts – COVID-19

- LRSWMA requests regulatory relief from compliance requirements
 - June 29, 2020
- RWQCB6 grants COVID-19 pandemic relief
 - October 8, 2020
 - Postponed groundwater well installation and sampling
 - Extension termination date: December 31, 2021
- LRSWMA compliance schedule prioritizing Board Order requirements
 - November 23, 2020

LRSWMA Efforts – Compliance Schedule

Proposed Compliance Schedule Herlong, Madeline, and Ravendale SWDSs

Actions to Comply with Groundwater Monitoring Requirements	Proposed Compliance Date
Monitoring well installation and development – Herlong, Madeline, Ravendale	September 30, 2021
Initial monitoring well sampling - Herlong, Madeline, Ravendale	October 31, 2021
Groundwater Monitoring Well Installation Report	December 31, 2021
PFAS Sampling – Madeline and Ravendale	October 31, 2021
PFAS Sampling and Analysis Report – Madeline and Ravendale	January 31, 2022
Water Quality Protection Standards Report	December 31, 2025 (following 8 sampling events)

California Water Boards

LRSWMA Efforts – During COVID-19 Relief

- Resolution 2020-01 (June 23, 2020)
 - Budget authorized to purchase a new Caterpillar D8T crawler dozer with ripper for Bass Hill landfill.
- Resolution 2020-02 (July 28, 2020)
 - Authorizes the installment agreement for purchase of the heavy equipment at a purchase price of \$879,178.09.

California Water Boards

Director Ellis responded to the Resolution 2020-02, regarding the purchase of the Caterpillar, and asked the Water Board, “So what are you saying? We have to have equipment to do our job.” Macedo responded and explained that they understand that Covid 19 happened and we had to make plans. She understands we had to make decisions for all of our residents and for compliance. She also stated they are there to remind us of our obligations and there are ways to move forward.

LRSWMA Efforts – Post COVID-19 Relief

- COVID-19 regulatory relief ended December 31, 2021
- No agenda item to discuss well installation since 2021
- No budget adopted to comply with the landfill Board Orders

LRSWMA Efforts – Summary of Findings

- Workplans submitted in February and March 2020
- Board denied budget for well installation in June 2020
- COVID-19 relief expired on December 31, 2021
- No agenda item to discuss a budget for well installation and sampling since the COVID-19 relief ended
- LRSWMA has not complied with approved compliance schedule

Macedo understands the tenor of our comments. They are there to help us figure out how to move forward with the work plan, how to move forward with limited resources. She does not want their first step to be penalties. They want cooperation as the issues have been going on long enough.

Enforcement Options

- Administrative Civil Liability
 - Minimum liability: Economic benefit plus 10%
 - \$5,000 maximum liability per day per violation
 - Permit compliance still required
- Time Schedule Order
 - Enforceable
 - Corrective Action Deadlines

Administrative Civil Liability Options

- Herlong Landfill
 - Board Orders 6-83-32 and 6-93-100-01
 - Deficient Monitoring - **\$325,000**
 - \$5,000 maximum liability/day X 65 quarters of deficient monitoring
 - Based on dry wells or not sampled due to insufficient water since 3Q 2004 through 2Q 2024

Administrative Civil Liability Options

- Madeline Landfill
 - Board Orders 6-89-81 and 6-93-100-03
 - Deficient Monitoring - **\$680,000**
 - \$5,000 maximum liability/day X 136 quarters of deficient monitoring
 - Based on no wells installed since 3Q 1990 through 2Q 2024
 - Deficient Reporting - **\$375,000**
 - \$5,000 maximum liability/day X 75 quarters of deficient reporting
 - Based on no quarterly monitoring reports submitted 3Q 1990 through 3Q 1993 and no semiannual reports submitted 4Q 1993 through 2Q 2024
 - Total Liability - **\$1,055,000**

Administrative Civil Liability Options

- Ravendale Landfill
 - Board Orders 6-89-82 and 6-93-100-04
 - Deficient Monitoring - **\$620,000**
 - \$5,000 maximum liability/day X 124 quarters of deficient monitoring
 - Based on no wells installed since 3Q 1993 through 2Q 2024
 - Deficient Reporting - **\$315,000**
 - \$5,000 maximum liability/day X 63 quarters of deficient reporting
 - Based on no quarterly monitoring reports submitted for 3Q 1993 and no semiannual reports submitted 4Q 1993 through 2Q 2024
 - Total Liability - **\$935,000**

Total Administrative Civil Liability

- Herlong: \$325,000
- Madeline: \$1,055,000
- Ravendale: \$935,000

Total ACL: \$2,315,000

O'Keefe continued to discuss plans to avoid Administrative Civil Liability. She would like us to move forward with a bid process using multiple scenarios. She also explained that the work plans that were previously submitted are still acceptable. She would like to look at those plans and see if they are still adequate. She would like the Water Board to be able to review the work plans, especially with the depth issues from the agricultural well that was recently installed in Herlong. She reported the monitoring will need to be conducted according to the Board Order requirements. After eight (8) sampling events the county will need to submit a water quality protection standard. Once that is submitted they will need to prepare a final closure and post-closure maintenance plan. After those items are complete, Lahontan will issue closure waste discharge requirements. These might be additional costs. Those costs are forthcoming.

Required Next Steps to Avoid ACL

- Prioritize well installation and sampling
 - Compliance schedule begins when sampling begins
 - 30 years and no longer a threat to water quality
- Review workplans to determine if still adequate based on new site conditions (within next 90 days)
 - February 2020 and March 2020
- Ensure LRSWMA obtain RWQCB6 concurrence of workplans

Required Next Steps to Avoid ACL

- Conduct monitoring according to Board Order requirements
- Submit a Water Quality Protection Standard (WQPS)
 - Establish background (existing water quality)
 - Eight sampling events
- Update Final Closure and Post-Closure Maintenance Plan (FCPCMP)
- RWQCB6 issue Closure Waste Discharge Requirements (Closure WDR)

O'Keefe continued her presentation with acceptable compliance options. This includes the phasing of the well installation. Figuring out the most vulnerable domestic and the most vulnerable ag well. She is hoping someone from staff to do the inspections CalRecycle is requiring of us.

Macedo commented that these inspections include items that our staff can do themselves.

Acceptable Compliance Options

- Phasing of well installation
 - Most vulnerable domestic well
 - Most vulnerable irrigation well
- Semi-annual monitoring of site conditions (Due: July 30, 2025)
 - After rain events
 - Erosion and drainage controls
 - Exposed waste
 - Burrowing animals
 - Illegal dumping

Questions?

Director Parrish asked about the Water Board's recommendations. He asked if there is a deadline for these recommendations. Macedo responded she wants to see progress. Director Parrish asked how much do you want to see and when. O'Keefe responded she would like to hear from Michelle Godman within the next 90 days regarding the work plan. Macedo is asking for communication between Godman and O'Keefe. Director Parrish asked how long do they think it would take us to complete all the recommendations. Macedo states that we are on the hook until we do the monitoring and then 30 years after that. The clock has not started yet. They need to make sure that the monitoring is acceptable for the landfill to be deemed "closed" pursuant to Title 27. The work plan that was submitted spanned for 18 months. Macedo stated she would not be furious with six (6) months, she would be disappointed with six (6) years.

Manager Heimbigner wanted to clarify some of the items in the discussion. He pointed out the installation of the wells and the groundwater monitoring and the fact the staffing has been an issue. Inspections have not been done by staff. Heimbigner clarified that we now have staff available for training to do inspections. Heimbigner asked the Water Board about the Herlong Ag well installation and wanted clarification regarding those issues. He asked if the county needs to re-study the depth of that well. O'Keefe stated that the well had issues at 130 feet. Her estimate is that the well should be 170 feet but the depth cannot be determined until they actually start drilling. Heimbigner stated he is putting the bid packets together and wanted to estimate the cost from the contractors pricing of per foot cost. He is also depending on the geologists to work with the drillers to determine where the final installation points will be.

Macedo stated that the work plan that is in place is our starting point. She is asking us to communicate with them any changes in the work plan. A quick email to O'Keefe explaining changes and how we are responding to them is all that is needed. It does not need to be a formal report. Photos and an email will suffice.

Director Ellis asked if there is any type of financial help with installing the wells and stated we are looking close to \$650G in costs. He also disclosed the fire with the compactor that set us back \$1.3MM for a new one. Macedo responded that CalRecycle stated the orders themselves require us to set aside funds for these types of costs. Macedo stated there may be state funds available and has advised our counsel to search for it. After some discussion, O'Keefe stated she will look into funding for us. Director Albaugh asked the Water Board if they are aware that Lassen County's population is under 25,000 and our fees are the same as all the other counties in the state, even highly populated Riverside county. He also added that he is frustrated, along with all LRSWMA Board members, that the goal posts keep moving. New requirements are added and new fees will be charged. Macedo explained as the science becomes more clear, they make sure the obligation to protect human health is reflected in what they are requiring of us. Macedo stated she can help us through our counsel to navigate the requirements.

Director Albaugh asked the Water Board about the domestic wells adjacent to the landfills and if they have water testing done. Macedo stated that water testing is recommended on an annual basis. Director Albaugh also stated when property changes hands, a water report is mandatory. Macedo responded yes, and those reports are made public. O'Keefe responded that it is possible for water testing not to detect volatile organic compound.

Director Parrish asked the Water Board when will they decide if penalties will be assessed. O'Keefe responded when she sees tangible signs of bad faith or when a period of time goes by and nothing has been done. Macedo stated as long as we are moving forward we will be ok. O'Keefe believes after one year with no progress she would move forward with the fines. Macedo stated

the past five years we have started to show progress and she wants us to continue that process. She stated she knows this is a frustrating meeting but she also realizes there are ways to be protective of public health. O'Keefe stated the 1989 well orders adopted for the well installation at Ravendale (1993) and Madeline (1990) was circulated and the Board in Lassen County did have an opportunity to comment on that. Heimbigner stated at that time the JPA was not formed. The JPA formed in 1998 so the responsible parties were the county and the city at that time. In the instance of the closed landfills, that would have been the Board of Supervisors.

Director Scanlan stated that, in his opinion, he believes we funded the work plan for compliance and then we defunded it due to financial decisions. Macedo stated she understands we have cost and time considerations. She also stated she believes we all want to prioritize public health and there is a mutual understanding that no one wants scary lawsuits. She feel confident we are all on the same page. Director Scanlan believed their presentation is reasonable. Director Ellis agreed. Macedo wants us to get a task list going. Director Parrish asked the JPA if they have the staff to proceed with the task list. Heimbigner reported he has brought this conversation to previous board meetings in the past and stated he is working on a bid packet for the well installation which is 85% done. He says he works on the weekends so he is not distracted because there are staffing shortages. He is preparing the packets with different bid options so we can make the best financial decisions since it will be the largest hit on our pocket books. He reported there will be a six week bidding period and would like site visits with the bidders. He will be ready to send out the packets next week. O'Keefe asked if JPA staff would be able to measure elevation and sample wells. Heimbigner responded that the water testing has always been contracted out. Director Ellis asked if the new wells can be sampled by staff. Heimbigner asked O'Keefe to explain to the Board the process of sampling because it is more difficult than what she previously explained. O'Keefe stated water sampling depends on the depth of the well and if there are dedicated pumps they will most likely get plugged so they are not recommended. The samples should be gathered from the center of the spring narrow wall. An electric sounder is lowered down to measure the water elevation prior to the sampling and pump it out. They could also do a three (3) volumn well purge which collects three (3) samples where they are put on ice and shipped to the laboratory. Once the lab analyzes it they will send a report.

Macedo commented that she is starting to understand why the Board is asking questions regarding who is reponsible for certain things; the JPA vs. the County. She stated those are legitimate questions that can be discussed between the entities. The Water Board is willing to meet with everyone to do that. Director Albaugh thanked the Water Board for coming to Lassen County. He invited them to attend the meetings more often because our meetings are open to the public and he would like them to be a part of future meetings. He also invited them for public comment or to submit an agenda item. He has been wanting the Water Board to come to Lassen for a long time because he has a bit of frustration pent up. He revealed he does not

agree with the philosophy and understanding and heavy handedness of state bureaucracies that just come in and mandate. He doesn't believe they are fair to the small rural communities of this state. Macedo agreed and revealed that she doesn't give the same message to Los Angeles or San Francisco counties. She understands how little counties are working hard and she doesn't want the Board to feel they are being adversarial. She thanked Director Albaugh for his invitation and said they will come back. Director Albaugh asked the Water Board how they spend the \$86,000 fee that the JPA has to pay on an annual basis. He is hoping to be able to explain to the citizens of Lassen County how those fees are used to protect public health and what the Water Board actually does for that protection. No answer was provided regarding the \$86,000 fee to the Water Board however O'Keefe explained the fees for Herlong, Madeline and Ravendale should be higher because there is not a water monitoring system out there. Director Albaugh asked the Board where can we get the funds to pay for all of this. O'Keefe proceeded to report the fees are based on the threat to water quality and complexity rating. She also stated she has not raised the rates for Lassen County. She agreed to look into funding for us. O'Keefe stated she knows we have a pledge of revenue established for corrective action with CalRecycle and that is promising. That funding could be used for funding wells. She can work with CalRecycle and find out how they will allow us to use the pledge funds for well installation. Director Albaugh asked if this would be considered as progress moving forward with our work plan. O'Keefe responded yes it is progress moving forward but it's only for CalRecycle and it is for a non-water release corrective action plan so that does not technically qualify for progress according to the work plan. She proceeded to explain according to Title 27, we must have a water release corrective action plan and a non-water release corrective action plan. The pledge of revenue with CalRecycle is based on the most expensive plan. Installing the monitoring well could be considered corrective action but she is not sure if it falls under the non-water release funding mechanism. Macedo responded that installing a monitoring well is not corrective action, it is allowing the water to be sampled. Technically speaking and by example, corrective action would be treating nitrates.

Heimbigner commented that our expenses are covered by fees. We have no other funding than our public fees. He clarified that once the fees reach the tipping point then we will have illegal dumping and this defeats the purpose of having a landfill. Macedo understands we don't have the funding and understands we need to get together and figure this out. O'Keefe agreed to look into funding opportunities. Director Albaugh responded that is all we were asking for, help. Macedo responded to say she believes this meeting has been productive.

Director Albaugh asked his final question, if the Water Board has retirements and our county and city are still showing penalties, who will be paying for them? Macedo stated he is asking questions that she is not yet prepared to answer, however, she proceeded to explain the Water Code Section 13383 requires certain factors to be considered in terms of the penalties. What they presented was the maximum daily penalty for 30 years

of non-compliance also one of the aspects that they are required to look at is our ability to pay so our budget needed to be reviewed. She reported that no one at the Water Board would have the ability to assess a 2 million dollar penalty if our financial situation is as dire as we say. Macedo also stated she would rather us use our funds to install wells. Director Albaugh asked Macedo if she could do site visits and explained that seeing the sites can help with their assessments.

Director Brown asked one last question. What is the public safety risk at Ravendale and Madeline? Macedo stated there is one residence on domestic well within 1000 of the landfill at Ravendale. She doesn't know the risk because there are no wells for monitoring. She sees one domestic well but there could be more ag wells at Madeline but it is the same situation. Mr. Heimbigner stated all the documents have been shared for all the sites to the Water Board and to our Board. O'Keefe stated if we were to prioritize work, that she would recommend Ravendale first because of the domestic well nearby. Then she requests more research at Madeline to see if there are more wells. Director Albaugh asked if we could use previous monitoring to bank towards our 30 years of monitoring before the wells went dry. Macedo responded we could use the previous years of monitoring and it is in writing. Director Albaugh asked counsel if they could verify that.

The Water Board staff thanked the LRSWMA Board for their invite. The presentation ended and the Water Board left the meeting.

More discussions were held between LRSWMA Board members and counsel regarding their takeaways from the meeting. Anya was happy to hear that the Water Board was willing to stick to our previously adopted work plan. Josh was happy to hear that the Water Board was willing to help us find funding streams.

Director Albaugh asked Heimbigner if he could get the Water Board on the agenda in four months before we make any decisions on funding the wells to see what they have come up with regarding funding options. Heimbigner suggests we should complete our bidding process to see what the numbers look like first. It would be best to have something completed before we ask them to come back, as suggested by Director Scanlan. Director Brown asked if training could be done for site inspections. Director Scanlan asked if there are any staff to do water sampling. Heimbigner responded that we have new staff in the office and we have some restructuring at the landfills. He revealed that we have been so short staffed that we are just now getting up to speed on staffing.

Sara Chandler reported in and explained the inspections on the closed landfills from Lassen County Environmental Health's perspective. Doug Ames also reported he has been inspecting since 1977. He explained his inspection schedule and offered his knowledge and expertise to the Board.

F. REPORTS AND INFORMATION:

1. Unagendized Reports by Board Members. None

2. Staff Reports. None

G. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Subject: Approval of and/or Additions to and Deletions for the following meeting minutes.

- February 25, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- March 13, 2025 Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes

Heimbigner noted a correction on the March 13, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes. He directed the Board to page 3, last paragraph: The correction is to add the subject field as follows: #2 Subject: Approve purchase and installation of fire suppression system for a Caterpillar 836 landfill refuse compactor in the amount of \$24,264.24.

Director Albaugh moved to approve the minutes as they have been presented at the meeting. Director Scanlan seconded the motion and they were unanimously approved.

2. Subject: New Compactor purchase

Heimbigner presented the Board with a photo of the new Compactor which has been loaded and shipped. He reported training will be done next week. The Board asked questions about the loader and Heimbigner answered. Director Ellis asked Heimbigner to forward the picture to the Board.

I. ADJOURNMENT:

The next scheduled meeting is scheduled for: April 22, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

At 2:57 p.m., Chairman Ellis closed the meeting.

**LASSEN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

RALPH ELLIS,
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHRISTINE DEL LLANO,
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LASSEN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (AUTHORITY) Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Policy

1.0 PURPOSE

Climate-friendly purchasing is a key element of local agency efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change, both in its own operations and throughout the community. Buying climate-friendly products and services harnesses the purchasing power of public agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and encourage others to do likewise. Climate-friendly purchasing practices include purchasing products that are durable, contain recycled content, and promote waste reduction and reuse. It also can mean doing business with service providers who also engage in climate-friendly practices. Accordingly, the Authority is committed to purchasing specific climate-friendly products to the extent practicable.

2.0 POLICY

The Lassen Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (Authority) adopts the following policies.

1. Energy Efficiency and Conservation.

It is the policy of the Authority to purchase: Environmentally preferable products and services wherever practical.

2. Waste Reduction and Recycling when practical.

It is the policy of the Authority to purchase:

1) Durable and reusable products that reduce waste.

2) Recycled content plastic items (examples include refuse and recycling receptacles, decking, parking lot barriers and furniture).

3) Recycled content metal items (examples include signage, office furniture and waste receptacles).

4) Recycled (re-refined) oil and oil-related products.

5) Recycled content office and facilities furniture and furnishings.

6) Office paper (copy paper, printer paper, writing pads, stationery, envelopes and business cards) containing at least 30 percent post-consumer recycled content.

7) Other paper (paper towels, toilet paper, napkins and similar items) containing 100 percent post-consumer recycled content.

3.0 DEFINITION(S)

Practicable means whenever possible and compatible with local, state and federal law, without reducing safety, quality, or effectiveness and where the product or service is available at a reasonable cost in a reasonable period of time.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-02

RESOLUTION OF THE LASSEN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY APPROVING THE CHANGES TO CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 3.01.020

WHEREAS, Public Resources Code sections 40000 et seq. authorize the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), to administer various grant programs (grants) in furtherance of the State of California's (State) efforts to reduce, recycle, and reuse solid waste generated in the State, thereby preserving landfill capacity and protecting public health and safety and the environment; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of this authority CalRecycle is required to establish necessary procedures governing the application, awarding and management of its grants; and

WHEREAS, CalRecycle grant application procedures require, amongst other things, an applicant's governing body to adopt an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Authority wishes to apply and receive State grant monies in strategy to lower costs associated with solid waste and recycling unfunded mandates.

.....
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Authority's Board of Directors enact:

- 1) The Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Authority's Board directs staff to update Code to include:

- 2) Update code:

3.01.021 Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Policy

1. Energy Efficiency and Conservation.

It is the policy of the Authority to purchase: Environmentally preferable products and services wherever practical.

2. Waste Reduction and Recycling when practical.

It is the policy of the Authority to purchase:

- a) Durable and reusable products that reduce waste.
- b) Recycled content plastic items (examples include refuse and recycling receptacles, decking, parking lot barriers and furniture).
- c) Recycled content metal items (examples include signage, office furniture and waste receptacles).
- d) Recycled (re-refined) oil and oil-related products.

e) Recycled content office and facilities furniture and furnishings.

f) Office paper (copy paper, printer paper, writing pads, stationery, envelopes and business cards) containing at least 30 percent post-consumer recycled content.

g) Other paper (paper towels, toilet paper, napkins and similar items) containing 100 percent post-consumer recycled content.

Adopted AT A MEETING OF THE Board of Directors of the Lassen Regional Solid Waste Management Authority, State of California, on the XX day of April, 2025 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

Christine del Llano

Clerk of the Board of Directors

Lassen Regional Solid Waste Management Authority



STAFF LETTER

March 28, 2025

TO: Lassen Regional Solid Waste Management Authority
Agenda Date: April 22, 2025

FROM: Pete Heimbigner, Manager

SUBJECT: Tire Amnesty Grant

RECOMMENDATION:

- a) Approve Resolution 2025-02, update code, Title Three (3), establishing 3.01.021, Environmentally Preferable Purchasing and Practices Policy (need for grants but a base line to AB1383 for 2037 implementation of Procurement Policies more robust than this)
- b) Approve Resolution 2025-03 providing staff authority to apply for grants for the next five years.

DISCUSSION:

Since its inception, the Lassen Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (Authority) has relied on grant funds to recover costs associated with state initiatives and unfunded state programs.

The state redistributes resources to eligible recipients, and while there are administrative costs related to applications and the implementation of the awards cycle, the funding helps offset these costs. Additionally, it provides funding for extra services aimed at combating illegal dumping.

One example is the Tire Amnesty Grant, which allows the Authority to apply for a biannual grant to cover costs related to cleanup, abatement, or other actions necessary for the disposal of waste tires. Although the Authority charges a fee and has a process for tire disposal, a successful grant application can enable us to hold five extra events for tire removal in the community.

The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), a branch of the California Environmental Protection Agency, oversees the state's waste management,

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recycling, and waste reduction programs. Funded by California Climate Investments—a statewide program that uses cap-and-trade dollars to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, strengthen the economy, and improve public health and the environment—CalRecycle collaborates with state legislation to advance the state’s climate goals. It also provides educational programs, compliance assistance, and grants to public and private entities to create circular waste systems through processes such as maintenance, reuse, refurbishment, remanufacture, recycling, and composting. These efforts aim to preserve landfill capacity while protecting public health and safety.

In previous years, the Authority has utilized a blanket resolution for five years to allow staff the flexibility to apply for grants through state agencies efficiently. This approach helps ensure quick turnaround times for grant applications and milestones throughout the grant lifecycle. Staff recommends continuing this approach through Resolution 2025-03, authorizing staff to apply for grants over the next five years for both state and federal applications. Staff will report on grant applications and awards during monthly meetings when appropriate.

Moreover, CalRecycle establishes the necessary programs and procedures for the application, awarding, and management of state grants. A requirement for all CalRecycle grant applications is the establishment and implementation of an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program (EPP). The EPP policy evaluates purchasing decisions to improve energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote the use of products that meet environmentally preferable standards.

With the emergence of Senate Bill (SB) 1383, one component of this legislation includes a procurement policy aimed at empowering local communities and agencies to improve soil and air quality while supporting environmental initiatives and climate action plans through procurement strategies. Although AB1383 will require much more stringent regulations, and broader across all local agencies, moving beyond a policy that simply mentions “practicality” regarding compatible products and services at reasonable costs and time frames. AB1383’s procurement policy will be required by 2037. The EPP policy that staff is recommending is a simplified version to incorporate into the Authority Code, ensuring compliance with grant applications.

Staff will continue to explore grant opportunities and report back to the Board.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Potential impact unknown at this time, staff estimates through grant awards a positive financial impact for the Authority.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: none.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-03

**RESOLUTION OF THE LASSEN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATION(S) FOR ALL GRANTS FOR WHICH
LASSEN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY IS ELIGIBLE**

WHEREAS, Public Resources Code sections 40000 et seq. authorize the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), to administer various grant programs (grants) in furtherance of the State of California's (State) efforts to reduce, recycle, and reuse solid waste generated in the State, thereby preserving landfill capacity and protecting public health and safety and the environment; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of this authority CalRecycle is required to establish necessary procedures governing the application, awarding and management of its grants; and

WHEREAS, the Authority from time to time will see another grant that can be used for furthering the Authority's mission and goals, and;

WHEREAS, the Authority wishes to apply and receive State and other grant monies in strategy to lower costs associated with solid waste and recycling.

.....
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Authority's Board of Directors authorizes staff to submit a regional application for any application grants on behalf of itself as Lead Agency and the participating jurisdictions such as City of Susanville, Lassen County, and Lassen Regional Solid Waste Management Authority:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Manager, or his/her designee, is hereby authorized and empowered to execute on behalf of Lassen Regional Solid Waste Management Authority all grant related documents, including, but not limited to applications, payment requests, agreements, and amendments, and other ancillary documents, to secure grant funds and to implement the approved grant project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these authorizations are effective for five (5) years from the date of adoption of this resolution until April 2030.

Passed and Adopted AT A MEETING OF THE Board of Directors of the Lassen Regional Solid Waste Management Authority, State of California, on the XX day of April, 2025 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

Christine del Llano

Clerk of the Board of Directors

Lassen Regional Solid Waste Management Authority



STAFF LETTER

April 17, 2025

TO: Lassen Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (LRSWMA)
Agenda Date: April 22, 2025

FROM: Pete Heimbigner, Manager

SUBJECT: Update Westwood Landfill and Transfer Station days and hours of operation(s).

RECOMMENDATION:

- a) Approve Resolution 2025-04, amending the Westwood Landfill and Transfer Station Joint Technical Document to reflect updated days and hours of operation(s).

DISCUSSION:

The Westwood Landfill and its associated Transfer Station began operations following the closure of the old Westwood Mill Disposal Site in 1972. At that time, 9 acres of the 40-acre landfill site were approved for the disposal of waste from Westwood, Hamilton Branch, Lake Almanor, and the surrounding areas.

As part of the landfill permitting process, a Joint Technical Document (JTD) is required. The JTD serves as a certified informational document, prepared by an engineer, that provides details about the disposal site. It includes joint information required by Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahonton), the California Integrated Waste Management Board (now known as CalRecycle), the California Department of Public Health, and the local enforcement agency, Lassen County Environmental Health Department.

The JTD covers various aspects, including facility overview, site plan, hours of operation, waste classification, waste management and siting, design and construction standards, operating criteria, approvals, controls, handling, and zoning.

In recent years, as reported during the January 2025 Board meeting, illegal dumping has become a significant issue at LRSWMA sites, as well as on county and city-owned

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properties and rights-of-way. The Westwood site, in particular, has experienced an increase in illegal dumping and vandalism. This illegal activity places a strain on the human resources at the sites, as scattered and mixed garbage makes separation and litter control extremely challenging, especially with limited staffing. Additionally, there are potential environmental impacts outside the landfill and transfer station's footprint. With an increase in customer use on weekends, staff is recommending a change in operation hours.

In January, the Board directed staff to proceed with the process of updating the JTD to reflect the new proposed hours and days of operation.

In order for LRSWMA to change our hours of operation(s), the authority needs to amend the JTD. JTD1.C, hours currently state:

"Westwood operates on a three day per week schedule, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday and is open to the public during the hours of 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The site is closed on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Easter, Independence Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Refuse compaction; cover operations, and other maintenance procedures are performed during the hours that the site is closed to the public, generally between the hours of 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

The Westwood Landfill receives waste from commercial haulers during regular hours of operations. The landfill is only permitted to operate during daylight hours."

Staff is recommending changing the JTD to:

"The Westwood Landfill Transfer Station operates on a four day per week schedule; Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday and is open to the public during the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The Landfill portion operates seasonally during the dry season May to October on the first Wednesday of the month. The site is closed the following holidays; New Year's Day, Easter, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Refuse compaction, cover operations and other maintenance procedures are generally performed between the hours of 9:00 am to 5:00 pm during the days Westwood is open.

The Westwood Landfill and Transfer Station receive waste from commercial haulers during the regular hours of operations. The landfill is only permitted to operate during daylight hours."

FINANCIAL IMPACT: At this time, the potential impact is minimal with one part time employee who also serves as back-up to the gate keeper. This is balanced by the hope that illegal dumping will be reduced, leading to less staff time needed for clean-up.

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Additionally, we anticipate a decrease in vandalism and potential environmental related costs on the site.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahonton), the California Integrated Waste Management Board (now known as CalRecycle), the California Department of Public Health, and the local enforcement agency, Lassen County Environmental Health Department.