

CORC Board Monthly Call Minutes
7/8/16 – 10:00-11:00

Attendees: Kelly Schoonmaker, Will Bakx, Matt Cotton, John Dane, Neil Edgar, Cary Oshins, Kim Scheibly, Nick Lapis, Hilary Gans, Steve Sherman

Agenda:

Minutes

Are we still posting these on the website?

Old Business

- Membership list status

Committee Reports

- Education, Training and Workshops (H. Gans, J. Macy, M. Cotton)
 - PG&E/StopWaste WELO Workshop (Kelly)
 - Policy and Legislative Issues (N. Lapis, N. Edgar, M. Cotton) --
 - Communication (Kim Scheibly)
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Action Item	Responsible Party
Send Will membership list	John Dane
Cross-check CRRA and CORC lists	Will and Matt

Minutes

- No comments
- Cary: USCC launching new Certified Composting Operations Manager program. Sent link: <http://certificationsuscc.org/> to beta test site. Been developing professional certification program for a couple years. This is beta testing the exam. Need 150-200 people to site and take an exam. Scheduling them all over the exam. Free to take it; everyone in CORC is welcome to take it. Will help refine test. Looking for room to set up classroom style. Can happen anytime over the next month. Looking for a host site in Bay Area; Hilary and Kim volunteered. If things are on schedule, final launch will be Oct 1. First graduating class at conference in LA.
 - Will: how would composting and the individual benefit from certification? Increase in professionalism in the composting industry. Benefit to individual, maybe more money.
 - Kelly: how long does certification last and are there CEU's required? 3 years and 30 CEU hours required to maintain over 3 years.

Old Business

- Membership list status: Need to go over the list and clean up list. Then decide what our structure is: board vs. executive committee vs. general membership. Different from other CRRA TC structures. Where is list? CRRA has one version; CORC has a distribution list.
- Matt: USDA/NOP Lawsuit Update – Pending lawsuit; hearing in SF a couple weeks ago. Started with a trace amount of ant killer found in compost in 2009. Question came up—

is it organic? USDA said they could live with trace amounts of pesticides. CEH brought case against USDA; USDA lost as expected. Judge said we should go back to pre-2009. Lot of uncertainty now. It may take a few years to get real clarity.

- Hilary: How would this be enforced? Comes down to certifier, some more diligent than others. May hurt large producers more than small.
- Will: Tested for persistent herbicides since 1993; growers accepted no organic chlorines as clean.
- Nick: In past rule-making cases where people have sued over procedural grounds, asking for a stay to keep the status quo until situation is resolved. Matt: Western Growers made that request and it was denied by the judge.
- Will: Has anyone checked with CDFA? Neil reached out, hasn't heard back.

New Business

1. None

Committee Reports

1. Education, Training and Workshops (H. Gans, J. Macy, M. Cotton) -

- a. CRRRA breakout lunches: EPA has expressed an interest in doing a topic lunch on food recovery. WM dealing with the hauling; Nick requested that John double check where they are hauling organics and make sure it's not going to illegal land app. Do food trucks and meeting rooms on site to save time and money.
 - i. Topics:
 1. 1826 and Beyond! (Kim)
 2. Energy from Organics (Matt)
- b. Technical meetings to be scheduled: need to make sure CORC has a room and is listed on the agenda.
- c. Technical council reception. Want to limit attendance. Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary and committee members with roles?
- d. WELO workshop: went well; well attended. Kelly to send out link to webcast.

2. Policy and Legislative Issues (N. Lapis, N. Edgar, M. Cotton)

- a. Neil BAAQMD – Going after facilities one by one, not systematically, as people modify their permit. Permit fees vary wildly (\$5000 to \$120,000, \$115,000 VOC emission fee), and what funds will be used for is unclear. No public process on regulation process, unlike San Joaquin and South Coast Districts. Met with BAAQMD; they are going to undertake a rule-making process by end of year. Not going to undertake any VOC emissions rulemaking. Backed down on the high fees (Z-Best), didn't realize it would be that much or that staff was doing that. Allowing ZBest to do source testing and implement mitigation measures to get lower fees. Tone was congenial. BAAQMD permitting rulemaking and enforcement were all represented, high level and midlevel staff. They appear to have an orientation toward methane reduction and understand that the best way to do that is get organics out of landfills. Willing to work with composters on practicable solutions to reduce emissions. Methane emissions monitoring study from Newby found that methane starts as soon as organics are added to landfill. Study will probably not be published.

- b. Nick: Cap and Trade funding. Legislature punted during regular budget process and will address in August when they get back. We have a \$1.5B unspent from last year so there's still a lot to spend if nothing else comes in.

3. **Communication (Kim Scheibly)** – no update

Next call: meeting at CRRA

- Dial-in Number: (712) 775-7031
- Meeting ID:992-292-106
- Host PIN:8017