



Reusing Resources to Better Our Future Since 2004

**1st Quarter 2021 Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 18, 2021 - 10:00 am – 12:00 noon**  
**Online meeting using Google Meet**

<b>Member City</b>	<b>Representative</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Present/ Absent</b>
Artesia	Karen Lee	klee@cityofartesia.us	present
Beverly Hills	James Burnley, Vice Chair	jburnley@beverlyhills.org	present
Bradbury	Sophia Musa	smusa@cityofbradbury.org	absent
Downey	Carol Rowland, Treasurer (outgoing)	crowland@downeyca.org	present
Duarte	Victoria Rocha	vrocha@accessduarte.com	present
Hermosa Beach	Doug Krauss	dkrauss@hermosabch.org	present
Hidden Hills	Connie Read	connieread@caaprofessionals.com	present
Los Angeles	Nuna Tersibashian	nuna.tersibashian@lacity.org	present
Lynwood	Lorry Hempe, Chair	lhempel@lynwood.ca.us	present
Manhattan Beach	Anna Luke-Jones	aluke@citymb.info	absent
Palos Verdes Estates	Sean McGovern	smcgovern@hrgreen.com	present
Pomona	Shandy Dittman, Secretary	shandy_dittman@ci.pomona.ca.us	present
Rancho Palos Verdes	Lauren Ramezani	lauren@rpvca.gov	present
Redondo Beach	Jesse Reyes, Treasurer (incoming)	jesse.reyes@redondo.org	present
Rosemead	Chris Daste	cdaste@cityofrosemead.org	present
Sierra Madre	James Carlson	jcarlson@cityofsierramadre.com	present
South Gate	David Torres	dtorres@sogate.org	absent
Torrance	Jim Keezell	jkeezell@torranceca.gov	present

**LARA Staff present**

Executive Director	Alex Helou	alex.helou@lacity.org
SRCRD Division Manager	Marisela Reyes	marisela.reyes@lacity.org
Administrator	Alexander Brideau III	alexander.brideau@lacity.org
Notetaking / Logistics	Roobina Sinany	roobina.sinany@lacity.org

**Also present**

CalRecycle	Nicole Macatrao	nicole.macatrao@calrecycle.ca.gov
CalRecycle	Primitivo Nunez	primitivo.nunez@calrecycle.ca.gov
CalRecycle	Mia Hunt	mia.hunt@calrecycle.ca.gov
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (presenter)	Basil Hewitt	
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts	Nick Morell	nmorell@lacsdsd.org



Artesia Beverly Hills Bradbury Downey Duarte Hermosa Beach Hidden Hills Los Angeles Lynwood Manhattan Beach  
 Palos Verdes Estates Pomona Rancho Palos Verdes Redondo Beach Rosemead Sierra Madre South Gate Torrance

1. **Call to Order / Housekeeping (Item I on Agenda):** Meeting was called to order by Chair Lorry Hempe at 10:03 AM. LARA Administrator Alexander Brideau III discussed some housekeeping items.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance (Item II on Agenda):** Administrator Alexander Brideau III led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum (Item III on Agenda):** Roll call was taken by Secretary Shandy Dittman. 14 out of 18 cities were present at the time of Roll Call. Quorum declared. A total of 43 people were in attendance at this time.
4. **Adoption of Meeting Agenda (Item IV on Agenda):** Lauren Ramezani of Rancho Palos Verdes moved to adopt the agenda; Jesse Reyes of Redondo Beach seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
5. **Opening Remarks (Item V on Agenda):** Chair Lorry Hempe started the meeting welcoming all attendees.
6. **Public Comment and Announcements (Item VI on Agenda):** None.
7. **Approval of 4th Quarter 2020 Meeting Minutes (Item VII on Agenda):** Shandy Dittman of Pomona moved the adoption of the minutes. Jesse Reyes of Redondo Beach seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
8. **Approval of Financial Report (Item VIII on Agenda):** Treasurer Carol Rowland reviewed the Financial Report. Carol Rowland of Downey moved the approval of the Financial Report, Lauren Ramezani of Rancho Palos Verdes seconded. Roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously via a roll-call vote: 14-0-0.
9. **Election of Officers of 2021 – 2022 Officers of the Board (Item IX on Agenda):**
  - **Chair: Lorry Hempe of Lynwood:** Moved by Shandy Dittman of Pomona; seconded by Lauren Ramezani of Rancho Palos Verdes. Motion carried unanimously.
  - **Vice Chair: James Burnley of Beverly Hills:** Moved by Lorry Hempe of Lynwood; seconded by Jesse Reyes of Redondo Beach. Motion carried unanimously.
  - **Secretary: Shandy Dittman of Pomona:** Moved by Lorry Hempe of Lynwood; seconded by Lauren Ramezani of RPV. Motion carried unanimously.
  - **Treasurer: Jesse Reyes of Redondo Beach:** Moved by Lorry Hempe of Lynwood; seconded by Shandy Dittman of Pomona. Motion carried unanimously.
10. **Executive Director Report (Item X on Agenda):** Interim Executive Director Alex Helou:
  - Congratulations and welcome all the new Officers.
  - Here in the City of LA, similar to many of your cities, we were also heavily impacted by COVID-19 and have been facing rate changes on City services, employees taking early retirements, some going on furloughs, budget cuts, etc. However, by President Biden signing the American Rescue Plan, \$1.9 trillion including about \$65.1 billion of funds got allocated for cities and \$65.1 billion for counties (payment will come in 2 checks: first one in 2021 and the second one in 2022). Those funds should help us save a lot of jobs and restore a lot of cuts we had faced. There were also plans to help homeless and families in need of assistance with their utilities (if interested, email Alex Helou for details).
  - On the environmental front: City of LA is moving forward on adopting an ordinance making all kinds of utensils (plastic and paper; including straws and napkins) provided upon request only. The rule also applies to delivery services.
  - Currently our focus is to comply and be ready for SB 1383.
11. **Open Forum: CRRA SB 1383 Conference Takeaways (Item XI on Agenda):** No ideas were discussed.
12. **Presentation: “LA County Sanitation Districts Food Waste Recycling Program” (Item XII on the Agenda):** Basil Hewitt presented:

- Virtual tour of Food Waste Recycling Program. They have been around since 1923 and currently are treating 400 million gallons of wastewater daily. In the '50s they branched into waste management. One of the biggest producers of recycled water in LA County with 950 sites. They also are one of the biggest producers of green energy. 21 million tons of trash a year is generated in LA County and 9 millions tons ends up in landfills every day; 1/3 of that is organic waste; and of that a minimum of 4,000 tons is food waste. This food waste disposed in landfills can release methane to the environment, which is a gas that is 50-80 times more disruptive than CO2. Therefore, CalRecycle requires organics be diverted from landfills per regulation of AB 1826 and SB 1383 programs starting 2022. They serve 78 out of 88 cities of Los Angeles County with the following 3 steps of:
  - ◆ Pre-processing: Takes 30 tons a day of food waste and turns it into a slurry (the goal is 600 tons/day).
  - ◆ Anaerobic digestion below ground (biogas): to generate electricity, heat/steam, vehicle fuel and biomethane
  - ◆ Post treatment (after 15 days): fertilizers and compost

13. **Administrator Report** (*Item XIII on Agenda*): Administrator Alex Brideau shared:

- Annual dues have been received from all LARA cities.
- In the past, we have done an AB 939 workshop during the Q1 meeting where we do a presentation on how to use Simple COW. However, this year we'll be scheduling a separate AB 939 Workshop providing Simple COW and MCR/MORE spreadsheet instructions in the coming few weeks. We will likely target this workshop toward those who are new to their LARA roles, but all LARA Board representatives will be invited.
- It's AB 939 filing season! Keep an eye out for additional communications from LARA detailing not only the release of COW, but also to set up times for the AB 939 submission follow-up meetings.
- We are reviewing the LARA JPA and Bylaws to see whether any updates are needed, including whether updates will be needed to accommodate SB 1383.
- CRRA is collecting nominations for its 2021 CRRA Awards. We emailed Board representatives and alternate information about this yesterday, but you can also check out [crra.com/awards](http://crra.com/awards) for information. You can self-nominate and it looks like the application is not too onerous; you're asked to do a SurveyMonkey with a number of multiple-choice questions and a 250-word description of the program.

14. **CalRecycle Update** (*Item XIV on Agenda*): Primitivo Nunez and Mia Hunt reported the following:

- Primitivo Nunez: So much going on with SB 1383, AB 341 and AB 1826 we want to bring you up to speed on what we have going on this year. We reached out and scheduled conference calls with all of you and conducted several of those calls already. This year there are primarily 3 topics we are going to cover during these calls. We are going to touch base on your:
  - ◆ MCR/MORE informal/formal plans
    - Some of you still need to get us information on your AB 341 and AB 1826.
  - ◆ Keep in mind that 2019 was the final year of the 4-year cycle review for the AB 939 programs and we are in process of concluding that review. If you have any items that need attention, we will discuss with you.
  - ◆ SB 1383 readiness, which is the bulk of our discussions. You will need to prepare to answer all the questions, be aware of all the requirements and prepared to roll out those programs. How can we assist to help you comply with SB 1383? You have to have all these in place by January 2022.
    - We ask you to give us updates on your process of implementing your enforcement ordinance for SB 1383.

- Collaboration with your city's other departments
  - We also talk about edible food recovery program (Tier 1 and Tier 2 generators).
  - Coordination between cities and haulers (might include rate changes)
  - Collection service changes to handle organics
  - Providing education and outreach in different languages
  - Monitoring methodology such as route reviews and waste evaluations
  - Current Procurement programs and changes to be made to comply with SB1383
- Mia: Demo of how to use the CalRecycle SB 1383 webpage with its available SB 1383 resources and tools.

**15. Upcoming meetings (Item XV on Agenda):**

- 2nd Quarter 2021 Meeting: Thursday, June 17, 2021, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
- 3rd Quarter 2021 Meeting: Thursday, September 16, 2021, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
- 4th Quarter 2021 Meeting: Thursday, December 2, 2021, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
- 1st Quarter 2022 Meeting: Thursday, March 17, 2022, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

**16. Adjournment (Item XVI on Agenda):** Meeting was adjourned at 11:42 am.