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Memorandum Date: October 20, 2008

Order Date: November 12, 2008

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Public Works, Waste Management Division

PRESENTED BY: Sarah Grimm, Waste Reduction Specialist, x4339

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: ORDER / IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING ANNUAL TRASHBUSTER AWARDS.

I. MOTION

Move approval of Board Order awarding annual Trashbuster awards.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Lane County has established through its Board of County Commissioners and its Resource Recovery Advisory Committee (RRAC) a process for recognizing individuals, organizations, and businesses in the community who make outstanding efforts in the area of waste reduction.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

The Board approved a Recycling Recognition Award program proposed by RRAC in 1992. RRAC subsequently renamed the award program "Trashbuster" to denote a wider spectrum of activity beyond just recycling. Typically, the Trashbuster awards are given around November 15th, which has been declared by the Federal and State governments as America Recycles Day.

B. Policy Issues

Lane County Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP), adopted by Ordinance 10-02, provides a roadmap of priorities and guidance for managing the County's Solid Waste Management system. SWMP 5.5 emphasizes the importance of strong County commitment to recycling and the need to increase Lane County's resource recovery in order to conserve limited, long-term capacity of the Short Mt. Landfill as well as to meet State requirements to reach 54% recycling rate by 2009 (SB) 3744.

C. Board Goals

Lane County's Resource Planning and Allocation chapter of the Strategic Plan emphasizes that Lane County "has placed as its highest priority on public health and safety services with a strategic eye towards prevention services." Recycling and conservation are preventative actions that result in prevention of air pollution, conservation of energy resources, safer water systems and increases in marketable commodities for a healthier local economy.

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

The financial costs of taking action on this item are negligible considering the valuable benefits of promotion and attention to business and community waste prevention efforts.

E. Analysis

The following individuals were nominated by various members of the community and approved by members of the Resource Recovery Advisory Committee. Their accomplishments are important to the long term economic, environmental and social sustainability of our community. The following information provides some highlights.

Product Manufacturer Trashbuster: Bulk Handling Systems

Address: 1040 Arrowsmith
Eugene, Oregon 97402
541-485-0999

Recipient of award: Steve Miller, president (invited), and Rich Reardon, Sales manager and Master Recycler

Commissioner: Bobby Green

Bulk Handling Systems (BHS)'s is a producer of equipment and systems for the solid waste and recycling industries. Their experience, dedication and innovation has helped communities across the world maximize recovery of usable materials.

Their disc screen equipment, installed at the Clackamas SP Recycling facility, sorts the materials collected in Lane County at a rate of 440 tons per day. Their recent development of a patent-pending system that recovers nearly 75% of the solid waste stream for recycling will significantly improve resource recovery from the solid waste industry.

On the home front, the Eugene office practices what they serve: all office employees have desk side recycling of office paper, aluminum, plastic bottles and other ordinary recyclables. The manufacturing plant recovers scrap plastic, steel, rubber, oil and wood pallets for recycling. Bulk Handling Systems is pursuing LEED silver certification in the construction of their new \$10 million manufacturing plant, demonstrating a commitment to the community and resource conservation.

Private Business Trashbuster, Schnitzer Steel

Address: 111 Hwy 99N
Eugene, OR 97402
541-686-0515

Recipient of award: Randy Hammond,

Commissioner: Bobby Green

Accomplishments:

Schnitzer Steel has been a community partner in recycling for 102 years. Their improved processing and operations recycled more than four million tons of ferrous metals and more than 175 thousand tons of non-ferrous metals last year. Every ton of this material results in reducing energy consumption by 74%, reducing water use by 40% and reduces mining by 97%.

Schnitzer Steel's success in recycling contributes to the local economy in several ways. In addition to buying scrap metal from a fleet of collectors, their local sales of secondary and used products support local artists and businesses with quality low cost, locally acquired supplies.

Schnitzer Steel is an excellent community resource. They sponsor and participate in community clean up days in Oakridge, Springfield, Albany, Lebanon, Corvallis, Veneta and many others. They support local nonprofit recyclers with donations, processing and training for such businesses as Nextstep Recycling, St. Vincent DePaul and Bring Recycling. They've actively sponsored and participated in community education efforts such as Earth Day, Home and Garden Shows, and local recycled art contests.

In its long term commitment to community health and safety, Schnitzer Steel actively works on mercury switch recovery programs, radioactive materials detection and handling and they employ new state-of-the-art, closed loop waste water systems that remove contaminants from water prior to discharging.

Special Event Trashbuster: Olympic Track and Field Trials, Eugene 08

Address: Hayward Field
Eugene, OR 97403
343-6165

Recipient of award: Greg Erwin, ViceChair Local Organizing Committee
Vin Lananna (invited) Chair, LOC

Commissioner: Pete Sorenson

Accomplishments:

The Eugene 08 Olympic Track and Field Trials was a community effort to be proud of in many ways—even in waste. This Trashbuster Award goes out to no less than 20 individuals, businesses and event committees that were involved in the impressive recycling and composting that took place.

Nearly 71 percent of materials generated at the 2008 U.S. Track & Field Olympic Trials was recycled or composted INSTEAD of going to the landfill. This impressive statistic was possible only because the Local Organizing Committee and event organizers made a commitment to sustainability—and then communicated that commitment clearly to vendors and service providers.

While 29 tons of trash went to landfill, many more tons went to local recycling markets: 33.9 tons of commingled recycling, 17 tons of compost, and 12 tons of wood, glass and plastic. A full 3 ½ tons of rescued usable food was donated to Food For Lane County.

The strategies that enabled this community coalition to achieve the phenomenal recovery rate included:

- Eugene 08 organizing committee placed a policy priority on sustainability and required food vendors to use compostable food servicewares.
- Eugene 08 sustainability committee researched and coordinated with vendors to provide proper materials
- City of Eugene and Lane County recycling agencies coordinated to provide access to event bins and equipment,
- Sanipac, local waste hauler, provided resources and on-the-spot coordination of material movement.
- Lane County Master Recycler volunteers provided inspired, enthusiastic leadership for the volunteer crews.
- Jack Hoeck of Rexius Sustainable Solutions, received and composted over 17 tons under special DEQ permit.
- Willy Breninghouse and Shari Smith of Waste Free Oregon, made sure that no trash ended up in the compost
- Lorena Young of International Paper Recycling, and Lorraine Kerwood, of Next Step Recycling, received hard to recycle materials such as ewaste and plastic film.
- Sacred Heart Environmental Services loaned the use of large rolling bins for containing and moving bagged materials.
- Ed & Michelle Powell of JaniKing janitorial service adjusted and adapted their service to support recycling needs and to fill volunteer gaps.
- BJ Hurwich and Lindsey Newkirk, both worked tirelessly (12-18 hr. days) to motivate and direct volunteers, maximizing recovery of recyclable materials.

Individual Trashbuster: Ron Petersen

Address: 2175 Riverview
Eugene, OR 97403
541-343-2202

Recipient of award: Ron Petersen

Commissioner: Pete Sorenson

Accomplishments:

Master Recycler, Ron Peterson demonstrated true waste prevention leadership and innovation when he put together a durable dishware set large enough for the neighborhood potluck they attend each year. Not wanting to see bags and bags of garbage resulting from their favorite gathering, Peterson and his wife scoured thrift and discount stores for plastic plates, cups, bowls, metal utensils and fabric napkins.

This waste-free picnic set for 100 is stored in 4 rubbermaid totes—each a complete set for 25 people. The mismatched sets may not be pretty but they are popular. Since Peterson only needs the set once or twice a year, he made the kit available to friends and family. Last year, at least 15 events—nearly 800 people—made use of his efforts. Peterson has since donated the sets to the Master Recycler program, allowing even more people to see how easy waste free picnics can be. And, inspired by his efforts, the city of Eugene's neighborhood program is developing a similar picnic set for neighborhood functions throughout the city.

Restaurant/Food Service Trashbuster:

Address: Ring of Fire – 1099 Chambers, Eugene
Café Lucky Noodle – 207 E. 5th Ave, Eugene
Jo Federigo's – 259 E. 5th Ave, Eugene

Recipient of award: Mary Levin, Operations Manager, Ring of Fire, Café Lucky Noodle, and Jo Federigo's Hour House

Commissioner: Bobby Green

Accomplishments:

Management in all three of these fine restaurants has taken a leadership role in restaurant recycling. In addition to the basics of paper cans and glass, this trio of responsible restaurants recycle all their printer toner cartridges, fluorescent bulbs, electronics, plastic bag and film, wine corks and even the little whipped cream cartridges and bottle caps too!

All employees are trained to recycle and to use the printed recycling guide of what is and is not recyclable. These restaurants even educate their customers with messages on menu sidebars that include information about their recycling activity and goals. All three restaurants have kitchen

compost collections and send about 12,000 gallons of compost for processing each year.

Hardwood tables were built for banquet spaces and old tables at Jo Federigo's were refinished beautifully to eliminate the need for linens.

In the recent remodel of Jo Federigo's, recycling and reuse took a front seat. They refinished floors and tables instead of installing new, and purchased carpet tile flooring so that individual worn pieces can be replaced rather than the whole carpet. Careful deconstruction allowed them give away tile, drywall, usable wood, lighting fixtures, plumbing fixtures, pallets and urbanite for reuse. What could not be reused was recycled, with very little going into the trash. Visitors will delight in the coat hangers made out of railroad pikes found during the remodel.

Non Profit Trashbuster, Food For Lane County

Address: 770 Bailey Hill Rd.
Eugene, OR 97402
541-343-2822 x330

Recipient of award: Deb McGeorge, Food Solicitor, Resource Development

Commissioner: Bobby Green

Accomplishments:

Food For Lane County models best behavior in recycling by providing all cubicles and work areas with recycling bins and fully incorporating the management of the recycling system into staff job descriptions. Basic recyclables are collected commingled. Pallet wrap and shrink wrap is collected separately—as is glass. All vegetable scrap from farm donors, the kitchen and the employee lunchroom are composted into fertilizer for their vegetable gardens. Stale bread and outdated dairy are picked up for use as animal feed and dairy crates are returned for reuse.

This fall Food For Lane County will be conducting their largest food drive of the year—*without* sending 190,000 brand new plastic bags to residents' mail boxes as they have in the past. This important environmental commitment is not without risk, donations doubled the year they first implemented the bag use. However Food For Lane County will be challenging the notion that convenience is all that counts. Their food drive notice to households will include a photo of a plastic bag on it, and ask that the public use a plastic bag that they already have to set food out for their postal carrier this year.

Food For Lane County can be commended for their commitment to do the right thing, and we encourage all citizens to support their efforts by setting out food donations in reused plastic bags.

F. Alternatives/Options

The Board may choose to award Trashbuster Awards to the proposed recipients or the Board may choose not to award to the proposed recipients.

IV. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION

A time certain agenda placement is requested at 10:00 am so the Board can present a plaque to each award recipient selected for recognition.

V. RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the Trashbuster Awards as proposed by the Resource Recovery Advisory Committee. The potential recipients meet all award criteria established by the Committee.

VI. FOLLOW-UP

None

VII. ATTACHMENTS

Board Order

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO.) IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING ANNUAL
) TRASHBUSTER AWARDS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners established a Lane County recycling recognition program (now called "Trashbuster Awards") for 9 categories of individuals, organizations, and businesses in the community who make outstanding efforts to reduce waste generation, recycle, or make innovative use of materials that might otherwise become part of the waste stream, and

WHEREAS, November 15th is nationally recognized as America Recycles Day, and

WHEREAS, the Resource recovery Advisory Committee has recommended that Food For Lane County, Schnitzer Steel, Bulk Handling Systems, Eugene 08 Olympic Track and Field Trials, Ron Peterson, Ring of Fire, Café Lucky Noodle, and Jo Federigo, be recognized for their outstanding efforts in the areas of recycling and waste reduction,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Food For Lane County, Schnitzer Steel, Bulk Handling Systems, Eugene 08 Olympic Track and Field Trials, Ron Peterson, Ring of Fire, Café Lucky Noodle, and Jo Federigo, are publicly recognized for their outstanding efforts in the areas of recycling and waste reduction,

Dated this ____ day of _____ 2008.

Approved as to Form
Date 11-4-08 Lane County



Office of Legal Counsel

Fay Stewart, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners