DEPARTMENT: Public Works

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Discussion and possible direction regarding debris disposal from the structures damaged or destroyed by the Telegraph Fire.

Approximately 28 homes and 116 out-buildings were damaged or destroyed during the Telegraph Fire. The Department of Public Works is seeking Board direction on possibly developing a policy for debris disposal resulting from the Telegraph Fire.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Following the Stumpfield Fire in 1996, the Board of Supervisors passed a minute order directing Public Works to accept fire debris at the Landfill with the understanding that the cost not covered by insurance would be submitted to the Office of Emergency Services (OES) and any cost not reimbursed by the OES would be covered by the County from contingency reserve.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Financial Impact? ( ) Yes ( ) No Current FY Cost: $
Budgeted In Current FY? ( ) Yes ( ) No ( ) Partially Funded
Amount in Budget: $
Additional Funding Needed: $
Source:

Internal Transfer

Unanticipated Revenue ______ 4/5's vote
Transfer Between Funds ______ 4/5's vote
Contingency ______ 4/5's vote
( ) General ( ) Other

Annual Recurring Cost: $

List Attachments, number pages consecutively
1. Minute Order (Stumpfield Fire)
2. Memo to fire victims from PWDirector (August 8, 1996)
3. Memo from Solid Waste Coordinator to BOS (Aug 9, 1996)
4. Memo from Solid Waste Coordinator to Health Officer (Aug 9, 1996)

CLERK’S USE ONLY:
Vote - Ayes: Noes: Absent:
( ) Approved
( ) Minute Order Attached ( ) No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.
Date: Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California
By: Deputy

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:
______ Requested Action Recommended
______ No Opinion
Comments:

CAO: ____________

Revised Dec. 2002
TO: DANA HERTFELDER, Public Works Director
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Debris Disposal from the Structures Damaged or Destroyed by the Telegraph Fire

RESOLUTION 08-386

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Adopted this order on August 12, 2008

ACTION AND VOTE:

Dana Hertfelder, Public Works Director;
Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Debris Disposal from the Structures Damaged or Destroyed by the Telegraph Fire

**BOARD ACTION:** Discussion was held with Dana Hertfelder relative to disposal of the debris. Rick Benson advised of the suggestion that an account be established for each property owner affected by the fire. Supervisor Bibby clarified that this only applies to the debris resulting from the fire, and not from things such as new construction, to eliminate health and safety issues. (M)Pickard, Res. 08-386 was adopted authorizing Public Works/Solid Waste to provide a letter similar to the form used for the Stumpfield Fire to each of the property owners that were affected by the fire, and to include information that those who do not have insurance coverage or any way to cover the disposal cost could bring a fee waiver request to the Board for consideration; direction was given to staff to seek reimbursement of the costs through OES. The motion was amended to give a timeframe of fourteen days for individuals to respond to the letter and for a space to be included on the form for the property owners to provide insurance information. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Fritz. Ayes: Unanimous.

Cc: Richard J. Benson, CAO
File
MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTE ORDER

TO: MIKE EDWARDS, Public Works Director
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT: FIRE DEBRIS FROM STUMPFIELD FIRE

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS ORDER on August 13, 1996

ACTION AND VOTE:

- Mike Edwards, Public Works Director, asked if the Board wanted to consider the issue of waiving the solid waste disposal fees for the fire debris from the Stumpfield Fire. (M)Parker, (S)Taber, Board waived its rules requiring 72 hours agenda noticing to consider this matter, finding the fire was an emergency and a timely response to the public on this matter is necessary/ Ayes: Unanimous. Discussion was held, and Mike Edwards advised of coordination with the Health Department to have the maximum per-day tonnage at the landfill condition waived to accept this debris, and further advised that they are trying to divert scrap metal and autos to dealers. Blaine Shultz, Fire Chief, commented on the request to Office of Emergency Services for reimbursement of costs as a result of the fire emergency. (M)Parker, (S)Taber, Res. 96-341 adopted directing Public Works to move forward with accepting fire debris at the landfill with the understanding that the costs not covered by insurance coverage will be submitted to OES, and any costs not reimbursed by OES will be covered by the County (from Contingency Reserve); further direction was given to include bin charges by Total Waste Systems in the eligible costs; this waiver of fees is good through the existence of the local emergency or the 120 days from when claim was first made of OES, whichever occurs first/Ayes: Unanimous.

cc: Blaine Shultz, Fire Chief
    Mike Coffield, County Administrative Officer
    File
TO: Fire Victims of the Usora/Stumpfield Fire

FROM: Michael D. Edwards, Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Disposal of Burned Debris at the County Landfill

Please be advised that the County can accept the burn debris from the very unfortunate wild fire destruction of your buildings and belongings for disposal at the landfill. Your or your insurance company are responsible for these costs. On Tuesday, August 13, the Board of Supervisors will consider waiving the disposal fee charged at the landfill for those who do not have fire insurance that would cover this expense.

You should take care to not dispose of any materials that may be considered hazardous, such as pesticides, herbicides, solvents, asbestos or paint.

If you have any questions about hazardous materials or about a waiver of landfill disposal fees, please call Tom Starling at the Public Works Department @ 966-5356 or Dave Conway at the Environmental Health Department @ 966-0200.

I understand that I, or my insurance company (if applicable), am responsible for payment of all costs for disposal of debris at the County landfill.

Signed: ________________________________ Date: ________________

(Please print)

Name: __________________________________

Address: __________________________________

________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________________

ATTACHMENT #2
To: Mariposa County Board of Supervisors
From: Thomas J. Starling, Solid Waste Coordinator
Subject: Disposal of Burned Debris at the Mariposa County Landfill

The Department of Public Works is providing the following information for your review and consideration:

1) The California Integrated Waste Management Board requires that a waiver to certain portions to the landfill's operating permit be approved by the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) when debris is disposed as the result of a local disaster. This waiver was requested of and approved by Dr. Mosher. A copy of said request and approval is attached. The primary waiver is to allow the landfill to exceed the maximum daily tonnage for up to 120 days. The landfill has been accepting the burn waste since Thursday, August 8.

2) Those fire victims with insurance should expect their carrier to pay for disposal to the limit of their policy coverage. Any landfill fee waivers approved by the Board should be limited to 120 days to coincide with the LEA permit variance approval. This would also encourage the rapid cleanup of fire debris. Dumpster rental is from TWS or other private companies and the County has no ability to waive those charges, although the Board may wish to reimburse such costs in some cases.

3) The disposal of any toxic/hazardous materials not covered by insurance should be the responsibility of the generating party. This is recommended due to the extremely high cost of disposal. After inspection of several sights, it is highly unlikely that any such materials will be brought to the landfill. These inspections were made jointly by the Public Works Department and the Environmental Health Department.

ATTACHMENT #3
To help reduce the possibility of contamination, Total Waste Systems has volunteered to carefully examine every fire-related load prior to disposal.

4) Consideration should be given for reimbursement of any costs resulting from fee waivers to the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund related to the disposal of fire debris. Added costs would include, disposal fees to the California Integrated Waste Management Board, separation of recyclables from the burn debris by Total Waste Systems and the disposal of hazardous materials. Recycling of disaster/burn debris to the greatest extent possible is required by State regulations. This mainly involves scrap metal.

5) The landfill is not permitted for or equipped to handle the disposal of auto bodies or vehicles in general. A number of vehicles were involved. This also applies to large pieces of scrap metal. Property owners are being provided the names of several private auto dismantlers and scrap metal dealers for that component of the burn debris.

cc: Charles B. Mosher, M.D., LEA

Enclosure: Waiver
MEMO

To: Charles B. Mosher, M.D., County Health Officer

From: Thomas J. Starling, Solid Waste Coordinator

Subject: Emergency Waiver of Standards, Mariposa County Landfill, Facility No. 22-AA-0001

Please consider this a formal request by the Mariposa County Department of Public Works, operator of the above facility, to institute the emergency regulations as cited in Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 3, Article 3 of the California Code of Regulations (Regulations).

This approval is necessary in order to dispose of the debris created as a result of the "Stumpfield/Usona" fire.

To comply with the intent of the Regulations, Public Works has worked closely with Dave Conway, REHS, of your Environmental Health Office. Joint inspections have been made to insure that the likelihood of any toxic materials being landfilled will be minimized. To further this intent, Total Waste Systems has agreed to upgrade its load-checking procedure by closely examining each and every fire-related load brought to the Mariposa County Landfill for disposal. Any suspect materials will be set aside and the Public Works Department will be called for further examination and testing, if required.

Specific information required by the above-cited Regulation is as follows:

1) A listing of the existing solid waste facilities' permit terms and conditions to be waived in order to facilitate recovery and disposal of disaster debris in the event of a declared disaster or emergency.
Attached you will find a copy of the Mariposa County Board of
Supervisors Resolution No. 96-323, declaring this fire, along with
others, "The Existence of a Local Emergency".

The specific operating permit waiver request is to eliminate the daily
landfill tonnage limits but only to cover the disposal of fire-related
debris for a period of 120 days.

2) A statement of the remaining disposal capacity of the solid waste
disposal facility at the time of the request.

The Mariposa County Landfill has remaining capacity of
approximately 1.355 million tons.

3) A description of all facility-related diversion programs and on-site recycling
facilities.

The contracted landfill operator, Total Waste Systems, has agreed to divert the
maximum amount of metal products either by providing recycling containers for
metals to the fire victims or by segregating the metals from the fire debris at
the landfill. The EA will be provided with documentation showing, in tons, the
amount of all diverted and landfilled material.

4) A listing of locally approved temporary transfer or processing sites to be used to
store disaster debris for future reuse or recycling.

The use of temporary transfer or processing sites will not be required.

Approval of Emergency Waiver of Standards

[Signature]
Charles B. Mosher, M.D.
County Health Officer and EA

Dated: 8/9/96