Resolution to approve and authorization for the County Auditor to issue a warrant for $500 to the SWANA Legislative Task Forces (LTF) for solid waste legislative advocacy.

The SWANA LTF has been very active in all legislative issues that pertain to solid waste for a number of years. Because of the amount and complexity of solid waste legislature, it has been necessary for the LTF to hire an advocate with extensive solid waste legislative experience. By sharing this expense (which is based on population) among all members of the LTF, a highly effective advocate has been monitoring, prioritizing, supporting and opposing legislation for all SWANA LTF members. This effort has provided the best, by far, avenue for legislative advocacy for Mariposa County relative to solid waste issues.

The County's Solid Waste Coordinator is the only rural representative on the LTF.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board passed Resolution No. 93-392 authorizing the County's Solid Waste Coordinator to be one of the nine voting members of SWANA's LTF in the State.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

1) Do not approve the action which may or may not effect the continuation of legislative advocacy for SWANA's LTF.
MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: JIM EVANS, HCD Director

FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: CATHEYS VALLEY SCHOOL HOUSE

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS Order on October 8, 1996

ACTION AND VOTE:

Caroline Wenger Korn and Betty McRee; Proposal to Save and Restore the Catheys Valley School House as a Pioneer School Museum and Living History Center

BOARD ACTION: Caroline Korn presented their proposal and request for financial assistance, and a list of comments in support of the project from the community.

9:16 a.m. Public Hearing relative to the Mariposa Pines Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation project was opened and continued to after the following matter.

Further discussion was held concerning the proposal to save and restore the Catheys Valley School House. George Gordo urged support for this project. Betty McRee voiced her concern that the School be saved. Jim Evans/Housing and Community Development Agency Director, stated he would be willing to work with the Committee to submit funding proposals to foundations for this project. (M)Stewart, (S)Parker, Res. 96-414 adopted appropriating $5,000 from Reserve for Contingencies for moving costs ($4,500) and to cover building permit fees ($500); with the on-going costs not considered at this time; and with direction for the Housing and Community Development Agency Director to assist with foundation grants/Ayes: Unanimous. Further direction was given for the Housing and Community Development Agency Director to be responsible for overseeing this project with regards to the expense of County funds.

cc: Ken Hawkins, Auditor
    Ed Johnson, Planning & Building Director
    Mike Edwards, Public Works Director
    Caroline Wenger Korn
    File
September 3, 1996

Public Works Directors and
Solid Waste Managers in California Cities,
Counties, JPA’s, and Special Districts

Subject: Contributions in Support of Local Government
Legislative Activities in Solid Waste Matters

Dear Director:

As many of you know from personal participation, the
SWANA Legislative Task Force (SWANA LTF) is a pro-active,
aggressive presence in monitoring, sponsoring, and sometimes
opposing legislation that affects a broad spectrum of solid waste
issues state-wide, certainly including all initiatives to implement
and to revise AB939.

The LTF membership is drawn from the three California
SWANA Chapters, and includes representatives from the public
and private sectors. All of the members meet once a month, all
day, during the legislative session. Many also work on specific
issues between meetings.

In addition to the meetings and members’ work, we have
found it absolutely necessary to have a professional legislative
advocate to represent our interests, to “take the pulse” of the
legislature, to contact legislators and to keep LTF members
informed. The legislative advocate insures that SWANA and local
government solid waste departments are visible, recognized
players in the legislative process.

Our legislative advocate is Paul Yoder of the firm of
Gerber & Associates. Paul is a highly effective advocate for local
government solid waste interests. His live-wire, assertive
approach gets results.

Of course, an active legislative effort as described above
requires funding. The three California SWANA chapters provide
most of the funding, but the effort also requires monetary support
from local governments who benefit from LTF activities.

During the past year and a half, two specific projects have
also demanded funding; these needs went well beyond what
SWANA chapters could afford. The two issues were the
California Flow Control Alliance and, currently, the Waste
Diversion Cost Effectiveness Study. Local governments have donated generously to both causes. The monies contributed were spent, or are currently being spent directly on these projects, not on other legislative activities or on the day-to-day work of the LTF.

While the day-to-day work is often less visible and less exciting than the special projects, it is even more important, as our continuous presence in the legislative arena produces monitoring and action on the 60 or so solid waste bills that are considered by the legislature each year. The LTF monitors, prioritizes, supports or opposes legislation. In order to do these jobs, the LTF infrastructure has to be in place, working, and adequately funded.

All of the above is by way of explaining why the LTF needs your support once again. We try to limit these general fund raising requests to every other year, and this is the "on year".

We realize that all cities, counties and JPA’s are not in a position to respond to all of these requests, and the suggested levels of contribution noted below are just that, suggestions. The SWANA LTF will guarantee effective use of the funds you contribute, will keep you informed in general and respond to your specific inquiries as needed, and will represent your interests in the California legislative arena. None of the funds you contribute are used for social activities or political contributions.

Contributions suggested for cities of 500,000 population and above - $5,000. 100,000 to 500,000 population - $3,000, and less than 100,000 population - $250 - $1,000. For counties of 700,000 population and above - $5,000, for 200,000 to 700,000 population - $3,000, and for 200,000 population or less $500 - $1,000. Other public agencies can use the above as guidelines and contribute as appropriate. Please make out contribution checks to SWANA Legislative Task Force, and address to:

Donald E. Cluxton, LTF Treasurer  
Kings Waste & Recycling Authority  
7803 Hanford-Armona Road  
Hanford, CA 93230  
(209) 583-8829 - FAX 209-582-2757

Sincerely,

SWANA LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

Doug Landon  
Chairman
EXAMPLES OF CURRENT ISSUES/ACCOMPLISHMENTS
SWANA LTF

1. Solid Waste Flow Control - Lobbying was done in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in conjunction with the California Flow Control Alliance. Flow control per se, was not re-established but proposed legislation that would have invalidated California franchise and contracting arrangements was stopped. LTF efforts also served to educate California legislators in the U.S. Congress concerning this area of vital concern to local governments.

2. Cost Effectiveness Study - The LTF has hired a consultant (Skumatz & Associates) to prepare this study. The study is the culmination of more than two years of effort. In the absence of other active proponents, the LTF took the initiative to study cost benefits and cost effectiveness of waste diversion efforts so far, as well as projected waste diversion efforts to the 50% goal in the year 2000.

3. AB59 - (Established civil penalties even for minor landfill permit violations.) AB59 was passed in spite of vigorous opposition by the LTF, but some of the more objectionable provisions of the Bill were removed or moderated as a result of LTF efforts.

4. Regulatory Review - As state agencies write regulations to implement legislation passed in prior years (especially AB1220), the LTF actively monitors the regulation writing, keeps members informed of the status of regulations and makes input to the regulation preparation at every stage.

5. Alternate Daily Cover - (AB1647 and AB2323) The LTF stays effectively in the middle of this long-standing effort to provide sensible, local government-friendly solutions to the alternate daily cover discussion.

6. RMDZ Extension - (SB1535) The LTF supports this bill extending the life of the RMDZ program. For those local governments that use the program, there is significant funding available for commercial solid waste and recycling projects.

7. CTWMB Reorganization - The LTF follows closely proposals by the Governor to reorganize the Waste Board. Any such reorganization would affect all solid waste departments and authorities in the state, and some of the more sweeping proposals would have a profound affect. The LTF makes its’ opinions known and keeps members informed in this vital ongoing project of the Governor’s office.

NOTE:

Space precludes a longer listing of LTF activities. Suffice to say the above is a representative cross-section of the many areas in which the LTF represents SWANA and local governments in the solid waste legislative arena.

Enclosure 1