

APPROVED

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PLANNING COMMITTEE  
AND  
ALAMEDA COUNTY RECYCLING BOARD**

**Thursday, January 11, 2018**

**4:00 P.M.**

**StopWaste Offices  
1537 Webster Street  
Oakland, CA 94612  
510-891-6500**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Jerry Pentin, President, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Bernie Camara, Recycling Materials Processing Industry

Ken Lewis, Solid Waste Industry Representative

Peter Maass, ACWMA

John Moore, Environmental Organization

Jim Oddie, ACWMA

Jerry Pentin, ACWMA

Toni Stein, Environmental Educator

Sarah Vared, Source Reduction Specialist

Dianne Martinez, ACWMA

Vacant, Recycling Programs

**Absent:**

Tim Rood, ACWMA

**Staff Present:**

Tom Padia, Deputy Executive Director

Wendy Sommer, Executive Director

Meri Soll, Senior Program Manager

Meghan Starkey, Senior Program Manager

Farand Kan, Deputy County Counsel

Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board

**Others Present:**

Peter Deibler, HF&H Consultants

Arthur Boone

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT**

President Pentin thanked Board member Martinez for her sterling leadership as President for the past year.

**IV. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 1. Approval of the Draft Minutes of December 14, 2017 (Tom Padia)**
- 2. Board Attendance Record (Tom Padia)**
- 3. Written Report of Ex Parte Communications (Tom Padia)**

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar. Board member Martinez made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Board member Maass seconded and the motion carried 7-0. (Ayes: Camara, Moore, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Vared. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lewis, Rood, Stein. Vacant: Recycling Programs).

**IV. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Arthur Boone provided public comment and distributed a copy of “The Recycling Loop” designed by Ruth Abbe. A copy of the diagram is included as a matter of record.

**VI. REGULAR CALENDAR**

**1. Five Year Program Review (Meri Soll) Tom did the presentation**

It is recommended that the Recycling Board accept the final Five Year Program Review report by HF&H Consultants.

Tom Padia provided an overview of the staff report and introduced Peter Deibler, HF&H Consultants. Mr. Deibler presented a PowerPoint presentation and provided an overview of the key findings of their research. A link to the staff report and the presentation is available here: [Five-Year-Review-01-11-18-pdf](#)

Board member Stein inquired if we are partnering with the USEPA regarding C&D facility certification, and commented with regard to the metrics that the WARM model gives the metrics in greenhouse gas emissions and suggested that we use it. Ms. Soll stated that we are working with a national organization called the Recycling Certification Institute and their protocol and curriculum has been vetted by C&D experts in the industry. They are ISO compliant and have trained evaluators. This is the organization that the agency is promoting. Mr. Padia added the general direction of the EPA is not going in the direction of more oversight and auditing of private sector operators. Mr. Deibler commented that as we think about 2020 and beyond and how we look at metrics we can expand our scope as greenhouse gas was not included in this particular scope of research, and SB 1383 includes paper as an organic and should be kept out of the landfill.

Board member Maass inquired with respect to the “evolving ton” and how the waste stream is changing what metrics will be used to measure success. Mr. Deibler stated that this is the reason why it is valuable to measure weight as well as percent and section 4 of the report illustrates the data for Alameda County historically.

President Pentin opened the floor for public comment. Arthur Boone commented that he is not comfortable with the data shown as there is only residential information using 2008 as a comparison. Mr. Padia replied that the benchmark sampling for commercial was not large enough or random enough

to characterize the entire commercial stream. We sampled selected industries such as restaurants, supermarkets, office buildings, etc. but we didn't have the data to know how to combine the information into an overall commercial profile. We are doing a new waste characterization study for 2017 and currently sampling for commercial, roll-off, and self-haul so that we will be able to have comparable data to the 2000 & 2008 studies but we don't have it for this report.

Board member Oddie made the motion to accept the final Five Year Program Review report by HF&H Consultants. Board member Martinez seconded and the motion carried 9-0. (Ayes: Camara, Lewis, Moore, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Stein, Vared. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Rood. Vacant: Recycling Programs).

President Pentin introduced and welcomed to the Board, Ken Lewis, Waste Management, Inc. Board member Lewis will serve as the new Solid Waste Industry Representative. Board member Lewis provided an overview of his background and experience.

## **2. Grants to Nonprofits Program – Year in Review (Meri Soll)**

This item is for information only.

Meri Soll provided an overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint presentation. A link to the report and the presentation is available here: [Grants-Update-01-11-18.pdf](#)

Board member Vared inquired about the average size budget of grant recipients. Ms. Soll stated that the ranges vary widely and the organizations are required to submit an annual budget as well as tax returns as part of the application process. Board member Stein suggested that to increase awareness of reusables, the agency list the location of local flea markets on the agency website. Board member Vared inquired now that the community outreach grants will have a focus on food waste prevention versus food waste recycling and will be moving from the Nonprofit grant project to the Community Outreach project, will organizations that are not focused on the environment/solid waste still be eligible for funding as they have been in the past? Ms. Soll stated that nonprofit organizations that do not have an environmental focus will be able to apply for funding via the Community Outreach grants program. The grants funding protocol for Community Outreach grants has been revised to focus on food waste prevention and project staff is putting together a pilot grant with one or two organizations to assess draft funding parameters. Community Outreach project staff will come back and provide an update to the Board. There were no public comments. President Pentin thanked Ms. Soll for her presentation.

## **3. Recycling Board Municipal Panels: Topics for 2018 (Meghan Starkey)**

Staff recommends that the Recycling Board & Planning Committee provide direction to Agency staff on the topics for 2018.

Meghan Starkey provided a summary of the staff report. A link to the report is available here: [Muni-Panel-Topics-2018-01-11-18.pdf](#)

Board members suggested the following topics for future Municipal Panel discussions:

1. Single use plastics.
2. Homeless encampment clean-up.
3. Disaster preparedness.
4. Illegal dumping.
5. Schools, commercial, and multi-family trash enclosures.

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6. Compostable service ware.
7. New plastic bag ban.
8. Mattress dumping.
9. Pharmaceuticals.

There were no public comments on this item.

**VII. OTHER PUBLIC INPUT**

There was none.

**VIII. COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS**

President Pentin completed his second two-year term on the Recycling Board. Mr. Padia thanked Board member Pentin for his service and presented him with a recycled content glass bowl.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

# The Recycling Loop

