

DRAFT

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

**Thursday, June 11, 2015  
4:00 p.m.**

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

**Via Teleconference:  
Peter Maass  
Albany City Hall  
1000 San Pablo Avenue  
Albany, CA 94706**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Daniel O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Adan Alonzo, Recycling Programs  
Greg Jones, City of Hayward  
Peter Maass, City of Albany (via teleconference, left at 4:50pm)  
Daniel O'Donnell, Environmental Organization  
Michael Peltz, Solid Waste Industry Representative  
Jerry Pentin, City of Pleasanton  
Tim Rood, City of Piedmont  
Toni Stein, Environmental Educator  
Steve Sherman, Source Reduction Specialist

**Absent:**

Lorin Ellis, City of Union City  
Minna Tao, Recycling Materials Processing Industry

**Staff Present:**

Wendy Sommer, Deputy Executive Director  
Gary Wolff, Executive Director  
Chinwe Omani, Clerk of the Board  
Meghan Starkey, Senior Program Manager  
Meri Soll, Senior Program Manager  
Tom Padia, Recycling Director  
Pat Cabrera, Administrative Services Director

**Others Participating:**

Jennifer Auletta, City of San Leandro  
Jennifer Gavin, City of Piedmont  
Sally Green, Oro Loma Sanitary District  
Marcy Greenhut, City of Emeryville  
Claire Griffing, City of Albany  
Natasha Neves, Waste Management, Inc.

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT**

There were none.

**IV. CONSENT CALENDAR**

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|--|--------------------|
| <b>1. Approval of the Draft Minutes of May 14, 2015 (Wendy Sommer)</b> | <b>Action</b>      |
| <b>2. Board Attendance Record (Wendy Sommer)</b>                       | <b>Information</b> |
| <b>3. Written Report of Ex Parte Communications (Wendy Sommer)</b>     | <b>Information</b> |

Board member Jones made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Board member Alonzo seconded and the motion carried 9-0 (Ellis, Tao absent).

**V. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

There was none.

**VI. REGULAR CALENDAR**

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| <b>1. FY 15-16 Budget Adoption (RB only) (Gary Wolff)</b>   | <b>Action</b> |
| Staff recommends that the Recycling Board (RB) hold a public hearing on the budget and then adopt the portion of the FY15-16 budget funded by the RB, pursuant to the attached resolution (Attachment B). |               |

Mr. Wolff presented a brief summary of the Recycling Board's FY15-16 Budget. The staff report is available here: <http://www.stopwaste.org/RB/Budget/FY15-16.pdf>. A new issue was brought up regarding the Grants to Non-profits program. Mr. Wolff informed the Board that for the first time, the agency was presented with more qualified grant applications than the agency was able to fund and is about \$91,000 under funded. Mr. Wolff presented options that could solve the issue; (1) To deny some of the grantees (we have never said no in the past to a good grantee application) (2) Bring a budget amendment next month and the Board can decide whether to amend the budget. This will mean that applicants will have to wait a month before they can get a decision. (3) Go ahead with Executive Authorization to spend the money and at mid-year ask for an extra \$91,000 or offset it with other changes in the budget.

Board member Alonzo inquired as to the cause of the increase in grantee applications this year. Mr. Wolff explained that outreach efforts had been increased and we received more "good" applicants than usual. Board member Pentin inquired if all grantees could be funded if they don't receive a 100% of the amount they asked for. Ms. Soll responded that the grantees have been asked that question. There is \$233,000 remaining this fiscal year to distribute and the agency would prefer to distribute \$325,000 to all the qualified grantees. Board member Pentin replied that he was hesitant to spend over the budget but if the \$91,000 can be found from other programs without impacting the budget then he would be able to support it. Board Member Jones recommended that staff come back to the Board with a formal amended budget next month so it can be brought back for review in the context of the overall budget. Mr. Wolff shared that in the past the Board decided that all grants under \$50,000 could be authorized or decided on by the Executive Director. Board member Jones said he'd like to see where the \$91,000 would come from the context of the overall budget. Mr. Wolff stated it would come from the Grants to Non Profit account balance but this action may resulted in a need to advance the timeline (by a week or two) in the future for a fee action.

Board member O'Donnell asked if there were any financial implications for the grantees if they have to wait a month to receive funds. Ms. Soll said no but she would prefer not to extend the decision more than a month as most grantees are on a fiscal year basis and the decision would affect their budgets. Ms. Sommer asked on behalf of Board member Sherman (who had laryngitis) the balance remaining in the Non-Profit Grants account. Ms. Cabrera responded that there was \$1,530,323 remaining in the account.

Board Member Stein inquired about the line item in the budget for EPP. Mr. Wolff directed Board member Stein to page 20 of the staff report and line item Recycled Product Purchase Preference Measure D 5% (project 1210) and the spending description found in the project charter. Mr. Wolff added we are obligated to spend 5% of the Measure D funding for this purpose. Unspent balance from one year must be spent in the subsequent fiscal year.

President O'Donnell opened and closed the public hearing. There were no comments from the public. Board member Jones moved to approve the Recycling Board budget and directed staff to return next month with an amended budget and a summary of grantees to address the Grant to Non Profits issue with the Recycling Board. Board member Rood seconded and the motion carried (9-0) (Ellis and Tao absent).

**2. Municipal Panel Presentation: Special Handling at the Curb Information**  
**(Wendy Sommer & Meghan Starkey)**

This item is for information only.

Senior Program Manager, Meghan Starkey provided a summary of the staff report and facilitated the discussion regarding Special Handling at the Curb. Ms. Starkey introduced the Municipal Panel. The panel included: Jennifer Auletta, City of San Leandro; Marcy Greenhut, City of Emeryville; Jennifer Gavin, City of Piedmont; Sally Green, Oro Loma Sanitary District; Natasha Neves, Waste Management, Inc.; and Claire Griffing, City of Albany. The staff report is available here:

<http://www.stopwaste.org/municipal/staffreport/June/RB.pdf>

Jennifer Auletta, Marcy Greenhut, and Jennifer Gavin, shared their perspectives on public outreach, Sally Green and Natasha Neves shared their perspectives on Oro Loma's Bulky pickup services and the challenge of providing Bulky services to Multifamily units, and Claire Griffing shared her perspective on the City's collection issues, specifically the items that go on top of the bins; CFL's, batteries, etc.

An audio of the presentation and Board discussion is available here:

<http://www.stopwaste.org/municipal/presentation/June/RB.mp3>

Board member O'Donnell thanked the panel for their thorough and informative presentation and commented on the value of having the panel presentations.

**3. Legislative 2015 Update (Wendy Sommer, Debra Kaufman & Wes Sullens) Information**

This item is for information only. Staff recommends that the Boards receive this status update on Agency legislative positions for the 2015 session of the California Legislature.

Wes Sullens provided an update on bills that the agency has been watching and the status of our legislative priorities for the 2015 legislative session. The staff report is available here:

<http://www.stopwaste.org/legislative/update/2015.pdf>

Two key bills that we were watching-AB 45 (Mullin) Curbside Collection of HHW and AB 1159 (Gordon) Producer Responsibility for batteries and sharps, did not receive adequate support and died. The bill regarding synthetic turf also died in session. We've had some success in advocating for construction waste diversion. It appears that the Cal Green Code will require construction projects to divert 65% of Construction and Demolition debris in 2017. The current requirement is 50%.

Board member Stein inquired if there was anything viable that we can do locally regarding recycled materials content. Mr. Sullens replied the building code is passed at the State level but it can be modified locally and we can offer a prescriptive option. Board member Stein inquired if Alameda County has a policy regarding recycled content for buildings. Mr. Sullens stated that they have a policy for their own buildings but not a countywide policy. Individual jurisdictions that oversee construction have their own requirements. We do not have authority over what is built. We do however encourage and offer grants to promote LEED and other green related measures. Mr. Wolff added we have a table illustrating what each jurisdiction requires of private developers with respect to Green Building and Bay-Friendly landscape requirements.

Board member Peltz commented that he attended the California Refuse Recycling Council Conference (CRRC) and the lobbyist for CRRC reported that the Governor expressed very strong interest in a statewide additional landfill fee as a way to shore up Cal Recycle funding. Board member Peltz inquired if anyone has reached out to StopWaste. Mr. Wolff stated that we were contacted by Cal Recycle staff and they hoped that this is something that they can convince the Governor to speak up about. Mr. Wolff added that there is a place holder bill AB1063 (Williams) addressing this.

#### **VII. OTHER PUBLIC INPUT**

There was none.

#### **VIII. COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Wolff offered Board members free reusable bags from Oro Loma Sanitary District. President O'Donnell announced that the CRRA conference will be held in Southern California in early August and encourage Board members to attend. Board member Stein would like to have more measurable outcomes with respect to increasing our recycled content or lowering the HHW through the funding that we are allocating for the EPP program. Mr. Wolff stated that there are some partial metrics in addition to reports we receive from the County and member agencies and referred to the reports provided by StopWaste staff Debra Kaufman and Rachel Balsley. Mr. Wolff added project 1240 HHW Point of Purchase Alternatives addresses the issue of end of life for these products. Board member Sherman added that Orchard Supply Hardware stores and other retail outlets are doing promotions on product take backs.

Ms. Sommer conducted an inventory of the Board members who will be attending the Tesla tour in on July 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. All of the members in attendance stated their intent to attend the tour.

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.