

APPROVED

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

Thursday, December 14, 2017

4:00 P.M.

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dianne Martinez, President, called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Adan Alonzo, Recycling Programs
Bernie Camara, Recycling Materials Processing Industry
Peter Maass, ACWMA
John Moore, Environmental Organization
Jim Oddie, ACWMA
Michael Peltz, Solid Waste Industry Representative
Jerry Pentin, ACWMA
Toni Stein, Environmental Educator
Sarah Vared, Source Reduction Specialist
Dianne Martinez, ACWMA

Absent:

Tim Rood, ACWMA

Staff Present:

Tom Padia, Deputy Executive Director
Wendy Sommer, Executive Director
Rachel Balsley, Senior Program Manager
Justin Lehrer, Senior Program Manager
Farand Kan, Deputy County Counsel
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board

Others Present:

Karen Cook, Alameda County GSA
Sarah Church, Alameda County GSA
Joshua Perez, Independent Recycling Services

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

Board member Adan Alonzo tendered his resignation effective today due to personal health reasons. Board member Alonzo offered his sincere thanks and expressed appreciation for serving

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on the Board. He pledged to keep in touch with the Board and staff. Board member Pentin stated that prior to accepting the resignation of Board member Alonzo he would like to install him as the next President of the Recycling Board. Board member Pentin made a motion to reorder the agenda and to hear item VI. 3 Election of Officers for 2018 prior to the consent calendar. There were no public comments. Board member Oddie seconded and the motion carried 9-0. The Clerk called the roll: (Ayes: Alonzo, Camara, Maass, Martinez, Moore, Oddie Peltz, Pentin, Vared. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Rood, Stein).

Board member Peltz made the motion to elect Board member Alonzo as President of the Recycling Board. Board member Maass seconded and the motion carried 9-0. The Clerk called the role: (Ayes: Alonzo, Camara, Maass, Martinez, Moore, Oddie Peltz, Pentin, Vared. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Rood, Stein).

The Board recessed for five minutes.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1. Approval of the Draft Minutes of November 9, 2017 (Tom Padia)**
- 2. Board Attendance Record (Tom Padia)**
- 3. Written Report of Ex Parte Communications (Tom Padia)**

Board member Pentin made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Board member Stein seconded and the motion carried 9-0.

(Ayes: Camara, Moore, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Peltz, Pentin, Stein, Vared. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Rood. Vacant: Recycling Programs).

IV. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There was none.

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

- 1. County of Alameda General Services Agency Environmental Purchasing Update (Rachel Balsley)**
This item is for information only.

Rachel Balsley provided an overview of the staff report and introduced Karen Cook and Sarah Church, County of Alameda GSA. Ms. Cook and Ms. Church presented a PowerPoint presentation and provided an overview on the implementation of recycled content and environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP) programs at the County of Alameda. A link to the staff report and the presentation is available here: [Alameda-County-GSA-Update-12-14-17.pdf](#)

Board member Stein inquired if the GSA program coordinates with StopWaste with regard to green building materials. Ms. Cook stated yes, through an ordinance adopted in 2003, the county is required to meet LEED silver in all large building projects and most of the projects are LEED gold with one LEED platinum. They have also developed a set of design guidelines that looks at the entire range of sustainability, e.g. space requirements to meet the MRO requirements in new facilities, materials in restrooms meet the green cleaning guidelines, etc. Board member Stein inquired if the GSA has contracts for bins that cities can piggyback onto, and does the GSA reach out to school districts. Ms. Cook stated no, they do not have a competitively bid contract for waste and recycling containers. It is handled on an as needed basis. They have put together information around the state contract that can be shared with member agencies if they are interested. Ms. Balsley added the StopWaste schools

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infrastructure project has supported a number of school purchases with recycling and composting bins, and last year, we leveraged our partnerships with a couple of the vendors with our free indoor food scraps bin program and they provided discount rates to some of the schools. Board member Moore inquired about the tools utilized by the jail food services contract to recover surplus food or to prevent food waste, and also inquired if the GSA finds markets for materials that do not have a robust secondary market. Ms. Church stated that the GSA contracts with Aramark and they have their own system for tracking in-kitchen food waste and they regularly share reports with staff. Ms. Church added they are somewhat limited as to what they can do but they are planning to do a waste assessment of the full facility to help inform operationally as to the type of equipment being used, food trays as well as food items. Ms. Cook stated that she is unaware of any efforts to develop new markets.

Board members Maass inquired as to how Alameda county measures up to the other 9 bay area counties with regard to using greener content. Ms. Cook stated that Alameda county and San Francisco county are the two counties that are most often on the national scene. Board member Vared commented with respect to prison operations that across the country an occurring trend is to have onsite digesters at prisons as a way to both process the waste and increase food security. Board member Vared inquired if providing technical assistance to other markets provides a revenue stream. Ms. Cook stated no, they are sharing best practices. Board member Vared inquired about the top challenges going forward in increasing green purchasing and sustainability overall. Ms. Cook stated that they are beginning to look more towards the supply chain and how the GSA can possibly have any influence.

There were no comments from the public. President Martinez thanked Ms. Cook and Ms. Church for their presentation.

2. Packaging Update (Justin Lehrer)

This item is for information only.

Justin Lehrer provided an overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint presentation. The report and the presentation is available here: [Packaging-Update-12-14-17.pdf](#)

Board member Maass commented that the gel pouches used for food are also used by the pharmaceutical industry and inquired if they can be reused in food packaging. Mr. Lehrer stated that he would speculate that the food industry would be cautious about reusing the pouches. Mr. Lehrer added that he is following an industry focus on cold chain packaging products for shipping temperature-sensitive materials within their required temperature range during transit. Board member Pentin commented that he was participating in a diving shoot on the pacific islands and residents would dump their garbage in the ocean. Board member Pentin added that he spoke to local officials and they enacted legislation to address the dumping problem. He added that he is pleased to learn that other governments are starting to identify the problem of plastic in the waste stream. Board member Moore commented that he is not convinced that CalRecycle has done enough in reaching out to the recycling community with regard to getting to 75% diversion or with packaging waste reduction and inquired if they are allowing staff the opportunity to actively participate in their process. Mr. Lehrer stated yes, they are very inclusive and in his opinion they have very good people working on packaging issues. Board member Moore requested that Mr. Lehrer arrange an invitation for NCRA to participate in the process. Mr. Lehrer stated that it is an open process and that he would follow up with him.

Board member Stein inquired if the Dow Chemical Hefty energy bag grant program is operating in Alameda County. Mr. Lehrer stated that the map intends to show that they hope to grow the program in

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the 50 states in the next 5 years. Board member Stein stated that the Office of Environmental Health this week listed saran wrap in Prop 65.

Board member Peltz stated that with respect to pharmaceutical plastics due to personal identity issues these plastics are typically shredded. Board member Peltz inquired if Cal Recycle is looking more intently at market development subsidies or investments in helping existing manufacturers and processors to expand their capacity to handle a broader range of plastics, such as #3-7 rigids, so that we do not have to rely on foreign markets. Mr. Lehrer stated that he has heard rumblings but it has not come up in these particular workshops. Mr. Padia added there is a portion of the cap and trade revenue that is dedicated to CalRecycle for infrastructure development and a significant portion is geared towards organics and a certain amount towards paper, plastics and glass. He is unsure if any funding is targeted towards market development. Board member Vared indicated that she had a contact at FreshRealm and that they provide fulfillment services for several of the meal kit providers.

President Martinez thanked Mr. Lehrer for his presentation.

3. Election of Officers for 2018 (Tom Padia)

Elect Officers for 2018.

Due to the sudden resignation by Board member Alonzo, President Martinez made a motion to nominate Board member Pentin to serve as President for 2018. Board member Oddie seconded and the motion carried 9-0 (Ayes: Camara, Moore, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Peltz, Pentin, Stein, Vared. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Rood. Vacant: Recycling Programs).

President Pentin made a motion to nominate Board member Oddie to serve as First Vice President. Board member Martinez seconded and the motion carried 9-0 (Ayes: Camara, Moore, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Peltz, Pentin, Stein, Vared. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Rood. Vacant: Recycling Programs).

President Pentin nominated Board member Vared to serve as Second Vice President. Board member Oddie made the motion to accept the nomination of Board member Vared as Second Vice President and President Pentin seconded and the motion carried 9-0 (Ayes: Camara, Moore, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Peltz, Pentin, Stein, Vared. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Rood. Vacant: Recycling Programs).

There were no public comments on this item.

4. 2018 Meeting Schedule (Arless Dunn)

It is recommended that the WMA/EC, P&A Committee, and the Recycling Board/Planning Committee, each adopt their respective regular meeting schedules for 2018.

There was no discussion on this item and there were no public comments. President Pentin made a motion adopt the regular meeting schedule for 2018 for the Recycling Board. Board member Maass seconded and the motion carried 9-0 (Ayes: Camara, Moore, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Peltz, Pentin, Stein, Vared. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Rood. Vacant: Recycling Programs).

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VII. OTHER PUBLIC INPUT

Joshua Perez commented with respect to Target Stores if we are following up with them to make sure that they are following through. Mr. Perez added his support for the How 2 Recycle label and stated that it is important that the public understands the labeling.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

Board member Martinez stated that the city of Emeryville has been implementing their tri-stream waste program at their joint K-12 city facility campus. She added that she has been volunteering in the lunch room directing the kids on where to properly place materials. Board member Martinez stressed the importance of volunteers, and thanked StopWaste staff for the technical assistance and added they are using the Measure D funds to fund the consultant's work and to reward, the lunch room and cafeteria staff as well as the custodians. Board member Martinez added they have seen significant reduction in the amount of waste going into the landfill.

Mr. Padia thanked Board member Martinez for her service as President of the Recycling Board for 2017. Board member Peltz completed his second 2 year term on the Recycling Board. Mr. Padia thank Board member Peltz for his service and presented him with a recycled content glass bowl. Board member Peltz stated that he enjoyed his tenure on the Recycling Board and thanked staff and the Board members for their support.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.