

APPROVED

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

Thursday, August 8, 2019

7:00 P.M.

**Fremont City Hall
(Fire Department Large Training Room)
3300 Capitol Avenue
Fremont, CA 94538
(510) 284-4000**

**Teleconference
Sarah Vared
1915 Francisco St
Berkeley, CA 94709
(425) 457-0056**

I. CALL TO ORDER

First Vice President Deborah Cox called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

Jillian Buckholz, Recycling Programs
Bernie Camara, Recycling Materials Processing Industry
Bob Carling, ACWMA
Deborah Cox, ACWMA
Jenny Kassan, ACWMA (interim appointment)
Tianna Nourot, Solid Waste Industry Representative
Jim Oddie, ACWMA
Dave Sadoff, ACWMA
Sarah Vared, Source Reduction Specialist (via teleconference)

Absent:

Vacant, Environmental Educator
Vacant, Environmental Organization

Staff Present:

Wendy Sommer, Executive Director
Jeff Becerra, Communications Manager
Meri Soll, Senior Program Manager
Cassie Bartholomew, Program Manager
Farand Kan, County Counsel
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board

Others Participating:

Kathy Cote, Environmental Services Manager, City of Fremont
Paddy Iyer, Founder and Executive Director, Daily Bowl

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III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

First Vice President Cox welcomed Board member Carling to the Recycling Board.

IV. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the Draft Minutes of July 11, 2019, 2019 (Jeff Becerra)

2. Board Attendance Record (Jeff Becerra)

3. Written Report of Ex Parte Communications (Jeff Becerra)

There were no public comments for the consent calendar. Board member Oddie made the motion to approve the consent calendar. Board member Sadoff seconded and the motion carried 8-0:

(Ayes: Buckholz, Camara, Carling, Cox, Kassan, Oddie, Sadoff, Vared. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Nourot. Vacant: Environmental Educator, Environmental Organization)

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. Upstream Grants (Meri Soll & Cassie Bartholomew)

This item is for information only.

Meri Soll provided an overview of the upstream grants program and Cassie Bartholomew provided an overview of the food waste prevention program. A link to the staff report and the PowerPoint presentation is available here: [Upstream-Grants-Presentation-08-08-19.pdf](#)

Wendy Sommer distributed a copy of an inaugural Grantee Highlight showcasing MedShare. A link to the publication is available here: [MedShare-Highlight.pdf](#)

Board member Buckholz thanked staff for sharing the inspiring work that the agency is doing. Board member Oddie inquired if the larger grocery stores are participating in the grocery rescue program. Ms. Bartholomew stated there are a number of Safeway locations that are participating but it depends on the store manager. The tendency is for stores such as Grocery Outlet and other independent type grocers to participate. Board member Oddie inquired about the differences in the clients that receive the food. Ms. Bartholomew stated that the clients are the same. Most of these organizations have to purchase food, so food security will not be solved through food rescue solely but it does help fill the gaps. Board member Oddie inquired if there are areas that elected officials can assist in encouraging the grocery stores to engage with these groups. Ms. Bartholomew stated that under SB 1383, as tier 1 generators, they will be required to participate. Ms. Sommer informed the Board that staff will provide an update on SB 1383 in October. Board member Carling stated that he appreciates the flexibility in which staff includes lessons learned in implementing these projects. Board member Sadoff inquired if the upstream grants expended are mostly for-profit or non-profit. Ms. Soll stated that they are mostly non-profit reuse operating grants. We did award four for-profit grants. Board member Kassan inquired if staff has had conversations regarding promoting more plant based diets. Ms. Bartholomew stated that there have been conversations among staff; however, this is a very difficult message to share with the public.

There were no comments from the public. First Vice President Cox thanked staff for the presentation.

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2. Food Waste Reduction Grantee Spotlight: Daily Bowl (Cassie Bartholomew)

This item is for information only.

Cassie Bartholomew introduced Paddy Iyer, Founder and Executive Director of Daily Bowl. Mr. Iyer provided an overview of their food recovery work funded by StopWaste and provided a PowerPoint presentation. A link to the staff report and the presentation is available here: [Daily-Bowl-Presentation-08-08-19.pdf](#)

Board member Carling inquired about how they decide which organizations get what particular items. Mr. Iyer stated that he works with the organizations to determine what they need.

There were no comments from the public. First Vice President Cox thanked Mr. Iyer for his presentation.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

First President Cox inquired if the haulers have their own meeting group. Ms. Sommer stated that the agency convenes a meeting of the National Sword Task Force that includes haulers, member agency staff, and StopWaste staff. Staff will be providing an update to the Board in September. First Vice President Cox stated that it would be good to hear from the haulers as well.

Board member Oddie inquired about an update on the closures of rePlanet recycling centers. Ms. Sommer stated that in 2013, there were 2500 redemption centers across California. There are now half as many. Unfortunately, Californians lost approximately \$300 million in deposits and the solution needs to be statewide. Board member Sadoff stated that he would like to schedule a discussion of the bottle bill on the WMA agenda.

Ms. Sommer thanked Kathy Cote for hosting the meeting.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.