

APPROVED

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

Thursday, August 11, 2022

4:00 P.M.

TELECONFERENCE MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Francisco Zermeño called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Timothy Burroughs explained the virtual meeting process being utilized during the meeting. A link to the process is available here: [Virtual-Meetings-Instructions.](#)

II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

Deborah Cox, ACWMA
Eric Havel, Environmental Educator
Dan Kalb, ACWMA
Chiman Lee, Recycling Programs
Grace Liao, Source Reduction Specialist
Laura McKaughan, Recycling Materials Processing Industry
Dave Sadoff, ACWMA
Talia Wise, Solid Waste Industry Representative
Shelia Young for Bob Carling, ACWMA (interim appointment)
Francisco Zermeño, ACWMA, President

ABSENT:

Darby Hoover, Environmental Organization

Staff Present:

Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director
Pat Cabrera, Administrative Services Director
Alma Freeman, Communications Manager
Meghan Starkey, Senior Management Analyst
Emily Alvarez, Program Manager
Adrienne Ramirez, Assistant Clerk of the Board
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board
Farand Kan, Deputy County Counsel
Edward Schexnayder, Authority Counsel

Others Present:

Arthur Boone, Center for Recycling Research
Antonia Gunner, Republic Services

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

There were none.

IV. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Arthur Boone provided public comment expressing concerns about mixed waste processing and whether the OMRF (Organics Materials Processing Facility) at the Davis Street Transfer Station was constructed in a way that is consistent with its permits and encourages the WMA to investigate further. Mr. Boone emailed comments via the public comment portal. A copy of the email is attached as a matter of record.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the Draft Joint PC & RB Minutes of July 14, 2022

2. Resolution regarding meeting via teleconference to promote social distancing, pursuant to AB 361

Adopt Resolution #RB 2022-10.

3. Board Attendance Record

4. Written Report of Ex Parte Communication

There were no public comments for the Consent Calendar. Board member McKaughan moved approval of the Consent Calendar and Board member Cox seconded. The motion carried 9-0-1. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Cox, Havel, Kalb, Lee, Liao, McKaughan, Sadoff, Wise, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstain: Young. Absent: Hoover).

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. Amendment to the Alameda County Integrated Waste Management Plan (ColWMP) for Vasco Road Landfill Expansion (Emily Alvarez)

Staff recommends that the Recycling Board (in its capacity as the Local Task Force) provide comments on the proposed amendment, and that the Planning Committee recommend to the WMA Board that it hold a public hearing and adopt a resolution to (1) amend the ColWMP (Exhibit 1) to modify the Vasco Road Landfill description, and make additional changes for consistency, (2) find that the VRL conforms to the ColWMP as amended, and (3) make the findings required by CEQA.

Timothy Burroughs introduced the item and Emily Alvarez provided an overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint presentation. A link to the report and the presentation is available here: [Vasco-ColWMP-Amendment.pdf](#). Edward Schexnayder, Authority Counsel, and Antonia Gunner, Republic Services, was present to answer questions.

The Board was provided additional time for discussion and to provide comments and clarifying questions. An audio link to the discussion is available here: [Vasco-ColWMP-Amendment-Discussion](#)

There were no public comments on this item. The Board thanked Ms. Alvarez for her presentation.

Board member Cox moved approval of the staff recommendation that the Recycling Board (in its capacity as the Local Task Force) provide comments on the proposed amendment, and that the Planning Committee recommend to the WMA Board that it hold a public hearing and adopt a resolution to (1) amend the ColWMP (Exhibit 1) to modify the Vasco Road Landfill description, and make additional changes for consistency, (2) find that the VRL conforms to the ColWMP as amended, and (3) make the findings required by CEQA. Board member Sadoff seconded.

The motion carried 10-0. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Cox, Havel, Kalb, Lee, Liao, McKaughan, Sadoff, Wise, Young, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Hoover).

2. Alameda County Materials Flow Map (Meghan Starkey & Emily Alvarez)

This item is for information only.

Timothy Burroughs introduced the item and Meghan Starkey provided an overview of the staff report and led the Board through an interactive presentation of the Materials Flow Map. A link to the staff report is available here: [Materials-Flow-Map-Memo.pdf](#). A link to the Materials Flow Map is available here: <http://flowmap.stopwaste.co/>. Ms. Starkey acknowledged Emily Alvarez for her efforts in updating the ColWMP (Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan). Ms. Starkey added that the Flow Map supplements the information about solid waste management infrastructure that is included in the ColWMP.

Additional time was provided to the Board for discussion and clarifying questions. An audio link to the discussion is available here: [Materials-Flow-Map-Discussion](#). There were no public comments on this item. Board members thanked staff for a very informative presentation.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Timothy Burroughs announced that BayREN (Bay Area Regional Energy Network) will be hosting a webinar on August 19 at noon on the indoor air quality and health benefits of electric induction cooking. A link to the event is available here: [BayREN-Webinar](#). Mr. Burroughs announced that there will be an HHW (Household Hazardous Waste) drop-off event in Union City on September 11, 2022. The event is open to all Alameda County residents, and mattresses will be accepted as well. President Zermeño announced that the City of Hayward will provide bulky pickup services for Hayward residents. Residents must call to reserve a pickup time. Board member Havel presented President Zermeño with a special cookie presentation.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – to September 8, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

From: [Arthur Boone](#)
To: [publiccomment](#); [Portia Sinnott](#); [Ruth Abbe](#); [Mary Lou Van Deventer](#); [Dan Knapp](#); [max.w.urbanore.com](#); [Peter Slote](#); [laura mckaughan](#)
Subject: Fwd: Matters for the 4 p.m. meeting today.
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2022 3:28:29 PM

COMMENT OF ARTHUR R. BOONE:

My name is Arthur Boone, I served on the ACRB in 2007-2009. I am now 84 years old and have worked in recycling since 1983 but mostly on tree issues since 2010. In August 2017 I was the first Californian to be given the lifetime achievement award by the National Recycling Coalition. I was also NCRA president for four years.

I returned to the recycling field three months ago when Hansen&Bridgett [H-B] (the law firm that Toni Stein and I engaged to appeal the agency's decision in early 2017 that allowed Shawn Tackitt's OMRF plan to proceed with construction at the Davis Street Transfer Station in San Leandro) filed suit to collect some moneys that she owed them. H-B has also asked me to pay what Dr. Stein owed for the first five months of our time with H-B which happened before I dropped out of their coversge after spending some \$61K of my own money for our defense and we hadn't gotten to trial.

I had occsion in this period to review the 24 inches of shelf space at my home that included most of what was generated in our case that ran from early 2017 before the agency and then through district and appellate courts, ending in late 2019. What impressed me the most was how poorly we got our case argued and how little the ACWMA checked the truth of what Mr. Tackitt told them about Europe. If you want citations I can produce them in a few days but the basic point is that the EU which is the 26 members nations with 500 milion people that in November 2017 (eight months after Mr. Tackitt told the ACWMA that mixed waste procesing [MxWP] was hot in Europe and he had done due diligence on their interests) ruled that, effective 2024, all MxWP must stop and not proceed in all member nations. (Prior to this ruling, MxWP was OK in some countries but not in others; this ruling was binding on all member states.)

It's also true that, although the agency approved both MxWP and anaerobic digestion [AD] for the OMRF in San Leandro, neither is now in place in this 13,000 square foot building. While my research on these subjects is not complete, the testimony of friends and acquaintences indicates that 1) AD equipment and program was never installed, and 2) which of the MxWP equipment Mr. Tackitt showed in drawings and text (Minutes of Feb.22, 2017, p. 23) was installed and operated is unclear. It does seem clear that the 300 tons per day that Mr. Tackitt envisioned going through the MxWP machines in one shift, nothing like that number has ever occurred with satisfying results. He also envisioned "about a hundred full-time jobs" (Minutes of Feb 22,2017, p.17 and 73)

Insofar as the ardor for mixed waste processing appears never to have died in California as SWANA and others have continued to push its utility, and since Alameda County has probably devoted more public funds to the research and development of sound waste reduction and reecycling programs than any other county in the country, it behooves the ACWMA and its ACRB to plow into all this history and current practices, especially as the City of Oakland has the highest garbage outhaul rates of any county in the Bay Area, mostly to pay for the high installation costs of the AD and MxWP facilities in the OMRF. Although the terms "fraud" or "theft" have been suggested (there's not enough proof in place to justify their use), the

possibility of serious errors of fact and judgement seems clear from what little I know and from what others are unwilling to say. As they say at immigration stations, "If you don't look for it, you don't find it."

Respectfully,

Arthur R. Boone, Center for Recycling Research, Berkeley
510/910-6451

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