

APPROVED

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

Thursday, August 13, 2020

4:00 P.M.

TELECONFERENCE MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Deborah Cox called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Wendy Sommer explained the process that would be utilized during the meeting. A link to the process is available here: [Virtual-Meetings-Instructions](#)

II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

Jillian Buckholz, Recycling Programs
Bob Carling, ACWMA
Lillian Carrell, Recycling Materials Processing Industry
Deborah Cox, ACWMA
Eric Havel, Environmental Educator
Darby Hoover, Environmental Organization
Dan Kalb, ACWMA
Laura McKaughan, Source Reduction Specialist
Tianna Nourot, Solid Waste Industry Representative
Dave Sadoff, ACWMA
Francisco Zermeño, ACWMA

Staff Present:

Wendy Sommer, Executive Director
Timothy Burroughs, Deputy Director
Jeff Becerra, Communications Manager
Justin Lehrer, Senior Management Analyst
Emily Alvarez, Program Manager
Meghan Starkey, Senior Management Analyst
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board
Andrew Massey, Deputy County Counsel

Others Participating:

Edward Schexnayder, Attorney, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP
Rick Mauck, Certified Blue Recycling Center

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

There were no announcements by the President. Wendy Sommer introduced Timothy Burroughs as the new Deputy Director. Mr. Burroughs provided a summary of his background and experience and stated that he was pleased to be on board.

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IV. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments on the remote call and there were no public comments received in the public comment email portal.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **Approval of the Draft PC & RB Minutes of July 9, 2020 (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 Sadoff made the motion to approve the consent calendar. Board member Zermeño seconded and the motion carried 11-0: (Ayes: Buckholz, Carling, Carrell, Cox, Havel, Hoover, Kalb, McKaughan, Nourot, Sadoff, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None)

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. **Amendment to the Alameda County Integrated Waste Management Plan (CoIWMP) for Certified Blue Recycling Facility located at 2075 Williams Street in San Leandro (Emily Alvarez)**

Staff recommends that the Recycling Board (in its role as Local Task Force) provide comments recommending, and that the Planning Committee recommend to the WMA Board that it hold a public hearing and adopt a resolution to (1) amend the CoIWMP (Exhibit 1) to include the Certified Blue CDI Recycling Facility in the City of San Leandro, and make additional changes for consistency, (2) find that the CBR Facility conforms to the CoIWMP as amended, and (3) make the findings required by CEQA.

Emily Alvarez provided an overview of the staff report. A link to the report is available here: [Certified-Blue-CoIWMP-Amendment.pdf](#). Ms. Alvarez introduced Edward Schexnayder, Attorney, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP, and Rick Mauck, Certified Blue Recycling Facility. Mr. Schexnayder and Mr. Mauck were available to answer any questions.

Board member Sadoff inquired about the definition of a push wall. Mr. Mauck stated that a push wall is a wall at the perimeter of the facility that the C&D materials are “pushed” up against for storage. The current push wall is a temporary interlocking concrete wall that will be replaced with a permanent wall that meets building code requirements. Ms. Sommer shared a photo of a push wall. Board member Havel inquired about how the increase in truck traffic (from 156 tons to 256 tons) was calculated. Mr. Mauck stated that it was an estimate on the amount of weight and the types of trucks that will be coming in, and since the facility will begin accepting material from the public they factored in that some trucks may include pick-up trucks and 1-2 ton dump trucks. Board member Carling inquired about their plan to accept more materials without changing the site footprint and only minimally changing the hours of operation for staff. Mr. Mauck stated that currently staff is only working a third of their hours processing material but anticipates that the increase in the volume of incoming materials will increase staff workload and require increased staffing. Mr. Mauck added there is already sufficient footprint to accommodate an increase in incoming materials, as the facility is not currently operating at full capacity. Board member Zermeño read comments from Hayward staff in support of the project. President Cox inquired if the item will appear before the San Leandro City Council. Ms. Alvarez stated no. The facility has a current conditional use permit that only required an amendment and CEQA review. President Cox stated that it would be nice to have a tour of the facility

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and inquired about their plans to reach out to the public. Mr. Mauck stated that they are still going through the hearing and permitting process and if approved will be open to the public in approximately six months.

President Cox opened the public hearing. There were no public comments on this item and the public hearing was closed. Board member Zermeño made the motion to recommend to the WMA Board that it hold a public hearing and adopt a resolution to (1) amend the ColWMP (Exhibit 1) to include the Certified Blue CDI Recycling Facility in the City of San Leandro, and make additional changes for consistency, (2) find that the CBR Facility conforms to the ColWMP as amended, and (3) make the findings required by CEQA. Board member Carling seconded and the motion carried 11-0. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Buckholz, Carling, Carrell, Cox, Havel, Hoover, Kalb, McKaughan, Nourot, Sadoff, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None)

2. Recycling Plan Update (Meghan Starkey)

This item is for information only.

Meghan Starkey provided an overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint presentation. A link to the report and the presentation is available here: [Recycling-Plan-2020.pdf](#)

Board member Hoover thanked staff for an exciting direction and encouraged staff to reframe the terminology from diversion to focus on the hierarchy of prevention and reuse. Board member Havel asked for clarification regarding the 75% diversion. Ms. Starkey stated that 75% diversion was the state methodology and they have explicitly discontinued using the 75% calculation. Board member Havel inquired if the Board would receive an update on waste characterization and specifically the trouble spots in the waste stream, and he is interested in hearing about the agency's climate change connection. Ms. Starkey stated that staff working on climate issues has been doing work around consumption based inventories that estimate the amount of greenhouse gases emitted in the production of goods and services from all over the world that are consumed by Bay Area residents. Ms. Sommer stated that all of the agency's focus areas will be included in the Recycling Plan and the Board can suggest issues that they would like for staff to provide a presentation. Board member Zermeño commented that Alameda County is taking steps to implement a circular economy to reduce waste and increase diversion and expressed his appreciation for the climate connection included in the Recycling Plan. Board member Buckholz commented with respect to considering 2040 instead of the 2045 goal, because landfills, methane and emissions factors are associated with those goals, it could provide an opportunity for us to push the state to meet its 2045 goal versus aligning with them on the same date. Board member Carrell thanked staff for an insightful presentation and asked that staff share the presentation with the Board. Board member McKaughan inquired about the agency's efforts with regard to leveraging our efforts towards packaging. Mr. Lehrer stated that we have explored how to tackle this issue specifically with respect to the level of influence that we may have with manufacturers, brand owners, and packaging designers. Working locally, we have focused our efforts on establishing relationships with local retail brand owners and manufacturers across the county. Those relationships ebb and flow with turnover in staff. We are also involved in the Sustainable Packaging Coalition and in other national packaging dialogues where we are able to contribute to the conversation. In the early stages, we were involved in the design and development of the How2Recycle label and most brand owners have signed on and adopted that label for their packaging to inform consumers how to manage their packaging materials at end-of-use. Board member Hoover inquired about opportunities to promote EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) at the state level. Mr. Lehrer stated that he represents the agency as a board member of the California Product Stewardship Council, whose mission is supporting policies and projects where producers share in the responsibility

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for managing problem products at their end of life. Board member Havel stated his support for the agency accelerating the goal from 2045 to 2040 and the goal of landfill obsolescence.

There were no public comments on this item. President Cox thanked Ms. Starkey for the presentation.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Wendy Sommer thanked Andrew Massey, Deputy County Counsel, for attending the meeting. Board member Buckholz announced that during the spring, Cal State East Bay did a food waste campaign with StopWaste and students will be returning to the campus and approval was granted to post the food waste information in the dining hall. Board member Buckholz thanked StopWaste staff for the collaboration and invited Board members to use the food waste campaign as a pilot.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.