

APPROVED

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
ALAMEDA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY BOARD (WMA)
AND
THE ENERGY COUNCIL (EC)**

**Wednesday, March 26, 2025
3:00 P.M.**

**IN PERSON MEETING LOCATION:
STOPWASTE BOARD ROOM
1537 WEBSTER STREET, OAKLAND, CA**

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Zermeño called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Timothy Burroughs 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

WMA & EC

County of Alameda	David Haubert, WMA, EC
City of Alameda	Tracy Jensen, WMA, EC
City of Albany	Jennifer Hansen-Romero, WMA, EC
City of Berkeley	Mark Humbert, WMA, EC
Castro Valley Sanitary District	Dave Sadoff, WMA
City of Dublin	Jean Josey, WMA, EC
City of Emeryville	David Mourra, WMA, EC (Interim EC President)
City of Fremont	Yang Shao, WMA, EC
City of Hayward	Francisco Zermeño, WMA, EC (WMA President)
City of Livermore	Ben Barrientos, WMA, EC
City of Newark	Matthew Jorgens, WMA, EC
Oro Loma Sanitary District	Rita Duncan, WMA
City of Piedmont	Lorrel Plimier, WMA, EC
City of San Leandro	Xouhoa Bowen, WMA, EC
City of Union City	Jeff Wang, WMA, EC

ABSENT

City of Oakland	Ken Houston, WMA, EC
City of Pleasanton	Matt Gaidos, WMA, EC

Staff Participating

Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director
Justin Lehrer, Operations Manager
Alma Freeman, Communications Manager
Meri Soll, Senior Program Manager
Jennifer West, Program Manager
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board
Richard Taylor, WMA Legal Counsel

Others Present

Jason Schmelzer, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange
Dylan Hoffman, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange

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III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDENTS

There were none.

IV. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

There were no public comments.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the Draft WA & EC Minutes of February 26, 2025

There were no public comments for the Consent Calendar. Board member Barrientos moved approval of the Consent Calendar, and Board member Sadoff seconded.

The Clerk called the roll: WMA Vote: 13-0 EC Vote: 13-0

(Ayes: Barrientos, Bowen, Duncan, Humbert, Jensen, Jorgens, Josey, Mourra, Plimier, Sadoff, Shao, Wang, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Gaidos, Hanson-Romero, Haubert, Houston)

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. Legislative Positions for 2025 (Jennifer West)

Staff recommend that the Boards adopt the stated positions on the bills outlined in the staff report.

Timothy Burroughs introduced the item. Jennifer West provided an overview to the Board of the list of bills and staff positions, based on Agency legislative priorities. This is the first year of a two-year session. Staff will provide an update to the Board and possible positions on new bills in May. Staff recommended that the Boards adopt the stated positions on the bills listed in the presentation. Agency lobbyists, Jason Schmelzer and Dylan Hoffman were available to answer questions and provide feedback. A link to the staff report and the presentation is available here: [2025-Leg-Positions-memo.pdf](#).

Additional time was provided to the Board for questions. An audio link to the discussion is available here: [2025-Leg-Positions-Discussion](#). President Zermeño thanked Ms. West for the presentation.

There were no public comments on this item. Board member Haubert moved for approval of the staff recommendation with the change from “watch” to “support” for SB 332. Board member Bowen seconded, and the motion carried 15-0. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Barrientos, Bowen, Hanson-Romero, Haubert, Humbert, Jensen, Jorgens, Josey, Mourra, Plimier, Shao, Wang, Zermeño. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Duncan, Gaidos, Houston)

2. Update on Reusable Bag Laws (Meri Soll)

This item is for information only.

Timothy Burroughs introduced the item. Meri Soll provided an overview of the state legislation affecting regulated stores and provide next steps for consideration by the WMA to amend the Reusable Bag Ordinance (Ordinance 2016-2) to align with SB 1053 requirements. Ms. Soll provided details of the SB 1053 legislation requirements, reviewed which stores are affected by the new law, and discussed options to amend WMA Ordinance 2016-2 to align with the state law. Additionally, Ms. Soll reviewed the proposed amended ordinance and provided explanations for the amendments. A link to the staff report and the presentation is available here: [Reusable-Bags-Update-memo.pdf](#).

Additional time was provided to the Board for discussion and for clarifying questions. An audio link of the discussion is available here: [Reusable-Bags-Update-Discussion](#).

There were no public comments on this item. President Zermeño thanked Ms. Soll for a very thorough and informative presentation.

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3. Interim appointment(s) to the Recycling Board for WMA appointee unable to attend future Board Meeting(s) (Timothy Burroughs) (WMA only)

(The joint meeting of the Waste Management Authority Board, Energy Council, and Planning Committee & Recycling Board will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. at StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland, CA)

There were no requests for an interim appointment.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Board member Sadoff stated that during the first rollout of the bag ordinance in 2012, CVSan used Measure D funds to purchase branded cloth bags which were distributed to rate payers. CVSan, at its Recycles Day in April, will be accepting cloth bags and/or textile bags to donate to food banks.

Board member Shao announced that he attended the 12th International Smart City and Net Zero Expo in Taipei on behalf of the city of Fremont and toured a local recycling plant in New Taipei City. He reported back that as a result of increased efficiencies from automatic or highly automatic equipment to sort out recyclable materials, such as paper, bottle, and aluminum cans, the city has been able to divert more to recycling, converting what was previously a landfill to a park, resulting in a 273 ton annual reduction in carbon dioxide emissions. He also pointed out that the latest Los Angeles wildfire emitted 35.3 billion tons of carbon dioxide. Board member Shao stated that he was proud of the Agency's efforts to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and to catch up with what we have already lost.

Mr. Burroughs updated the Board on AB 2346 and the implications of that law on how much compost and mulch jurisdictions must procure each year to comply with SB 1383. Because AB 2346 allows jurisdictions to calculate their own local procurement targets using local waste characterization study data, the Agency was able to reduce the procurement target for all jurisdictions in the county by 66 percent (87,000 tons countywide), potentially saving \$1M annually countywide. StopWaste is notifying local jurisdiction staff and are happy to assist so that jurisdictions can comply. We are also happy to assist the member agencies with approaches to applying compost within their communities.

Mr. Burroughs announced the monthly topic brief highlighting new state and local regulations for the Reusable Bag Law, available [here](#).

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – TO JOINT WMA, EC, AND PC&RB MEETING ON APRIL 23, 2025 AT 3:00 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.