

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

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

3:00 P.M.

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

Teleconference
Dave Sadoff
Hilton Palm Springs
400 E Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, CA
760-320-6868

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Mike Hannon, WMA, called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

WMA & EC:

County of Alameda	Scott Haggerty, WMA, EC
City of Alameda	Jim Oddie, WMA, EC
City of Albany	Peter Maass, WMA, EC
Castro Valley Sanitary District	Dave Sadoff, WMA (teleconference)
City of Dublin	Don Biddle, WMA, EC
City of Emeryville	Dianne Martinez, WMA, EC
City of Hayward	Sara Lamnin, WMA, EC
City of Livermore	Bob Carling, WMA, EC
Oro Loma Sanitary District	Shelia Young, WMA
City of Pleasanton	Jerry Pentin, WMA, EC
City of Newark	Mike Hannon, WMA, EC
City of San Leandro	Deborah Cox, WMA, EC

ABSENT:

City of Berkeley	Jesse Arreguin, WMA, EC
City of Fremont	Vinnie Bacon, WMA, EC
City of Oakland	Dan Kalb, WMA, EC
City of Piedmont	Tim Rood, WMA, EC
City of Union City	Lorin Ellis, WMA, EC

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Staff Participating:

Wendy Sommer, Executive Director
Tom Padia, Deputy Executive Director
Anu Natarajan, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager
Karen Kho, Senior Program Manager
Richard Taylor, WMA Legal Counsel
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board

Others Participating:

Arthur Boone

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDENTS

There were none.

IV. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

There was none.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the Draft Minutes of December 20, 2017 (Wendy Sommer)

There was no public comment for the Consent Calendar. Board member Maass made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Board member Pentin seconded and the motion carried 13-0: (Ayes: Biddle, Carling, Cox, Haggerty, Hannon, Lamnin, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Sadoff, Young. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arreguin, Bacon, Ellis, Kalb, Rood).

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. 2018 Legislative Priorities (Anu Natarajan)

Confirm the legislative priority areas to include Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), Organics Legislation and Regulation, and the Circular Economy.

Anu Natarajan provided an overview of the staff report. A link to the report is available here:

[2018-Legislative-Priorities-01-24-18.pdf](#)

Ms. Sommer announced that the agency was awarded \$500,000 in funding from CalRecycle for our Food Waste Prevention and Rescue program. Livermore and Oakland schools will be able to make a bigger dent in tackling food waste by increasing food recovery efforts. Project partners also include ALL IN Alameda County and StopWaste.

Board member Haggerty inquired about the impact of cannabis in the organics waste stream going forward. Ms. Natarajan stated she is not aware of the impacts, but will continue to be on the lookout for any such issues. Board member Carling commented that the Right to Repair bill sounds exciting but inquired about the potential impact as you can also find information on how to repair items on YouTube. Ms. Natarajan replied that the legislation would provide more options for consumers by requiring manufacturers to release repair information to the public and sell spare parts to owners and independent repair shops. Board member Lamnin inquired if there was legislation or attention to options that decrease reliance on overseas manufacturing use of recycled materials in light of the volatility of the China market that would lead to increased opportunities for production of recycled content materials in the United States. Ms. Natarajan stated that she is unaware of any bills that specifically address those issues but we will keep an eye out for such legislation. Mr. Padia stated that there is movement including some mandates for minimum post-consumer recycled content in certain products. He added that it is somewhat indirect but it is seen as a driver to incentivize manufacturers that if a material wasn't available in sufficient quantity or at the price

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point that they were seeking on the international market to perhaps build capacity domestically. Board member Lamnin inquired if it made sense for the organization to partner with the League of California Cities with regard to pension and healthcare costs to bolster organizational health. Ms. Sommer stated that the agency is consistently cognizant of these and other administrative issues.

President Hannon opened the floor for public comments. Arthur Boone commented on the hundreds of tons of materials including burned trees from the North Bay fires and stated that we should keep abreast of the measures utilized to divert these materials. Mr. Boone added the agency should be involved in the bottle bill redemption system and its operations.

President Hannon asked for clarification on the statement *“In June 2016, the Board adopted a motion to authorize the Executive Director to take positions on bills in accordance with Agency’s adopted priority areas, with a notice to the Board within three business days of a letter taking a position”*. Ms. Sommer stated that the Executive Director was given the ability to take action on legislation that required action during a time that the Board was not meeting and the Executive Director would provide to the Board any letters of support or opposition that were submitted. President Hannon inquired if there was consideration for consumers to pay a modest refundable deposit fee when purchasing a mattress as with the tire industry. Mr. Padia stated yes, but due to the passage of Prop 26 and the constraints on government fees and taxes, the mattress industry under the California product stewardship legislation voluntarily imposes a fee on sales of its own products. The fee was initially \$11 per unit (mattress or box spring) but was reduced to \$10.50. President Hannon commented that as legislation goes forward that there is not an unreasonable burden put on local cities in terms of mandates that cities would not have adequate staffing to address. Ms. Natarajan stated that the agency works closely with jurisdictions to ensure that they are aware of the impacts of implementation and works with them to send out comment letters. President Hannon congratulated staff on being awarded \$500,000 from CalRecycle for Food Waste Prevention and Rescue program and added it shows the outstanding work of staff in seeking out opportunities to bring revenue into the agency to help us meet our goals and priorities.

Board member Carling made the motion to approve staff recommendation. Board member Pentin seconded and the motion carried 13-0: (Ayes: Biddle, Carling, Cox, Haggerty, Hannon, Lamnin, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Sadoff, Young. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arreguin, Bacon, Ellis, Kalb, Rood).

2. Overview of Local Government Efforts Concerning Plastic Straws (Anu Natarajan)

This item is for information only.

Anu Natarajan provided an overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the report and the presentation is available here: [Straw-Ban-01-24-18](#). Ms. Natarajan showed an excerpt of video documentary entitled “Straws” A link to the video is available here: [STRAWS](#).

Board member Cox commented that she is working with the CAL Rare, a rare disease caucus in Sacramento, and stated that some disabled individuals need plastic straws and that she would support a ‘straws on request’ bill. Board member Maass inquired about the price-point difference between plastic versus paper straws, and is there information on the difficulties of using reusable metal straws. Ms. Natarajan stated that she will research information on the price-point differences and provide the information to the Board. With regard to reusable straws, San Francisco restaurants have seen a 23% decrease in the use of straws simply with a sign displaying that straws are provided only on request. Board member Pentin inquired about the cause and effect to establishments that offer large drinks with large straws, such as Starbucks. Board member Oddie stated that Alameda had heard from 7-Eleven stores and that helped to influence the ‘straws on request’ model. Ms. Natarajan added we are waiting to see what the Seattle ban includes and any impacts to Starbucks. Board member Haggerty inquired if there is information on a cost analysis to determine the cost to restaurants in moving from plastic to compostable utensils. Ms. Sommer stated that

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the consideration is not only for price-points to restaurants but also to ensure that the composting facilities serving Alameda County can process those materials. Ms. Sommer added this is a good topic for strategic planning which will occur in November 2018. Board member Oddie recalled one of the businesses from the Business Recognition Event (Lola's Chicken Shack, Alameda) stated that they had switched from single use utensils to metal utensils and use real glasses and saw an increase in savings. President Hannon thanked Ms. Natarajan for her presentation.

3. Interim appointment(s) to the Recycling Board for WMA appointee unable to attend future Board Meeting(s) (Wendy Sommer)

(Planning Committee and Recycling Board meeting, February 8, 2018 at 7:00 pm, San Leandro Senior Community Center, 13909 E. 14th St, San Leandro CA 94578)

There were no requests for an interim appointment.

EC President Dianne Martinez chaired the EC agenda items.

4. 2018 PG&E Local Government Partnership Contract (Karen Kho) (EC Only)

Adopt the attached Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a 2018 contract agreement with PG&E to continue the administration of the East Bay Energy Watch Strategic Advisory Committee and programmatic coordination in 2018 and other related actions.

Karen Kho provided a summary of the staff report. A link to the report is available here:

[PGE-EBEW-Contract-01-24-18.pdf](#).

There was no public comment on this item. Board member Haggerty made the motion to approve the staff recommendation. Board member Hannon seconded and the motion carried 12-0 (Ayes: Biddle, Carling, Cox, Haggerty, Hannon, Lamnin, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arreguin, Bacon, Ellis, Kalb, Rood).

5. BayREN Contract Amendments (Karen Kho) (EC Only)

Adopt the attached Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into all necessary contracts and agreements with ABAG and make any necessary changes to the FY 2017/18 budget for Project 1347:BayREN.

Karen Kho provided a summary of the staff report. A link to the report is available here:

[BayREN-Amendments-01-24-18.pdf](#)

Board member Lamnin asked for clarification on the \$45,000 for multifamily financing assistance. Ms. Kho stated that ABAG would be providing the funds (not our agency).

There was no public comment on this item. Board member Oddie made the motion to approve the staff recommendation. Board member Maass seconded and the motion carried 12-0 (Ayes: Biddle, Carling, Cox, Haggerty, Hannon, Lamnin, Maass, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arreguin, Bacon, Ellis, Kalb, Rood).

VII. COMMUNICATION/MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Sommer distributed a copy of the monthly topic brief on Package Labeling. The topic brief is also available on the StopWaste website at this link: [Packaging Labeling](#). Board member Martinez thanked the Board for allowing the CivicSpark program to continue and announced that the work on climate change performed by the city of Emeryville CivicSpark fellow was used as best practice by the state.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.